



COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

History

Community Bible Church has a rich and unusual history. In 1918 a Methodist church and a Presbyterian church merged to help conserve resources during World War I. The ministry became known as the First Federated Church. Despite the unusual makeup, the church called men of a variety of denominations as pastors, the last of whom belonged to the Christian and Missionary Alliance denomination.

In 1946, the Presbyterians wanted to reclaim the building they owned in order to plant a Presbyterian church in Central Point. The congregation, however, wanted to maintain its non-denominational status, and so they returned the building to the Presbyterian Church. One couple decided to remain with the Presbyterian Church, while the rest of the congregation loved the fellowship and decided to move as a group to worship at the Central Point Grange Hall.

The Community Bible Church was born from this group. The church maintained close ties with the CMA denomination which helped CBC in their various pastoral searches until 1985. Since that time, the church has chosen to maintain a strong non-denominational stand.

In 1996, Pastor Pete Slusher was called to CBC. From the time of his call, God has grown the church in its attendance, staff size and ministry programs. In that time, attendance has steadily increased from an average of 150 to an average of 600 while maintaining a distinct family feel. Along the way, the church has added an executive pastor, pastor of education and pastor of student ministries.

In the city of Central Point, the church is known as a true community outpost. With a preschool/daycare (Sonshine Early Learning Center—SELC) to serve the valley and a variety of outreach ministries, the church has a positive reputation among the people of Central Point and beyond.

Distinctives of CBC

- Expository Preaching of God's Word
- Gospel-Centered
- Elder Leadership
- Multi-generational Ministry
- Friendly & Welcoming Family Atmosphere
- Community Involvement
- Emphasis on young families

Staff Biographies

Pastoral Staff:

Pete Slusher (Senior Pastor)— Pastor Pete Slusher has been serving as Senior Pastor of Community Bible Church since April 1996. Pete received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Cedarville University in Cedarville, OH and his Masters of Divinity degree from Northwest Baptist Seminary (now Corban University School of Ministry) in Tacoma, WA. Prior to serving at CBC, Pastor Pete was an Associate Pastor for 5 years in Santa Clarita, CA and Youth Pastor for 9 years in Richland, WA. Pete enjoys golfing, spending time with his personal family and his church family.



COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

Pete and his wife Kathy were married in December 1978. Kathy grew up in Des Moines, IA and is also a graduate of Cedarville University. Kathy is actively involved in a variety of ministries at CBC, including teaching Bible studies and serving on the Women's Ministries Committee. Kathy is also a tax accountant for Stewardship Services Foundation (SSF) in Newhall, CA. SSF is a ministry that prepares taxes for pastors and missionaries worldwide. Kathy enjoys reading, baking and entertaining.

Dale Bitterling (Executive Pastor)—Pastor Dale Bitterling has been serving on the Pastoral staff of Community Bible Church since February, 2002. Dale grew up in Central Point, Oregon, and received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Education from Southern Oregon State College in 1990. Prior to serving at CBC, Dale was an elementary school teacher in the Rogue Valley for eleven years.

Dale began his ministry at CBC as the Youth Pastor. In 2008, he also took on the role as the Director of Sonshine Early Learning Center, the church's Preschool and Daycare Center. A year later, his position progressed to include all of Children's Ministries as he became the Children's & Families Pastor. In 2010, Dale switched roles completely and became the Executive Pastor of CBC.

Dale and his wife Debbie were married in December of 1989. Dale and Debbie are blessed with a daughter (Arielle-Portland State) and a son (Alex-Crater HS). Their family enjoys camping, biking, and playing games. Debbie also grew up in Central Point (and at Community Bible Church) and is a graduate of Rogue Community College. Debbie is actively involved in several ministries at CBC. Debbie is a Respiratory Therapist at Rogue Valley Medical Center. She enjoys reading, horseback riding and water skiing.

Kevin Hearne (Pastor of Education)—Pastor Kevin Hearne has been serving as Pastor of Education at Community Bible Church since August 2011. Kevin grew up in the Central Valley of California and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from The Master's College in Santa Clarita, CA and his Masters of Divinity degree from Western Seminary in Portland, OR. Prior to serving at CBC, Kevin was an Associate Pastor for 6 years in Salem, OR and Youth Pastor for 9 years in Colville, Washington.

Kevin and his wife Janelle were married in January 1997. Janelle also grew up in the Central Valley of California and graduated from The Master's College, where the two met. Kevin & Janelle have four boys (Jacob, Joshua, Josiah and Jace) who attend Central Point public schools. Most of their time is spent chasing the boys around to youth group activities, sporting events, band concerts and school drama productions. They also enjoy spending time with family and friends.

Spencer Thorpe (Student Ministries Pastor)—Pastor Spencer Thorpe has been serving as Student Ministries Pastor of Community Bible Church since July of 2010. Spencer grew up in Central Point under the care of devoted Christian parents and as part of the CBC Youth Program. Spencer received his Bachelors of Arts degree from the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, Illinois in May of 2010 and his Masters of Divinity through Western Seminary in Portland, Oregon in May of 2014. Spencer enjoys professional sporting events, snow skiing, sailing, and traveling.

Spencer and his Fiancée, Meckenzie, will be getting married in August.



COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

Additional Ministry Staff

Barb Goheen (Administrative Assistant)—Barb was born and raised in a small farming community in Maple Lake, Minnesota. After graduating from St. Paul Bible College (now Crown College) with a BA in Christian Education, she went to Matsumoto, Japan as a short term missionary with TEAM. She married her husband Greg in 1979, and they moved to Oregon in 1981 when Greg started working with 3M (now Carestream Health in White City). They have two sons, Joshua and Justin, who live and work in the valley.

Before coming to CBC in 2008, Barb worked at SELC, Jewett Elementary and Scenic Middle school as well as purchasing and operating an adult foster care home. She also volunteered as Sunday School Superintendent for many years and is now involved in our worship ministry. She enjoys music, reading and yard work (growing flowers).

Kristi Scianna (Children's Ministries Assistant)—Kristi has been serving as a children's ministry assistant since September of 2010. Kristi grew up in California and then attended college at Willamette University in Salem, OR where she received her B.A. in Psychology. After college, she returned to San Jose, met and married her husband Lenny, and spent the next thirteen years there until they felt God leading them to southern Oregon in 2005. They have three children—two sons and a daughter—with Kristi able to be primarily a stay at home mommy. Kristi and her family enjoy spending as much time as they can together, especially if it involves camping, water, or games.

Kristi has always enjoyed being active in her church in a variety of ministries from the children's department to women's Bible studies and women's ministries to homeschooling ministries. Here at CBC, Kristi and her husband, Lenny, have also enjoyed working in the youth group with Jr. Highers. As a children's ministry assistant, Kristi is privileged to serve both the children here at CBC and the many adult volunteers who work with them.

Delaine Weaver (Nursery Coordinator)—Delaine has been serving as the Nursery Coordinator since July 2013. Delaine grew up in the Rogue Valley and has attended CBC from a very young age. She met her husband Dan in 2000 while attending Crater High School and married him in 2005. They moved to Santa Clarita, CA while Dan finished his degree at The Master's College, and after four years in California and after the birth of their first child God lead them back to Southern Oregon in 2009. They now have three children—two daughters and a son, with another daughter due in September. Delaine is able to be a stay at home mom during the week. Delaine and her family enjoy spending time together watching movies, playing outside, crafting and baking.

Mark Hesse (Facilities Manager)—Mark has been serving as the CBC Facilities Manager since July of 2012. Mark grew up on a dairy farm in Salem, OR. In 1986, he married Judie and moved to Los Angeles to work as a glazier. After thirteen years, the Hesses moved to Central California, where Mark worked construction. Mark and Judie settled in Central Point in 2003, where Mark ran a small trucking company until coming on staff with the church. Judie has worked as an RN for almost thirty years. In addition to being on full-time staff with CBC, Mark serves on the deacon board.

Mark and Judie have three sons and a daughter-in-law (with another wedding scheduled for November). Mark's hobbies include woodworking, motorcycle riding, and fishing.



COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

Larry Cannady (Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds)—Larry has been serving on the Community Bible Church staff since July of 1992. After serving in the US Army and attending several different Southern California junior colleges, Larry began working at auto parts stores in 1960. It was there that he met his wife, Gloria, whom he married in 1961. Eventually, Larry purchased his own auto parts store in the Santa Barbara area before he and Gloria moved up to Central Point where he owned and operated an auto parts store. Gloria served as CBC's secretary for many years until her retirement in 2008.

Larry and Gloria have one adult son, a daughter-in-law and two grandkids who live in Castle Rock, CO. Larry's hobbies include fishing, gardening and restoring motorcycles.

Sabrina Lopes (Financial Manager)—Sabrina Lopes has been serving as the bookkeeper for CBC since November 2009. Sabrina grew up in Napoleon, OH, and received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting from Georgetown College in 1992, with double minors in Religion and Sociology. Prior to serving at the church, Sabrina worked five years in corporate accounting for Toyota, followed by five years in private accounting. She married her husband, David in 2002 and began keeping books for their businesses. They have lived in the Rogue Valley since 2006. David is a custom cabinet maker and owner of Eagle Woodworks and has a bicycle shop called The Bike Guy. They have two children, who Sabrina homeschools, Carson (11), and Aleah (8).

About the Worship Ministries

Currently, the worship ministries at CBC are volunteer led. We have a great group of men and women involved, but no one truly uniting us in a common vision. Our biggest need is someone who can participate in staff meetings and organize all elements of the service into a cohesive presentation. Someone who understands and can orchestrate the hour and fifteen minutes of corporate worship for our 3 weekly services (one Saturday night and two Sunday morning).

On Sunday mornings, we have three different worship teams that rotate the responsibility for selecting and performing the music portion of our services. We do our best to present a familiar set of songs, but each team has a somewhat unique style, composition and approach. Each worship leader strives for variety and balance in their song selections to appeal to a wide audience (multi-generational approach).

Music for the Saturday evening service usually involves a rotation of people who generally sing and play a guitar or keyboard by themselves. Our desire is that the music for Saturday nights be approached with the same enthusiasm and thoughtful planning as Sunday mornings.

Our group of slide, video, and sound technicians is currently the largest group of volunteers that we have had in several years. We praise God that he has brought the willingness to serve to so many. However, there is still some work to be done to develop and train these individuals to achieve a consistently high degree of excellence in their role.

Why Hire a Worship Pastor Now?

We recognize that our worship ministries can only advance so far under volunteer leadership. Even though volunteer leadership has served us well and helped our worship ministries transition and evolve into what they are today, we recognize that in order to continue evolving and growing, our worship ministries need



COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

someone who will give their full-time attention to them.

We are well-stocked with human resources and talent and are looking for someone to pull those resources together in order to shepherd and administrate this area of our church while infusing vision for future growth and development.

Our general hiring philosophy at CBC is to hire someone to do a job only when it is unreasonable to ask for leadership on a volunteer basis. With the size of our church and the importance/complexity of this ministry, it is certainly time for us to look for pastoral direction in this area.