



THIS IS **YOUR** 2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT





Sunday Morning Average Attendance

2,909
Central Wesleyan

688
Central Online

131
La Roca

121
The Local Church

166
Cambodia

186
Indonesia

TOTAL: 4,201
OVERALL 5% INCREASE

A Note from Pastor Craig

The 2016/17 year bears witness to record attendance, record income and record outreach investment. Great works of God, it seems, often transpire in seasons of faithful prayer, hard work and radical commitment to the Great Commission.

Last year was a struggle. We sent Brad, sent pastors Toran and Jordan not to mention an army of adults and children. Through all this we prayed faithfully, worked diligently and gave generously. At the year's end, what we've believed all along has been affirmed: generosity doesn't only cost, it is also the pathway to blessing.

The Spirit recently brought Acts 12 to my attention. Peter is in chains; the church is at prayer and God is at work. Verse 9 is hilarious: *"Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision."* A miracle is taking place as a response to prayer but the man of God doesn't see it and the church of God doesn't believe it! Peter was walking through a wonderful work of God and didn't see it (v11)!

In some ways, this verse sums up last year. We worked diligently, suffered loss, but prayed faithfully and all the while God was working wonders! As you look at the fruits of last year's ministry, see beyond the record numbers to the record numbers of people we've been used by Jesus to reach. Let's not miss the miracle that is Central in this season. Yes, we are praying for a bigger miracle tomorrow but as for today, let's celebrate the wonder God has done!

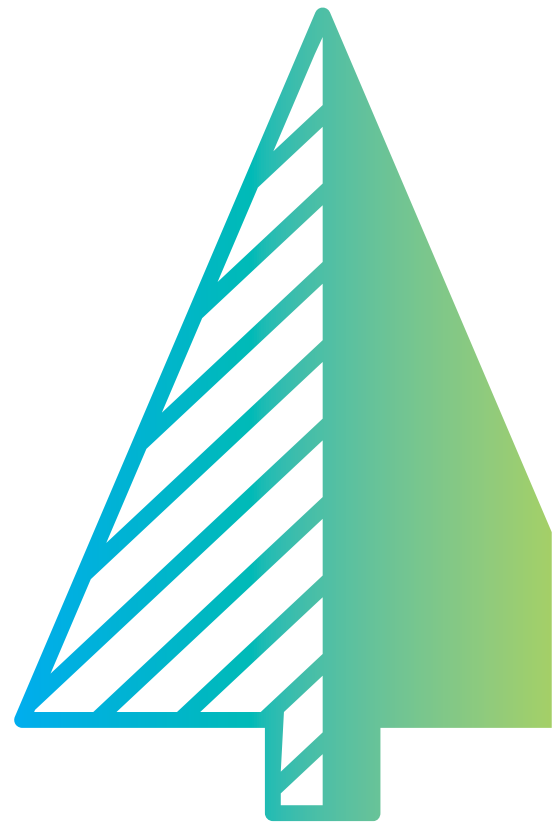
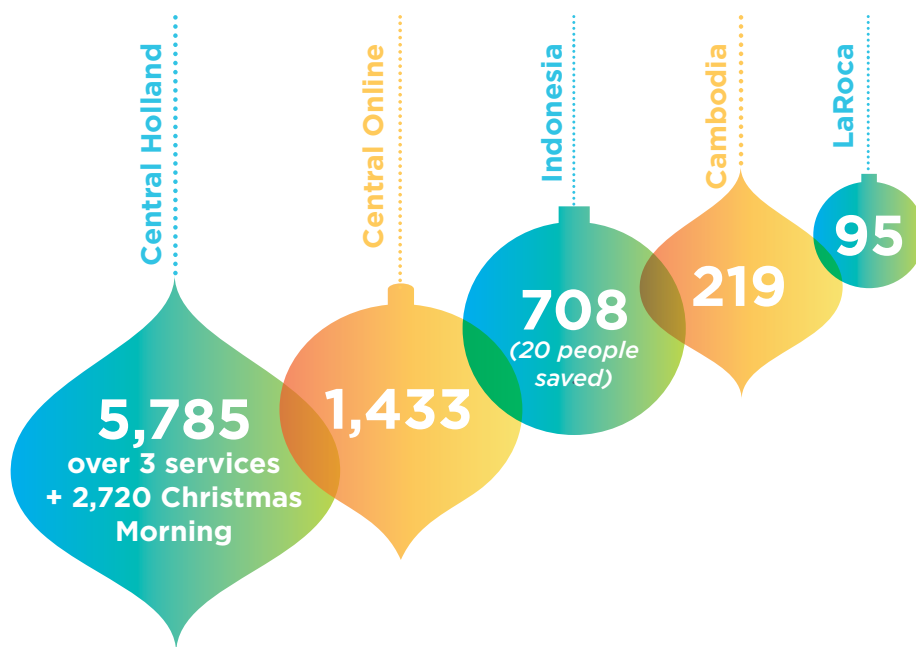
While we report on the impact our church has had, we will never be able to narrate the sacrifice thousands in our faith family have made to make this report possible. My thanks go out to all of you who made last year the year it was. Whether you are in Holland, Grand Rapids or South East Asia, thank you for walking through this wonder with us!

**"The future of
the church is
not in the
pulpit, but in
the pews."**

- Craig Rees

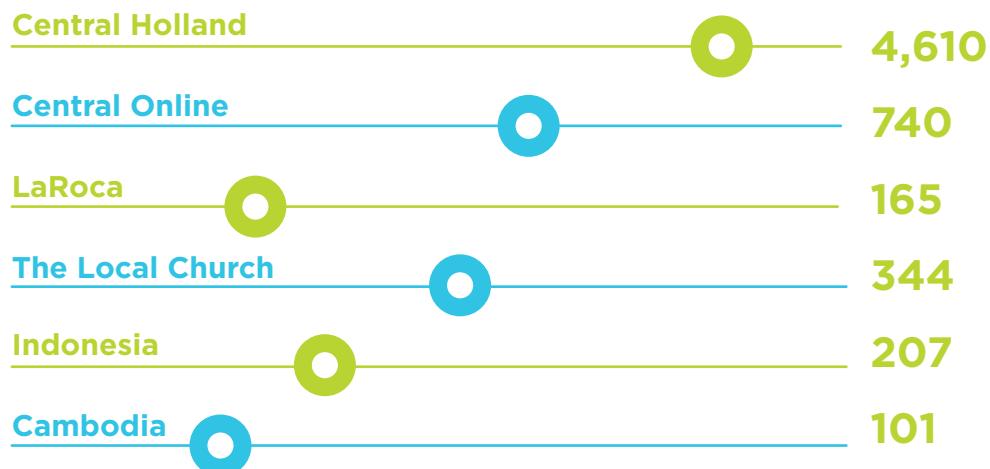


Christmas Attendance: 8,240



5,000 views
Central's Christmas Lipdub

Easter Attendance: 6,167



Transformed Lives

"It's not what you know,
it's who you know."

- Craig Rees



The Water's Edge Mission to Amplify Hope + Life invites all people to live With God, In Community + On Mission. Mission only happens if people take their private faith public. One way we gage our effectiveness at mobilizing the church to mission is through what we call 'measuring the gap.' How effective are we at helping people go public with their faith? One way to gage that is by measuring the 'follow-through percentage.' How many who confess Christ in one of our campuses go public with their faith in baptism? This isn't the only gage, but it's a vital one.

Confession: a personal confession of faith in the Lord Jesus as Savior

Profession: a public confession of faith in the Lord Jesus as Savior through Baptism

582
confessions
at all campuses

127
professions

22%
followed-through.

Our desire is to see all who
CONFESS, PROFESS!



Meet Kennedy

When I was younger, I assumed that taking part in baptism was just something everybody did eventually. I grew up in the church, attended countless trips and youth group events and I loved being a part of it all but I never really considered my faith to be my own choice. It always just seemed like "the right thing to do". However, my junior year in high school was a tough year for me and I found myself actively pursuing God because I chose to do so, not because anybody told me I should. I was very blessed to have grown closer to God during the difficult situations in my life. John 13:7 says "You may not understand what I'm doing now, but someday you will". This verse comforts me because I know that my God walks on water and my God will hold me through every storm I face in my journey. I am getting baptized because I am longing to publicly declare my faith and to continue to trust God even though I may not have it all figured out. I may not know what my future holds, but I definitely know who holds my future.

Meet Robert

Hi I'm Robert, I grew up in Muskegon MI. As a kid I was never shown the way to live my life the right way, instead I was shown a totally different way, the wrong way to live. I really didn't have anybody to look up to when I was a kid or even have someone I could call my father. At the age of seventeen I was blessed to be able to become part of a wonderful family that was able to give me another chance at life. My new family has always been there for me. Now I have Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. I know no matter what I've done in the past, I'm forgiven. I have a new start at life. I am so glad that I have had so many people around to guide me down the right path. So thankful to everyone and I feel God has blessed me.



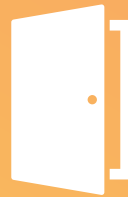
NextGen



26
Children
Dedicated



40
NextGen Baptized
(Elementary-High School)



1,149
Children came
through our doors

Average weekly attendance

414
Central Kids

241
Central Students

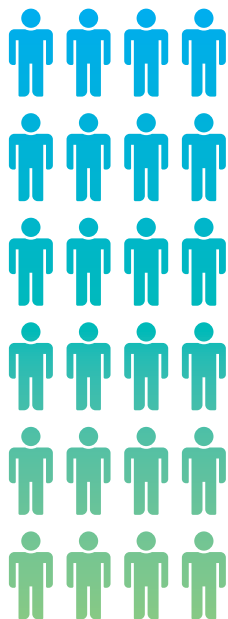
686 individual volunteers served in NextGen

#InCommunity



“How do I make disciples?
Be a disciple.”

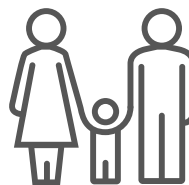
- Toran Scott, The Local Church: GR



710 people
participated in
small groups

312 people
participated in
community groups

239 people
participated in
short circles



85 people
participated in
Parent Connect



Gathering Grounds



opened for a total of
1,149 hours



4,800 bagels
consumed



16,000+
cups of coffee
poured for you



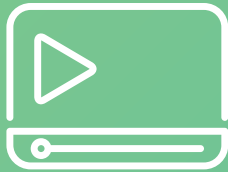
“ We have witnessed another healthy year in the spiritual life of our church. We believe next year will be one of the greatest years yet as we pray and plan for many more people to find stronger community at all of our campuses! **#StrongerTogether**

- Travis Rea, Central Wesleyan Church

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Online Community

Central Online



36,000+
views

Central Online
Live Stream

9,000+ views

of our sermons on *vimeo*

656 people

watched our Christmas
Program from all around
the world online

Today, the idea of community extends beyond
the walls of the church and into the digital world



995

Central Wesleyan
App Downloads



53%

of people use
Apple iPhone to
visit our website



Most popular posts

Instagram



It's #TeamMemberMonday! Meet Pastor Toran. Toran is the lead pastor here at The Local Church. He loves to teach, mobilize, lead teams and is passionate about raising up young leaders. He also loves to order espresso but puts so much cream and sugar in it you'd never even know there was coffee.

Fun Fact: He can create the full story of Jonah with balloon animal balloons.
#meettheteam #tlcfamily#forthecity



Don't forget to get your Local Church accessories tomorrow morning! T-shirts are \$10 and window clings are \$2. #forthecity



@centralwesleyan



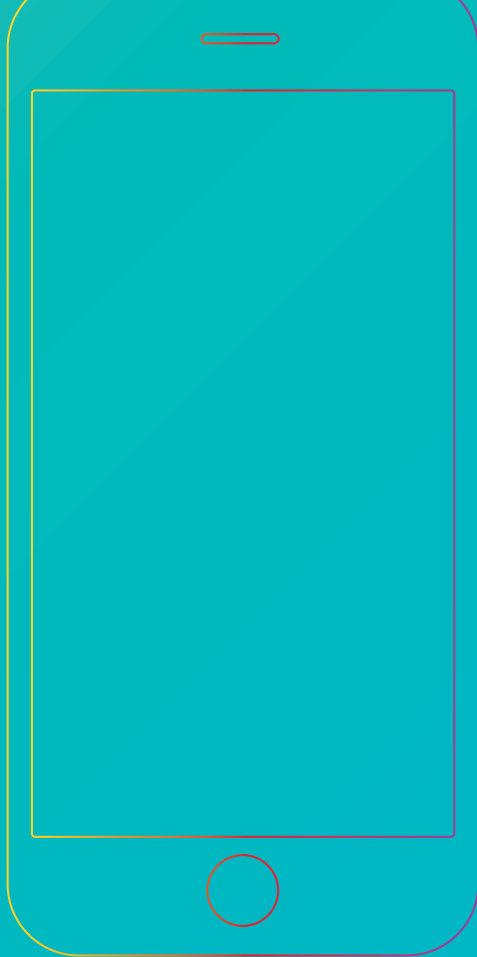
Central, join us in officially welcoming the Norman's to our church family! Pastor Steve will be joining our teaching staff after his transition from his church on the east side of the state. He and his wife Kelly have four children that are finishing out the school year before they make the move to the Holland area. Side note: this picture was taken last summer in Holland before they knew anything about what God had in store for them, how great is our God? #ilovemychurch #hopeandlife



@centralwesleyan



Every one of these crosses, moments of breakthrough, have been prayed over by our team. If you'd like specific prayer or to tell your story, please send us a message. #prayer #lifechange#easter2017 #breakthrough



@centralwesleyan



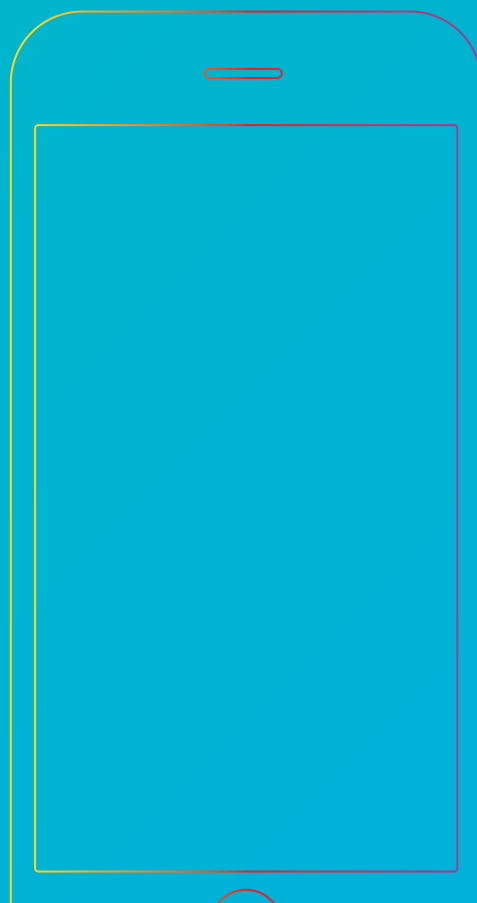
At Central, we play with VR headsets, don't ever say church is boring again!
#impoverished #vr#virtualreality
#ilovemychurch



@localchurchgr



It's a PACKED house this #Easter Morning at#thelocalchurchgr! Praise God for the resurrected Christ! #wearelocal #localchurchgr



#OnMission

**PLAY
LAND**



March 3, 2016
Grand Opening

14,303
Check-Ins

7,402 people
visited Playland

14% affiliated
with Central

86% were not
affiliated with Central



“ God is doing remarkable work in this new facility and through our volunteers. Please continue supporting The Holland Playland through prayer and volunteering as we continue serving our community. I can't wait to see what is in store for next year!
- Ethan Lampe, Playland Coordinator

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72 students
went #onmission
to St. Louis



12
young adults
traveled to Africa
for a mission trip



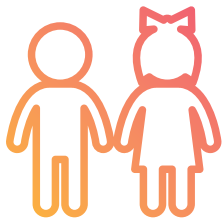
Strategy Unveiled

A unifying feature of our campus strategy is the commitment to address the 5 Global Giants through a strategy we have named, AMPED.

Learn more online centralwesleyan.org/amped



Providing food for children who otherwise wouldn't have any



4,083
children



112
schools



72
churches



1,282
volunteers



321
bags packed
each week



7,922
bags packed
this school year



63,376
food items
packed this year



\$1,550

raised by Central Kids
to support families in
Guatemala



\$237,562

given to missionaries

16 people

served as US
missionaries



4 people

lived local but
served global.

#RiceandBeans Challenge



1,000+ lbs
of rice and beans
were prepared by the
middle school students
and leaders

Donated
\$28,000+
as a benevolence
offering

**“Jesus never said, ‘Come, follow me
into church.’ Jesus said
‘Come, follow me into the world.’”**

- Craig Rees

#ServeOneServeAll

3,000+
volunteers throughout
our ministries

245
individuals responded to
the #serveoneserveall
call in July

**"We are saved in order
to serve."**

- Craig Rees



Investment

1,867
contributors



\$8.4
Million contributed

new giving record by
\$1.2 million

"The church
should not be a
monument but a
movement to lead
people to Jesus."
- Craig Rees



Outreach Giving
**Increased
by 24.4%**
a new record of
\$1,814,938

STRONGER

\$2.1
million given

\$3.6
million pledged



A note from Pastor Lynn

I have a lot of memories of the changing seasons at Central Wesleyan Church, some were exciting and motivating and some we had to exercise our faith and trust God to see us through the times of great challenge. But through it all God has and continues to lead us on a journey that has changing seasons, it is highly rewarding to join Him on this journey.

As we look over the past year we give witness to the Lord's handiwork. Some of the evidences of God at work among us: at \$8.4 million, we set a new record in giving by more than \$1.2 million that was up over the prior year by 24.2%, Outreach Investment (missions) set a new all-time record of \$1.82 million which was up 24.4% over the prior year and represented 26.8% of all giving excluding Capital Stewardship, and attendance at all campuses totaled 4,201 which was up 199 or 5%. These numbers are, of course, only an objective indicator of the much greater work that God is doing among us evidenced by life change all around us. It has often been said that the best days of the church are before us, it certainly seems like we are living that vision in this season.



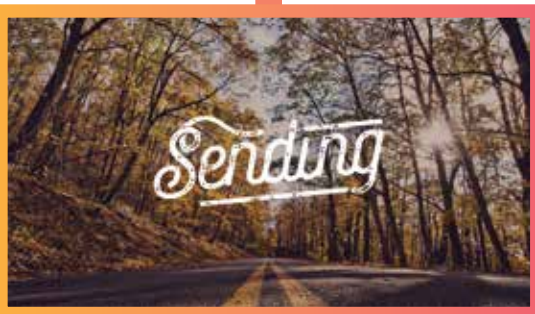
July



August



Sept.

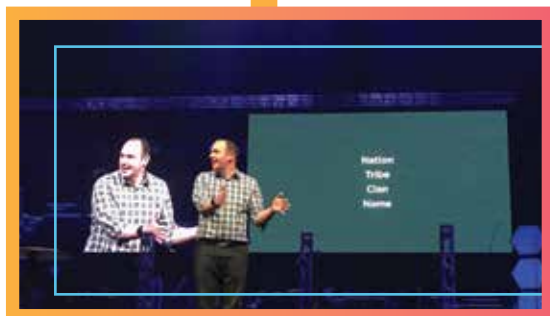


Oct



Nov./Dec

Jan.



February

New Teaching Pastor joins us for the first time

March



April

April



The Local Church launches on Easter with 344 people in attendance



May



**AND THE BEST IS
YET TO COME!**

2016 WAS SO GREAT... WHERE TO BEGIN?

June



**47 people
baptized**
in the pond on
Central's Campus

