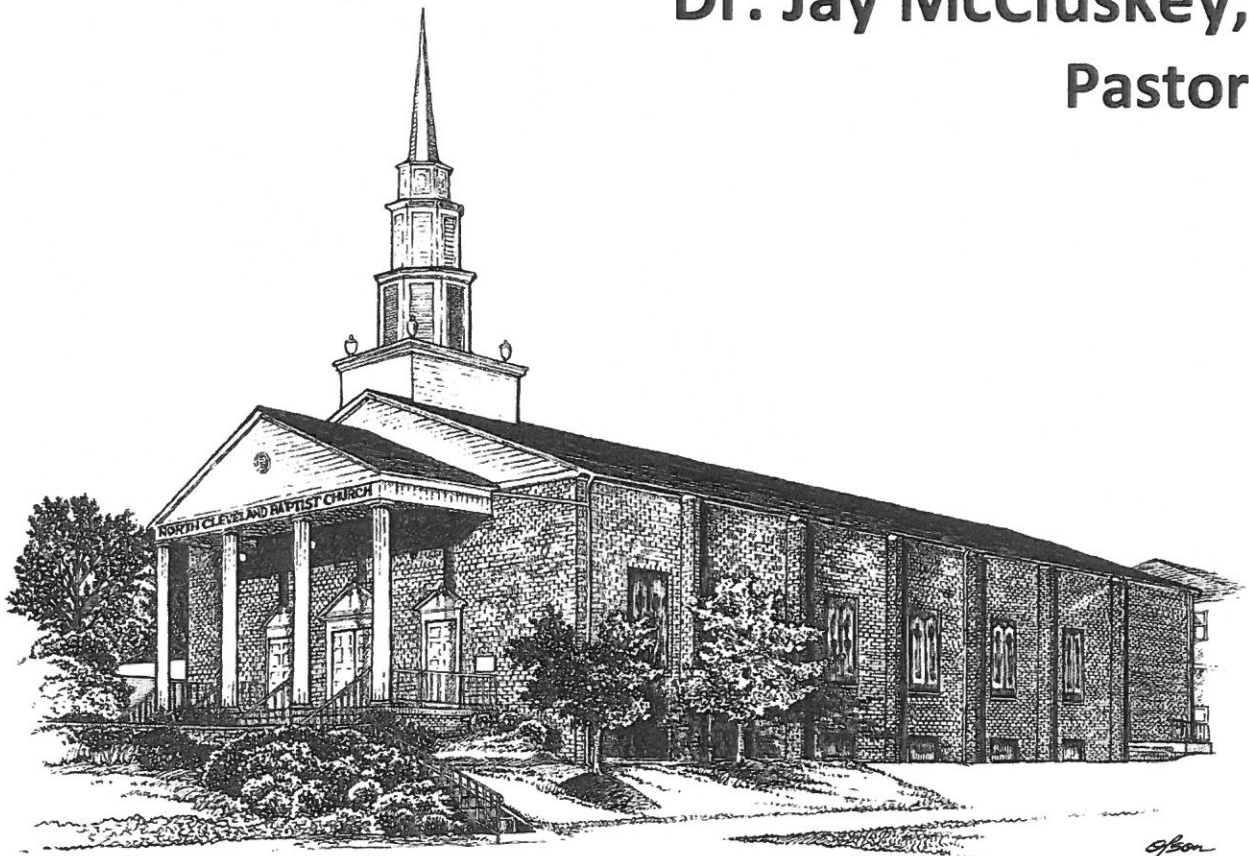


INTRODUCTION TO NORTH CLEVELAND BAPTIST CHURCH

Taught by
Dr. Jay McCluskey,
Pastor




North Cleveland
BAPTIST CHURCH

N C B C

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August/September 2021

OUTLINE OF THE COURSE

The Purpose of Our Church

The Beliefs of Our Church

The History of Our Church

Facilities

Staff

The Organization of Our Church

Governing Documents

Leadership

Ministries

The Budget of Our Church

The Calendar of Our Church

The Partnerships of Our Church

The Unique Characteristics of Our Church

Why Be a Church Member?

1 - THE PURPOSE OF OUR CHURCH

A common part of the Christian Catechism states: *The purpose of humanity is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.*

The purpose of North Cleveland Baptist Church is to be a growing family of followers of Jesus Christ, committed to Worship, Spiritual Development, and multiple acts of ministry.

Be – Present tense

Growing – Not static

Family –

Followers of Jesus Christ

Committed to

What are the activities we devote ourselves to as we follow Jesus?

Worship – Unselfish Praise to our creator and redeemer.

Spiritual Development

Evangelism – Outreach Efforts

Discipleship – Individual growth

Multiple Acts of Ministry

Multiple recognizes that we all have different callings and giftedness, but we all work together.

2 -THE THEOLOGY OF OUR CHURCH

Overall Principles:

We decide our beliefs i_____.

We trust our beliefs in f_____.

We understand that our beliefs i_____ the way we view the world (worldview).

GOD THE FATHER

God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He is eternally existed in three personalities: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. (Psalm 90:2 NIV)

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (2 Corinthians 13:14 NIV)

We believe God is p_____

We believe God is m_____

We believe God is p_____

JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is co-equal with the Father. Jesus lived a sinless human life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on a cross. He arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven's glory and will return again someday to earth to reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of men. (John 1:1-4 NIV)

God did not give us a "w_____" argument for His existence.

He gave us a "w_____" person.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is co-equal with the Father and the Son of God. He is present in the world to make people aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides the Christian with power for living, understanding spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. He gives every believer a spiritual gift when they are saved. As Christians we seek to live under His control.

7 But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. 8 When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: (John 16:7-8 NIV)

Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? (1 Corinthians 3:16 NIV)

THE BIBLE

The Bible is God's Word to us. It was written by human composers, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. "It has God as its author, salvation as its end, and truth without mixture of error as its matter" (Baptist Faith and Message).

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, (2 Timothy 3:16 NIV)

And the words of the LORD are flawless, like silver refined in a furnace of clay, purified seven times. (Psalms 12:6 NIV)

HUMANITY

The G_____

Human beings are the supreme object of God's creation, unique in that we are made in the image of God.

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." (Genesis 1:26 NIV)

The B_____

Although every person has tremendous potential for good, all of us are marred by disobedience toward God called sin. This attitude separates people from God and causes many problems in our world.

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (Romans 3:23 NIV)

But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear. (Isaiah 59:2 NIV)

SALVATION

Salvation is God's free gift to us, but we must accept it. We can never make up for our sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can anyone be saved from sin's penalty.

the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23b NIV)

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not by works, so that no one can boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9 NIV)

ETERNAL S_____

Because God gives us eternal life through Jesus Christ, the true believer is secure in that salvation for eternity. If you have been genuinely saved, you cannot lose your salvation. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the self-effort of the Christian.

28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all ; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. (John 10:28-29 NIV)

I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day. (2 Timothy 1:12b NIV)

Only God has the capacity and the authority to j_____ the authenticity of someone's faith in Christ.

ETERNITY

People were created to exist forever. We will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or eternally with God through forgiveness and salvation. Heaven and Hell are real places of eternal existence.

If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. (Revelation 20:15 NIV)

THE AUTONOMY OF THE L_____ CHURCH

Christ is the recognized head of the church, not any person, group, or religious organization. While there is value in associating and cooperating with other groups of Christians, we believe every local church should be self-governing and independent.

And he is the head of the body, the church; (Colossians 1:18a NIV)

P_____ OF EVERY BELIEVER

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, (1 Peter 2:9a NIV)

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father--to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. (Revelation 1:5b-6 NIV)

THE ORDINANCES

BAPTISM

Motivation

To Follow the E_____ Set by Jesus

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Mark 1:9 NIV

Because Christ C_____ It

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Matthew 28:19 NIV

It Is a T_____ of My Faith in Christ

and many of the Corinthians who heard him believed and were baptized. Acts 18:8b NIV

Method

B_____ Baptism

Those who accepted his message were baptized... Acts 2:41a

But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.
Acts 8:12

I _____

baptizo = to immerse or dip under water.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper Is a M_____

"This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." 1 Corinthians 11:24 NIV

The Lord's Supper Is a S_____

"This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." 1 Corinthians 11:25b NIV

The Lord's Supper Is a T_____

For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. 1 Corinthians 11:26 NIV

For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. 1 Corinthians 11:29 NIV

The Lord's Supper is R_____

Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, Acts 2:46 NIV

On the first day of the week we came together to break bread. Paul spoke to the people and, because he intended to leave the next day, kept on talking until midnight. Acts 20:7 NIV

For more on Baptist Beliefs, You can check out ***The Baptist Faith and Message***.
Note that I prefer the 1964 version.

3 -THE HISTORY OF OUR CHURCH

North Cleveland Baptist Church officially began in August 15, 1937.

Two Common ways to track a churches history is through the history of its buildings and its staff.

NCBC TIMELINE

- | | | |
|------|------------|---|
| 1937 | April | Property on the corner of Franklin and Farris purchased for \$150.00 |
| | Summer | <i>The Old Shed</i> was constructed |
| | August 15 | Approximately 34 members united to form North Cleveland Baptist Church with H. Lester Lewis as its first Pastor |
| 1938 | | Classrooms and assembly rooms constructed that faced Franklin Avenue |
| 1944 | | Auditorium added |
| 1945 | | Pastor's Study added |
| 1946 | | C.E. McDonald called as NCBC's second pastor. |
| 1950 | March 27 | NCBC purchases the land behind the church which bordered North Lee Highway. |
| 1950 | September | NCBC is a charter member of the Bradley County Association of Baptists |
| 1956 | | NCBC worshipped in its new sanctuary |
| 1957 | October 27 | NCBC calls I.C. Frazier to be its third pastor |
| | | Jack Tullock called as NCBC's first paid music director |
| 1962 | | NCBC constructs the Educational Building |
| | August | J. Groce Robinson became NCBC's fourth Pastor |
| 1964 | March | Elvis Brandon called as NCBC's first Full-Time Minister of Music. |
| 1965 | | Beck property purchased |
| | | Steeple added to NCBC sanctuary |

Dot Carson hired as our church's first full-time secretary

1966 April 19 Albritton property (including the Annex) was purchased

1967 March 5 James E. Byler called as the fifth pastor of NCBC

Sanctuary renovation. Sunday morning worship at old BCHS

1969 NCBC is part of an association-wide effort to organize the Baptist Student Union at Cleveland State Community College.

1970 July 29 Bernard Campbell called as NCBC's sixth pastor.

Annex Renovated

Grubb property purchased

1971 NCBC begins operation of a mission in East Cleveland lead by Gene and Betty Oody.

1975 J. Timothy Sumners called as NCBC's seventh pastor.

1976 June Gene North called as Minister of Music

1977 NCBC Constitution adopted

November Piano purchased

1979 February 21 Don Long called as NCBC's eighth pastor.

1980 Garage built onto the Annex

1981 February 11 Church purchases the Dunlap property

July 5 Omer Painter called as NCBC's ninth pastor

October NCBC purchases the Hooper and Arnold properties

1984 JOY Group begins

1986 August 17 NCBC calls Jay McCluskey as its tenth pastor

December Stained Glass Windows added to the Sanctuary

1987	July 19	NCBC calls John Peters as Minister of Youth/Music
1989	Summer	NCBC renovates sanctuary
1990		NCBC calls Brenda Harris as Part-time Director of Christian Education
1992		<i>Forward in Faith</i> retires debt, purchases equipment, renovates kitchen and restrooms, and constructs north parking.
1991		NCBC earns <i>Eagle Award</i> for Sunday School growth
1995		Summer Mission Trip to Bangor, Maine
1996		<i>Keeping the Faith</i> purchases organ, renovates Annex, improves lighting and windows, constructs plaza, and establishes our Scholarship Fund.
		Summer Mission Trip to Bangor, Maine
1997	July	NCBC calls Bobby Jones as Minister of Worship
1998	April	NCBC calls Tim Bryant as Minister of Students and Education
		NCBC renovates the Annex
1999	January	NCBC calls Kathy Sweatman as Part-Time Children's Director
		Park Property Purchased
	November	NCBC calls Judy Bryant as Part-Time Children's Director
2000	June	NCBC calls Matt Moore as Part-time Director of Students
	July	NCBC takes its first International Mission Trip to Brazil (Construction)
	August	NCBC purchases Brooking Property
	August	NCBC calls Jeff Elliott as Part-time Director of Students
	August	NCBC calls Jeanne Franklin as Part-time Children's Director
	October	NCBC begins <i>Faith for the Future</i> Campaign
2001	January	NCBC calls Lanny Green as Minister of Worship

	June	NCBC calls Michael Gunter as Minister of Education
	July	NCBC Construction Team travels to Brazil
2003	June	NCBC calls Kyle Wiltshire as Minister of Students NCBC calls Sandra Randolph as Part-Time Children's Director
2004	July	NCBC celebrates its inaugural Patriotic Service
2006	July	NCBC calls Nathan Brown as Director of Students
	July	NCBC calls Verlin Tucker as Part-Time Minister of Education NCBC Renovates Sanctuary
2007	May	NCBC launches "For a Future Generation" Building Campaign
2008	July	NCBC Breaks ground on Activity Building
	August	NCBC calls Jason Cox as Minister of Students
2010	March	NCBC calls Kevin Hicks as Minister of Education
	May	NCBC launches "His Vision Our Purpose" Debt Retirement Campaign
	July	NCBC Student Mission Team goes to Brazil
	September	NCBC calls Amy Wilkins as Part-Time Director of Children
2011	June	NCBC Youth Mission Trip to Bear Branch, KY
2012	July	NCBC calls Chrystal Bates as Part-Time Director of Children
2013	May	NCBC launches "Grace to the Finish" Debt Retirement Campaign
	June	NCBC Medical Mission Team goes to Brazil NCBC first VBS centered around a full drama presentation
2014	March	NCBC Youth Mission Trip to New York City
	July	NCBC Student Mission team goes to Romania

		Renovation of upstairs of Education Building
2015	July	Medical Mission Team goes to Brazil
		Student Mission Trip to Washington D.C.
2016	January	Nancy Paul retires after 50+ years as church pianist
		Student Mission Trip to Mexico
2017		NCBC Youth Mission Trip to Washington DC
	July	NCBC Mission Team goes to China
	July	Student Mission Trip to Nicaragua
	August	NCBC pays off all indebtedness on the 2008-09 construction
2016	August	NCBC calls Holly Cox as Director of Preschool/Children Ministries
2018	June	Student Mission Trip to Puerto Rico
	August	Medical Mission Team to Brazil
	September	NCBC begins hosting Big City University for Bradley County Schools
2019	July	Student Ministry Mission Trip to Honduras
	September	NCBC calls Patrick Wooden as Minister of Adults
	October	NCBC Supplies, Packs, and Ships 1700 Shoebox gifts to Operation Christmas Child
2020	December	NCBC records annual budget gifts of over \$900,000.00
2021	May	NCBC calls Bart Starr as Minister of Adults

Is there anything missing that needs to be added?

4 - THE ORGANIZATION OF OUR CHURCH

OUR SYSTEMS OF ORGANIZATION

ORGANIZATION OF OUR P_____

Check out the Constitution of NCBC

Check out the list of Committee on Committees and Nominating Committee and Deacons

Understand the line of a _____

Christ

Membership

The government of this church is vested in the body of believers who compose it, and the majority of active members shall rule unless otherwise stated. (NCBC Constitution)

Leadership

Staff Leaders

13 Don't you know that those who work in the temple get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in what is offered on the altar?

14 In the same way, the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel. 1 Corinthians 9:13-14 NIV

Ministry Leaders appropriately elected by the church membership.

ORGANIZATION OF OUR CALENDAR

Traditions of the C_____ Calendar

Realities of the S_____ Calendar

Practicalities Of the S_____ Calendar

Particularities of Our C_____

ORGANIZATION OF OUR FUNDS

Financial Statements

Operating B_____

Other D_____ Gifts / Funds

Weekday Childcare Ministry

Principles

It always was, it is, and it will always be G_____ M_____.

NCBC is exceptionally t_____ about our finances.

- We report giving weekly in our church newsletter.
- We document individual salaries rather than group salaries together
- We do NOT disclose individual's giving.
- We will supply thorough, honest information to all inquiries.
- We have an Audit Committee that considers our practices and results each year.

Members are e_____ to give.

Giving is a financial n_____.

Giving is an act of w_____.

Giving is an act of d_____.

Giving reveals your p_____.

Jesus said, Where your treasure is, there your heart will also be. Matthew 6:21

What is the breakdown of the NCBC Budget?

_____ % Goes to pay the church staff

_____ % Goes to Missions

_____ % Goes for everything else (utilities, supplies, literature)

As a volunteer organization, the common element needed in ALL THESE is t_____.

What the Lord needs the church to be may not be the same as what I want it to be.

Find the church you think is a good fit, join it, and then f_____ about the fit.

Ask, How can I lead the church to fit into the lives of those who need it the most?

5 - OUR PARTNERSHIPS

Our church voluntarily chooses to cooperate with other churches through these organizations in areas of missions and ministry so that we can do more than we might accomplish independently.

CROSSNET BAPTIST ASSOCIATION (THE BRADLEY COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BAPTISTS)

Local associations of churches were the first organizations of Baptist churches to emerge.

There are approximately ____ Baptist churches in Bradley County that fellowship and work together to reach and minister to people. Featured are ministries for Disaster Relief and Ocoee Outreach home repairs.

North Cleveland Baptist provides financial support to CrossNet Baptist Association:

____% of our Budget is given to CrossNet with another .3% (one-third of one percent) designated for their Community Ministries such as Ocoee Outreach and Project Helping Hands.

THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION

Tennessee Baptists organized their first Convention at the Mill Creek Church, Nashville, in 1833. An anti-convention spirit caused it to be changed into a General Association in 1842. This resulted in three organizations in the three grand divisions of the state. Following the Civil War, the present Convention was formed at Murfreesboro in 1874, thus uniting the three into one.

North Cleveland Baptist is one of more than 3200 Baptist Churches in Tennessee that fellowship and work together to reach and minister to people in our state.

The TBC supports 2 colleges, one academy, 13 children's home campuses, adult homes, 2 conference centers, as well as a staff to serve church in our state in many areas of outreach and ministry.

An annual meeting is held in November to which our church sends messengers.

Through a formula called "The Cooperative Program" about ____% of our budget becomes part of the TBC operating budget.

Our annual Golden State Missions Offering supports work done through the TBC.
Our annual Mother's Day Offering goes to support the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes
Our annual Father's Day Offering goes to support Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes

An additional .33% (one-third of one percent) of our undesignated offerings is given to the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes.

THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

Organized in 1845 in Augusta, GA

More than 47,500 Baptist churches in America cooperate together in national and worldwide effort of missions. The total reported membership in SBC churches is 15.8 million.

The SBC operates...

Two Mission Boards:

The International Mission Board with over 4,000+ missionaries in 126 countries.
The North American Mission Board with over 5,000 missionaries in the US, Caribbean, Canada, and Guam

The SBC also operates ____ theological seminaries.

Lifeway Christian Resource is the largest religious publishing house in the world.

Through a formula called "The Cooperative Program" Approximately ____% of our Budget goes to support SBC ministries.

INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD

Beyond the receipts they receive through The Cooperative Program, our church gives ____% of our undesignated offerings to the International Mission Board.

Our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering supports International Missions
NCBC's 2020 offering was over of \$26,000.00

NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD

Beyond the receipts they receive through The Cooperative Program, our church gives ____% of our undesignated offerings to the International Mission Board.

Our Annie Armstrong Easter Offering supports North American Missions.
NCBC's 2021 offering was over \$10,700.00

TENNESSEE BAPTIST COLLEGIATE MINISTRIES

NCBC sends a gift equal to .33% (one-third of one percent) of our undesignated offerings to support our local Baptist Collegiate Ministries serving Cleveland State Community College and Lee University.

FAMILY PROMISE

Family Promise is a local ministry to homeless families in transition. Our church is a founding member of this organization. In addition to our annual financial support, we host the families they are assisting for four weeks a year.

OCOEE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Ocoee Middle School is our Partner School. Volunteers from our congregation seek to give monthly encouragement to the OMS Staff and Faculty.

LEGGETT FAMILY MINISTRY

Chris Leggett's Family are former missionaries in West Africa. Chris was killed on the mission field in the summer of 2009. His wife and family continue in mission work both in Africa and with internationals in our local area.

NEW HOPE CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER

New Hope Pregnancy Center supplies Christian ministry and resources for individuals and families facing challenging pregnancies.

FOUNDATION HOUSE

Foundation House is a local ministry assisting single mothers and their children. They provide housing, job skills, training, counseling, and other resources enabling these ladies toward independence and a higher quality of life.

THE CARING PLACE

The Caring Place is a local Christian benevolent ministry. They manage a thorough food pantry, clothes closet, and extend other ministries to the disadvantaged in our community.

THE CLEVELAND COMMUNITY SHELTER

The Cleveland Community Shelter provides local Emergency Housing.

KAIROS

Kairos is a ministry to incarcerated individuals. Buddy Arnold, Janelle Martin, Larry Grimes, and others from our church serve in this ministry.

FREEDOM'S PROMISE

Freedom's Promise is a Tennessee Based ministry working to prevent Human Trafficking in Cambodia and Myanmar.

TREK THRU TRUTH

Trek thru Truth is a local endeavor to create a Children's Bible Museum in our area.

4 C's Program

Formerly known as "Rocket Program" this program assists disadvantaged children at enrolled at Cleveland Middle School

OPEN EYES MINISTRY

In 2019 a student team from our church worked in Honduras with Open Eyes Ministry. Their mission is to provide evangelical and social services (feeding ministry, orphanage, etc.) to the disadvantaged. This team returned with a contagious conviction for our church to partner deeply with this good work. Beyond our budget gift, a significant amount of financial support is given to Open Eyes Ministry through individuals in our congregation.

MISSIONS SUPPORT

This line item equals 3% of undesignated gifts and is used to sponsor our members involved in short-term mission endeavors.

ISAIAH 117 HOUSE

This ministry provides physical and emotional support in a safe and loving home for children awaiting foster care placement.

What are some of the advantages of these affiliations?

It allows us to identify with other Christians and other churches in our community, our state, our nation, and around the world with whom we share common faith and practice.

It allows us to participate in a missionary organization that goes far beyond what an individual congregation can accomplish.

It gives us fellowship with other Christians and other churches.

It gives us the opportunity to speak with greater influence on matters of moral and spiritual concern.

6 - WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT OUR CHURCH?

- With a population of over 100,000 people, there are over 50 Southern Baptist churches in Bradley County with over _____ churches of all denominations.

So, among so many choices, what makes NCBC unique? What makes us who we are?

OUR P _____

OUR STAFF

One worthwhile note is the l _____ of our staff.

OUR H _____

OUR F _____

OUR D _____

OUR T _____

OUR M _____ COMMITMENT

P _____

G _____

_____ % of our budget is given away.

We give exceptional amounts to the mission offerings.

Operation Christmas Child

OUR CARING MINISTRIES

Weekday Childcare Ministry provides loving care for approximately ____ children on any given day. It employs about 20 people.

Big City University

Vacation Bible School

_____ % of our VBS comes from kids who are not a part of our congregation.

Trunk or Treat

Bereavement Team

Men on Mission

Partner Ministries

OUR P_____ COMMITMENT

OUR WORSHIP

Our worship s_____

Our worship emphasizes p_____.

Our special worship events.

7 - WHY BE A MEMBER OF NORTH CLEVELAND BAPTIST CHURCH?

BECAUSE YOU LOVE JESUS

The New Testament refers to the church as “The Body of Christ”

BECAUSE IT IS A COVENANT

A covenant is like a contract that remains in place even when one side does not uphold its part of the agreement.

If you do not enter the covenant, it shows you do not love enough.

BECAUSE WE CAN DO MORE TOGETHER

Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 12 compares the church to a physical body.

T.E.A.M. = Together Effort All Members

God has always worked with a group.

BECAUSE YOU DESIRE THE BEST FOR THE CHURCH

When people become members of our church, I pray they feel more of an accountability for the church’s health and effectiveness and function.

That involves rejecting a focus of “What can the church do for me?”

That involves embracing a focus of “What do I need to do for the church?”

The first is a consumer attitude- What do I get out of this?

The second is a servant attitude – What can I do for this congregation?

There are certain jobs in the church you must be a member to hold.

You can only vote on church decisions if you are a member.

HOW DO I BECOME A MEMBER OF NCBC?

ARTICLE VII – MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1 – GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

The membership of this church shall consist of persons who believe in a sovereign, democratic and New Testament church, and who confess Jesus Christ as their Savior and

Lord, and who have been accepted by vote of this church, and after baptism by immersion, if not previously baptized by a church of like faith, and who enter into the covenant and articles of faith as adopted by this church.

**NORTH CLEVELAND BAPTIST CHURCH CONSTITUTION
SECTION 2 – RECEIVING CHURCH MEMBERS**

Any person may present himself or herself as a candidate for membership in this church, at any worship service in the following ways:

(A) **By profession of faith** in, and acceptance of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, and requesting baptism according to the policies of this church.

(B) **By promise of a letter of recommendation** from another church of like faith, and assurance of baptism by immersion.

(C) **By restoration upon a statement of prior conversion experience.** By baptism by immersion in another church of like faith and no letter of recommendation is available. Should there be any question of dissent as to any candidate, such question or dissent shall be referred to the pastor and active deacons for investigation to the church within a period of thirty days. A majority vote of the church members present and voting shall be required to elect such candidate to membership.

(D) **By requesting Associate Membership** when he or she is living in our community on a temporary basis. Associate Membership allows a person to share the full rights and privilege of church membership without terminating his or her membership to the church in his or her home community. Associate Membership from North Cleveland Baptist Church is terminated once the individual relocates out of our area.

WANT TO JOIN THE NORTH CLEVELAND BAPTIST FAMILY?

- Have you made a f_____ c_____ trusting Jesus' death for salvation?
- Have you been baptized as a t_____ of that decision?
- Are you a member of any congregation?