



CHILDREN'S MINISTER INFORMATION PACKET



WE ARE PRAYERFULLY SEEKING a new Children's Minister for Central Church of Christ in Amarillo, Texas. If you have questions or would like more information, please feel free to reach out to us.

Contact Greg Dowell at greg@amarillocentral.org or 806.373.4389.

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CHRIST FOR THE SAKE OF_

WHO WE ARE

Central Church of Christ is a faith community in Amarillo, Texas. We are committed to living out the mission of God as we follow Jesus and invite others to join us. Jesus has given us a heart for our city and our world, using us to reach all kinds of people from here in downtown Amarillo to the other side of the globe.



A SNAPSHOT OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY AT CENTRAL





50 FAMILY UNITS IN C.M.

35 AVG SUN. ATTENDANCE NURSERY - 5TH GRADE

97 KIDS IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

40 AVG ATTENDANCE WACKY WEDNESDAY

22 KIDS IN FLIGHT 45



FLIGHT 45
WACKY WEDNESDAY
PODS
LAUNCH!
SNACK PAK FOR KIDS
...AND MORE!

500 AVG WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

CHILDREN'S MINISTER JOB DESCRIPTION

At Central Church of Christ, we believe that children and their families are vital to the kingdom of God and richly bless our faith community. As such, we are dedicated to cultivating a spiritually formative environment that 1) honors their place within the body of believers, 2) seeks to walk alongside them as they grow in faith, and 3) fosters an environment where we can learn from each other. To achieve this vision for children and families, the following responsibilities are core for Central's Children's Minister.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Prioritize your spiritual health and vitality by committing to your own spiritual growth, discipleship, and devotion to Jesus Christ.

Partner with the ministerial staff and eldership to nurture each other's faith through prayer, encouragement, support, and shared life.

Utilize allotted 15 days of renewal time (in addition to allotted vacation time) and funds (\$2,000) annually to create space and provide the resources for your faith formation and professional growth.



CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Align the Children's Ministry with Central's vision.

Be an important voice around the leadership table, providing input and feedback to elders, ministers, and ministry leaders.

Be a champion and leader in ensuring that the Central's Children's Ministry is incorporated into the whole life of the church.

Be an active member of our leadership team by attending all staff events and congregational gatherings.

Adhere to Central's personnel manual and office policies. Report directly to the Executive Minister. Serve under and with the leadership of the Senior Minister and Elders.



MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN AND PARENTS

Foster a team environment where volunteers and paid staff are equipped and empowered in the Children's Ministry.

Collaborate with the Children's Ministry Assistant in leading the Children's Ministry Team.

Lead by example, participating as a regular volunteer/teacher/leader in children's environments.

Regularly commit to building relationships and offering pastoral care to families.

Ensure that our children's environments are safe, clean, fun, and inviting spaces.

Create and coordinate special events that fulfill the vision of the Children's Ministry.

Discern and implement a Children's Ministry curriculum that promotes a lifelong embedded faith in our children and their families.

Identify and lead opportunities for children and families to serve in the community.

Develop and manage the Children's Ministry budget.



MEET OUR STAFF

From Left to Right in the Photo



TAYLOR EDMUNDSON

Congregational Resident during 2022-2023 school year. Hails from the great state of New York!

MARK LOVE

Local Missions Minister. He's a nice guy but only washes his coffee cup 4 times a year.

GREG DOWELL

Executive Minister. Doesn't wear socks and might raid the break room for goodies. (Put your name on your Crumbl cookies!)

KEVIN SCHAFFER

Worship Minister. He met his wife on a cruise and is the King of the Pun. May randomly break out in song.

VICKIE NELSON

Office Manager and Bookkeeping. Makes a mean Italian cream cake. But that's only when she's not quilting or fishing.

MESA ALLISON

Student Minister. He doesn't always dress up in costume. But when he does, he's all in.

RYLEE LUTES

Student Ministry Assistant. Keeps our adults fully caffeinated and our students full of pizza. (And keep your paws off her Crumbl cookies.)

ELAINE NESBITT

Executive Assistant. Loves the beach and enjoys exotic cuisine... like oxtails and fish heads.

GEORGE NELSON

Building Maintenance. Wins "Most Unexpected" with his staff Christmas party gifts and comments in meetings.

MOLLIE MORRIS

Receptionist. Don't let her role fool you. She's efficient with a side of fun.

MIC BIESBOER

Senior Minister. We'll claim him, but he's not from around here...

SARA NICKSON

Children's Ministry Assistant. She makes efficiency look slow and hosts a stellar brunch.

LANNY NEWTON

Associate Minister of Adult Impact Ministries. Was once in a rock band, and now rocks his golden years.

MARY MCNEILL

In Transition. Loves a good shrimp cocktail. Her passions are pickleball and charcuterie.

HANNAH MCNEILL

Director of Communications. May not tell you that you misspelled something, but she'll always notice. Actually, no, she'll tell you.

HISTORY OF CENTRAL

Central enjoys a rich heritage of big decisions and courageous moves in faith that have impacted Amarillo, the Texas Panhandle, and the world for the Kingdom of God.



1908 Central establishes the first Church of Christ in the Texas Panhandle with a Sunday assembly of nine Christians in the basement of the downtown Potter County Courthouse.

1929-1930 By saving butter and egg money during The Depression, Central's members construct the beautiful building at 1401 S. Monroe. Ninety years later, the "chapel" still serves a vital role in the congregational life of our church and the surrounding community.

1937-1952 Central plants four new congregations to spread the Gospel throughout Amarillo: North Heights, San Jacinto, East Amarillo, and Southside Churches of Christ.

1961 Central agrees to spiritually support Ted and Dot Stewart in sending them with a missionary team to Brazil, setting the tone for a 60-year church-planting partnership with Great Cities Missions.

1965 Central becomes the first Church of Christ in the United States to hire a Youth Minister! At Central, Dan Warden helped define the emerging practice of youth ministry, established successful youth ministry models, and pioneered the path for all future youth ministers in our Church of Christ fellowship.

1980 Central is credited with breaking the world record for most money ever offered by a church on a single Sunday: \$2,213,169 to construct the main worship center and basement classrooms.

The grand opening and dedication of the new worship center and basement classrooms takes place in March. This expansion provided much needed room for Central's congregation to grow and expand ministry within the building.



1994 Central's youth group takes its first international mission trip to Manaus, Brazil. This plants the seed for future youth and adult participation in short-term mission trips overseas.

Despite changing demographics and financial uncertainties, Central commits to stay in the current downtown location and invest more money, energy, and time in ministering to our local community: Upreach Center, Prayer Breakfast, Loaves & Fishes, etc.

2010 Central completely renovates its youth and children's areas to improve safety and security, provide an enhanced educational environment, and create a place for students to interact and build deeper relationships.

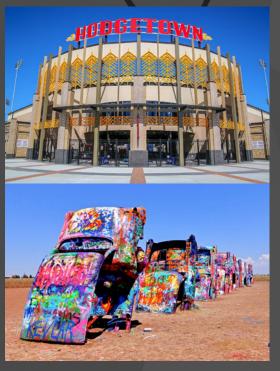
2013 Central enters into a local worship and ministry partnership with First Baptist, First Presbyterian, and Polk Street United Methodist Churches. "4 Amarillo" is a partnership to unify our churches and bless the downtown community with school supplies, VBS, and more. Additionally, while missions are always a priority at Central, the church names October "Missions Month" to focus on dedicated contributions specifically for mission work. Central averages \$350,000 each year in additional giving that goes entirely to missions.

2017-2018 Central's members contribute \$10.9-million dollars over two years to fund the church's vision/budget, improve the current facility, create an indoor active space for kids, strengthen our partnerships with local ministry organizations, and continue our dedication to global missions.

2019 + ON Central expands the worship services to include the participation of women, giving them regular opportunities to lead prayer, read Scripture, baptize, and offer the Lord's supper during the assembly. Central increases its digital presence to better reach the church and community. The elders reimagine the governance model and leadership structure of the church here and look with discernment toward the future.







CITY STATS

Population in Amarillo: 200,000

Population in Potter and Randall Counties: 260,000

Ethnic makeup: 54% white, 33% Hispanic, 7% Black, 4% Asian, 2% other

The median cost for a house in Amarillo is \$156,500 as compared to \$243,600 statewide.

COST OF LIVING

United States: 100 Texas: 93.9

Amarillo: 80.1

Housing – 59.2 Groceries – 91.7

Utilities – 93.7

ECONOMY

The unemployment rate in Amarillo is 4.9% (U.S. avg. is 6.0%). Recent job growth is Positive. Amarillo jobs have increased by 1.9%.

LOCATION

At the center of the Texas Panhandle, part of the Great Plains, and the intersection of Interstates 40 and 27 and U.S. Highways 60, 87 and 287.

TRANSPORTATION

Three airlines serve Rick Husband Amarillo International Airport with over 50 daily arrivals and departures: American Eagle, Continental/ United and Southwest Airlines.

FUN FACTS

Amarillo is the 16th largest city in the state of Texas.

Tyler's Barbecue is annually featured by Texas Monthly as one of the best BBQ joints in the whole state.

The iconic Cadillac Ranch west of town consists of 10 vintage Cadillacs buried nose-first in the ground, which draws visitors year-round. Just bring your own spray paint!

The 31-story FirstBank Southwest Tower is the tallest building between Fort Worth and Denver.

In 2020, Amarillo was listed in the top 10 Best Cities to Live and Work as well as being named the 4th Most Generous City in America.

CLIMATE

Altitude 3,672 ft; annual precipitation app. 20 inches. We have low humidity and cool evenings in the summer.

WEATHER

The most pleasant months of the year for Amarillo are May, September and October. July is the hottest month for Amarillo with an average high temperature of 91.3°, which ranks it as one of the coolest places in Texas. January is the snowiest month in Amarillo with 3.9 inches of snow, although 6 months of the year have significant snowfall. And we have wind. Has anyone mentioned the wind yet?

Average annual snowfall in Amarillo: 15 inches

Average annual rainfall in Amarillo: 21 inches

Average sunny / partly sunny days per year: 259

Average low / high temperature:

January – 23/51

April – 42/71

July - 65/91

October – 45/72

HEALTHCARE

We have two nationally-recognized hospital and health care systems that serve the vast panhandle region: Northwest
Texas Healthcare System and BSA Health System. Amarillo also has a large Veterans Administration Medical Center and several surgical hospitals and specialty and primary care clinics. Texas Tech University Health Science Center is also in Amarillo.

MAJOR INDUSTRIES

- Ranching and Farming
- Education, Banking
- Oil and Gas
- Medical and Tourism

EDUCATION

Amarillo ISD is one of the state's top public school systems. The open transfer policy means your children can attend any school in the district, regardless of your geographic location. There are 38 elementary schools, 13 middle schools, and 4 high schools in AISD. Nearby school districts in Canyon, Bushland, and River Road also provide quality education.

Amarillo boasts several private school options including San Jacinto Christian Academy, Ascension Academy, and a tuition-free charter school.

More than 11,600 students are enrolled at Amarillo College, our highly-rated community college offering Associates degrees and continuing secondary education. West Texas A&M University also enrolls more than 9,900 students each year, studying for bachelors, masters, and doctorate degrees in a wide variety of fields.

The Texas Tech Health Sciences Center at Amarillo provides education for medical students and residents in four different specialties, including the School of Medicine, School of Nursing, School of Pharmacy, and School of Health Professions, which offers occupational therapy and physical therapy programs.

Denver Seminary has a West Texas campus in Amarillo accredited by the Association of Theological Schools. They offer graduate level theology courses and many options for continuing your theological education.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

The Sod Poodles are Amarillo's AA baseball team – an Arizona Diamond Backs affiliate. They play ball at the downtown Amarillo stadium, completed in April 2019.

West Texas A&M University competes in the Lone Star Conference of the NCAA with football, basketball, soccer, and more.

Amarillo is also home to the Venom of the Champions Indoor Football League and the Wranglers of the North American Hockey League. Both teams play their home games inside the Amarillo Civic Center

Amarillo offers 90-holes of golf on some of the highest rated public courses in Texas.

Palo Duro Canyon, the second largest canyon in the U.S., offers hiking, camping, mountain biking, horseback riding, state park amenities, and some of the most beautiful views in Texas. During the summer, you can enjoy a performance of the TEXAS Outdoor Musical.

Wonderland Park is Amarillo's own amusement park, established here 70 years ago.

We are home to a Cinergy Entertainment Complex—90,000 square feet of state-of-the-art movie watching, bowling, arcades, 4-D movie rides, laser tag, and zip lines.

Don Harrington Discovery Center provides interactive science and nature exhibits as well as a planetarium and space theater.

We have several public parks that include picnic areas, skateboard and skate structures, soccer fields, and softball facilities. There are 4 city swimming pools and 32 miles of jogging trails.

We have a quality fine arts scene here in Amarillo—from Amarillo Little Theatre to Lone Star Ballet, from Amarillo Opera to Amarillo Symphony. We have a number of quality productions yearround. The Amarillo Civic Center hosts a full calendar of concerts and Broadway productions every year.

The outdoor scene in Amarillo is growing. We've got food trucks and live music venues, as well as an Amarillo Community Market open throughout the summer.

Down the road in Canyon, Texas is the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, the largest history museum in the state of Texas.













