



Annual Report 2024-2025

citycentre
CHURCH

Table of Contents

01	——	Letter from Pastor Deric
03	——	At a Glance
04	——	Financial Statement
05	——	Elders' Report
06	——	Deacons' Report
07	——	Children's Ministries
08	——	NextGen Ministries
09	——	Discipleship Ministries
12	——	Arabic Ministry
13	——	Worship Ministry
14	——	Local Outreach
15	——	Global Outreach
16	——	Prayer and Care Ministry
17	——	Ministry Partners

VISION

To be a Spirit-filled church **family**
that works to **reach** the city with
the Gospel and **build** believers
into spiritually mature disciples
with the Word of God

Letter from Pastor Deric

Organized for Mission

"The foundation of the Church is Jesus Christ, and its authority in all its affairs is the Word of God."

(City Centre Baptist Church General Operating By-Law, 2.01)

Our work as a church is founded on the mandate given by Jesus Himself in Matthew 28:18–20, where He said to His disciples:

"Jesus came near and said to them, 'All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age'" (Christian Standard Bible).

Our mission is to "make disciples of all nations" in obedience to the commandment of Jesus, and we do so with Divine authority, not man-made power.

Our work as a church is also bounded by the governing document of our church contained in the General Operating By-Laws, which binds us to our Biblical mandate corporately and legally.

3.01: The mission of the Church is to be a place where relationships are nurtured in a warm, friendly atmosphere, and where spiritual growth is inspired through faithful ministry committed to developing fully devoted Christians who are genuine in their worship, disciplined in their walk, bold in their witness, and passionate to reach their world for Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:18–20).

3.02 Empowered by the Holy Spirit through prayer, the Church:

- (a) will relentlessly reach out to people with the life-changing message of Jesus Christ;
- (b) will wholeheartedly worship the everlasting God;
- (c) will passionately pursue full devotion to Jesus Christ;
- (d) will clearly communicate the transforming truth of the Bible;
- (e) will purposefully practice being a community marked by love and grace.

11.01. It is the purpose of this By-law to provide a stable and effective organizational structure to aid this Church in accomplishing its Mission. The sections that follow specify a model that keeps the roles of Senior Pastor (also referred to as Pastor), Elders' Board, Deacons, Staff, and Membership distinct and effective for church health and church growth.

- (a) The role of the Pastor is to lead the Church to accomplish its Mission.
- (b) The role of the Elders' Board is governance of Church spiritual, administrative, and temporal affairs, including the establishment of Guiding Principles for the Pastor's leadership.
- (c) The role of the Deacons, serving under the authority of the Elders, is the oversight of all Financial, Facilities, and Benevolence operations of the Church.
- (d) The role of the Staff is to manage the ministries of the Church, guided by the Pastor.
- (e) The role of the Membership is to serve as primary ministers of the Church.

I feel very blessed to look back over this past year to see the fruit of many dozens of people focused on accomplishing our God-given mission and doing so within the "stable and effective organizational structure" of the church. Glory to God for the ways that He is leading us to accomplish His commandment. Even though this has been a trying couple of years for April and me, we are as committed as ever to prayerfully leading City Centre to accomplish its vision for Gospel effectiveness. Worship, evangelism, personal devotion, preaching, and building Christian community are the heart of what I am called to do. I remain committed and passionate about being your servant for Jesus' sake.

Thank you, church family, for your love, prayers, and sacred partnership in the greatest mission on earth.

Warmly, in the love of Jesus our Lord,

Pastor Deric

Senior Pastor



Rev. Deric Bartlett
SENIOR PASTOR

At a Glance

AVG WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

904

IN-PERSON
ATTENDANCE

+7%

% CHANGE
YEAR OVER YEAR

844

ONLINE
IMPRESSIONS

+56%

% CHANGE
YEAR OVER YEAR

TOTAL GIVING

\$2,043,237

JULY 2024 - JUNE 2025
(AUDITED)

+11%*

% CHANGE
YEAR OVER YEAR

TOTAL IN-PERSON



+8%

% CHANGE
YEAR OVER YEAR

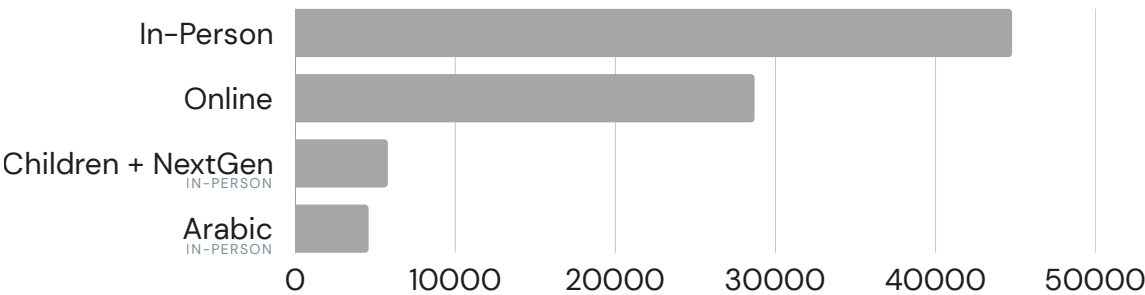
YOUTH HOUR (IN-PERSON)



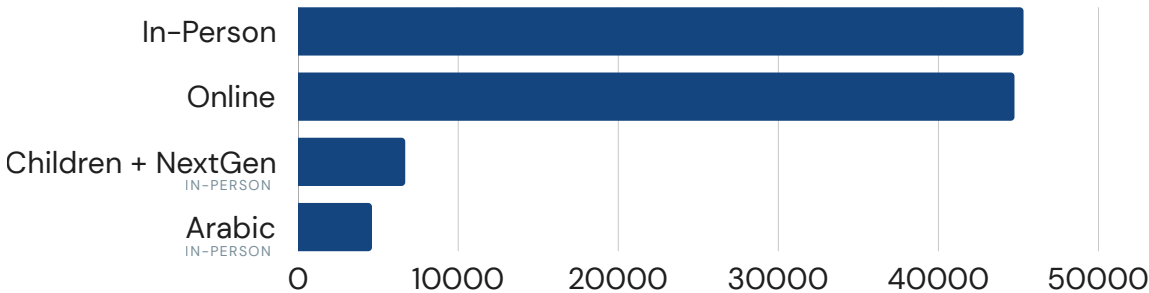
+27%

% CHANGE
YEAR OVER YEAR

2023-2024 ATTENDANCE BREAKDOWN



2024-2025 TOTAL ATTENDANCE BREAKDOWN



* Includes 2 one time donation of \$100,000 each.

Financial Statement

AUDITED

OPERATING FUND	ACTUAL	PRIOR YEAR	VARIANCE
GENERAL	\$1,963,910	\$1,785,545	\$178,365
DESIGNATED/RESTRICTED	\$79,327	\$56,385	\$22,942
TOTAL	\$2,043,237	\$1,841,930	\$201,307

OPERATING FUND	ACTUAL	PRIOR YEAR	VARIANCE
OFFERING OVER	\$1,963,910	1,785,545	\$178,365
EXPENSES OVER	\$1,892,237	\$1,625,957	\$266,422
INCOME OVER (UNDER)	\$71,531	\$159,588	(\$88,057)

CASH FINANCIAL	ACTUAL		PRIOR YEAR	
OPERATING	\$634,833		\$590,853	
INVESTMENT	\$841,322		\$714,520	
TOTAL	\$1,449,205		\$1,305,373	
DESIGNATED/RESTRICTED	\$1,119,932		\$714,520	
NET BALANCE	\$329,273		\$590,853	
RESERVE REQUIREMNETS (10%)	\$190,095	5.2 WEEKS	\$170,860	5.2 WEEKS
CUSHION	\$444,788	12.2 WEEKS	\$419,993	12.8 WEEKS

NET (CASH) BALANCE = \$634,883
(17.4 WEEKS OF BUDGET = 33.4% OF BUDGET)



Elders' Report

We are called individually and corporately to serve our risen Saviour.

When we acknowledge and receive Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Lord, we are all called into "full-time" Christian service. As a friend of mine once said many years ago, "Part-time is not available. You are either 'in,' or you are 'out.' There is no 'halfway.'"

Not many of us are called to be pastors or elders, but all of us are called to be in His service—full-time!

When we receive Christ, we are called to be "all in." We may be called to be "gatekeepers" or some other member of the Kingdom, but we are all called to serve His purpose, and we know that we are "as one" in ministry. Each one of us has a role, as God calls, and no one or no role is more important than any other. We are as one body—with eyes we see, with legs we run, and with hands we hold and care for one another. All of us, as parts of the whole, are essential to the ministry to which God has called us.

My wife taught me many years ago not just to talk to God, but to listen to God. And after listening to Him, to take action according to His leading.

We are all called into His service. Not one of us is exempt.

Together we are "the church." The building is not the church. The building is the place where the church gathers to worship our Lord, to hear His Word preached, and to be rejuvenated, encouraged, strengthened, and empowered for service. We are called not to watch and wait. We are called to action.

The question is, are you in or are you out? Each of us is essential to the cause of Christ. Each of us must be a part of the whole. He is the Vine, and we are the branches. As He directs, we are called to produce. Think of Jesus' teaching about the talents.

That is our prayer: that each one of us will be firmly attached to the Living Vine, which is Jesus, with a commitment to His service. As we serve, the Word of God will become a reality to those we "serve," and "the gates of hell will not prevail against it."

We live in a "needy world," which, to a large extent, is without hope. That hope and meaning are found in one place only—in a relationship with the living God. That is our message, and that is our calling.

Your Board of Elders:

Deric Bartlett (Senior Pastor), Jerry MacKenzie (Chairman), Ricardo Bowen (Vice Chair), Andy Vammus (Secretary), Mak Nasralla, Andrew Abraham, and Shady Fouad.

Please continue to pray that our dear Pastor Deric will be restored to full health and strength.

Blessings.



Deacons' Report

As we bring the year 2025 to a close, we thank the Lord for another year of His guidance and the new opportunities He has opened before us, for which we are deeply humbled. We remain grateful for the continued leadership of our senior pastors and elders as we faithfully serve His church.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."
Proverbs 3:5-6 (ESV)

Major Highlights

Communion & Membership

Your deacons continue to oversee preparation of ordinances and are active participants in serving communion. Our partnership with the Connections Team has been tremendous, streamlining the communion preparation process.

We are also blessed to continue to participate in the membership interview process, as our church family continues to grow.

Ongoing Projects: Building Maintenance

As we come close to the end of the calendar year, the church will be working on multiple projects, including:

- Updating the interior and exterior lighting, subject to the availability of funds.
- Repairing sinkholes in the parking lot and adding additional accessible parking spaces.
- Painting the building's lower level to create a cohesive look with the previously completed work on the upper level.

Forward Looking

We are actively engaged with the leadership of the church as we purposefully and prayerfully work through the various needs of our church.

Deacons committee: Tunde Kassim, Richard Titus, and Pia Atwal-Gooding



Children's Ministries

Great Things Happening!

- 800 summer camp registrations
- Number of kids attending Tutoring Club tripled to 32
- 175 children's ministry partners

This past year, we did not add any new ministry opportunities for the children but worked on strengthening the ministry programs already running. We saw great growth within each ministry! Current ministry for children includes City Centre Kids, AWANA (our church's "mid-week" ministry), Youth Musical, Parents & Tots, Tutoring Club, camps (March Break and summer), and family events (once per season).

The greatest momentum and growth were seen in our Summer Camps ministry. All camps filled up within the first few days of registration. However, with changes to our schedule and increases in the number of leaders, we were able to add kids to each camp. From 2022 to 2025, we have doubled the number of kids attending each of our sports camps, as well as our arts camp. (VBS numbers have remained strong, with 200+ kids in attendance each year.) Praise God, we are seeing many of these children and their families coming to and connecting at church.

Another ministry that grew in engagement was our Tutoring Club. During our first season in 2023, we worked with eight kids and three tutors. In our second season (last year), we tripled our younger kids' class to 23 kids and eight tutors. As well, we added a youth class of eight with three tutors. (FYI, this fall, we have added to our numbers again!) The majority of these kids come from the local community, with no connection to the church. We were happy to see some of these families coming out to family events and other ministry opportunities within the church.

We cannot run any of our ministry opportunities without the talents, time, and efforts of each ministry partner. Each children's ministry has its own gifted and dedicated co-leaders, teachers, and assistants. In all, we have 175 adults and youth who have committed to serving the children at some point during the year. It is exciting to see all generations connecting and growing in Christ together!

In the coming year, Children's Ministries at City Centre will remain focused on spreading the Word of God so the children may grow in their knowledge, love, and obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ. We want to keep building a ministry that encourages connection and engagement with others seeking to grow in their faith—not just the kids, but parents and ministry partners, too.



Heidi Hlohinec

Director of Children's Ministries



NextGen Ministries

God at Work in Our Youth!

50+ youth – Average attendance for Friday youth group

100 youth – Attended and served at our youth summer camp

60+ youth – Serving in various ministries

In the past year, God has graciously expanded our community by bringing many students to our church, providing many opportunities for evangelism, mentorship and discipleship. We've seen several students grow in their engagement with the ordinary means of grace, both personally and corporately. There's been significant growth in the spiritual relationships among the young people, which has enriched our regular fellowship.

Our ministry partners have worked faithfully throughout the year to display the love of Christ and the truth of the Gospel. They have gotten a chance to build meaningful, Gospel-driven relationships with our students. Through small group, events and conversations, the leaders are discipling these believing individuals on a personal basis. The Lord has continued to use our leadership team to win people to Christ and build His church.

Our curriculum this past year was Gospel-saturated and biblically sound. We've discussed topics such as the basic Christian doctrines, how the Gospel informs our daily lives, the spiritually damaging effects of phones, the integration of faith and work, and what it means to be a godly man or woman. For Sunday Youth Hour, we committed ourselves to the careful exegesis of different books of the Bible. These proved to be fruitful in building a theological foundation and providing clear application for our students to live a transformed life.

The purpose of our events is to develop Gospel-centered community and nurture spiritual friendships. These are great opportunities for the students to interact with one another in close proximity and experience biblical influence. This year, we participated in retreats, camps, holiday events, and an overnight stay at our church. Through these events, students connected with one another and sowed seeds of biblical relationships.

This coming year, our mission remains the same. We will continue teaching the Bible, proclaiming the riches of the Gospel and bringing it to bear on the hearts of our young people. We aim to equip our students to follow Jesus, live under God's Word, defend the Gospel, build community, and make disciples. We will maintain a biblically sound, Christ-focused curriculum that fosters theology, character, community, and mission.

As a Next Gen ministry, we are committed to preparing the students for the next phase of their lives. We're working on more effective ways to spiritually equip our junior highs for the transition into high school, our Grade 12s as they prepare for university, and our university-aged students as they step into adulthood.

In addition, we want to offer practical ways our students can showcase the Gospel through outreach, apologetics, and evangelism. Lastly, we will continue to reinforce the full Gospel message throughout the year. For it is through the Gospel that we will lead our students to Christ, disciple them, foster community, and equip them to be witnesses in the world.



Tim Ersando

Director of Next Generations



Discipleship Ministries

Community Engagement and Growth

- **445 adults engaged in different groups**
- **95 Connection Team members & 40 Hospitality Team members**
- **13 baptisms & 9 new members welcomed**

At City Centre Church, our mission remains to make disciples who are deeply rooted in their faith and equipped to multiply. Discipleship is central to God's mission for His people, and we continue to embrace a holistic approach to building disciples who grow in love for God and others. Our desire is to see followers of Jesus grow in understanding, deepen their spiritual lives, and live out their faith in love and service to others.

This past year, we have witnessed God's hand guiding us into a new season of growth. What we are experiencing is not merely the beginning of new groups, but the multiplication of existing ones—a true mark of discipleship. We have seen five new Life Groups and 10 new leaders emerge as a result of multiplication, and we are walking closely with others who are preparing to do the same. This growth opens new spaces for people to connect, belong, and grow in their love for God and one another.

Our Freedom in Christ Course, led faithfully by Doug and Dorothy Sargeant, has also begun multiplying. Those who once participated are now equipped to facilitate and walk others through the same journey toward spiritual freedom and maturity.

In this season, we are currently serving 445 people through 24 Life Groups, 3 ministries, and 3 discipleship courses, compared to the 330 people we were serving last year. The growing numbers are a reflection of God moving in City Centre Church. This year, we also celebrated 13 baptisms and welcomed 9 new members, each representing a life transformed by the grace of God and a deeper commitment to His Church.

As we look ahead, our goal is to continue growing—not only by launching new groups, but by raising and equipping leaders who multiply. We believe God is leading us into a season of expansion as we remain faithful to His call to make disciples who make disciples.



Rafael Tejeda
Pastor of Discipleship

A group of five women of diverse ages and ethnicities are smiling and standing in front of a banner that reads 'Women's Ministries'. The banner also features a butterfly graphic and the text 'Come in the W.O.R.D.' and 'SPRING'.

Discipleship Ministries

Men's Ministry

The Men's Ministry continues to meet weekly in three different groups, serving the men in our community. This past year has been one of growth in knowledge through studying God's Word and the teachings from Sunday services. We also hosted one men's breakfast, a movie that has challenged many men to start looking for ways to step out of our comfort zone, and we will be attending a men's conference in November.

These events are creating a momentum that we want to take advantage of. We are looking to start working toward the multiplication of one of the groups so that we can receive more people in the coming year.

Looking ahead, we are looking forward to exploring opportunities that challenge us to become more active and involved with our families, church, and one another to continue stepping up as spiritual leaders.

Evergreen (Seniors' Ministry)

Evergreen had a wonderful year, filled with regular weekly events that fostered community and connection. We will continue to offer walks, conversation cafés, and occasional luncheons as part of our regular schedule. In the coming year, we are excited about the possibility of collaborating with other ministry groups and sharing more meals together!

Women's Ministry

This year has been a wonderful one for City Centre's Women's Ministry. We focused on creating events for fellowship, growth, and outreach, and the Lord truly blessed our time together. In February, we kicked off the year with an Outreach Brunch for the ladies from JFJ Hope. We had several of our City Centre ladies give their testimonies in a session we called "Tales of Hope." It was a heartfelt event that blessed both our City Centre ladies as well as those from JFJ, as we shared the hope of the Gospel.

Our Spring Retreat in St. Jacob's was a special time dedicated to discussing vulnerability and transparency, encouraging one another to build more authentic relationships. Throughout the year, we offered a variety of Bible studies, both in person and online. Most recently, we hosted our ladies for the Priscilla Shirer simulcast, where we were blessed by a time of worship, learning, and prayer.

Whether we were sharing a meal, studying God's Word, or simply enjoying fellowship together, each event brought us closer to each other and the Lord. As we look ahead, our goal is to continue deepening our relationships and strengthening our witness. We will continue offering Bible studies for women on Monday nights and through Women in the W.O.R.D. on Thursday mornings. We are excited to explore how we, as women, are called and equipped to share the Gospel and serve our community with love.



Discipleship Ministries

Freedom in Christ

Freedom in Christ continues to be an integral part of the discipleship strategy of our church, with its emphasis on biblical truth and practical helps for applying these truths, enabling us to be mature and fruitful disciples.

Over the past year, the Freedom in Christ Discipleship Course has been taken by 130 folks through seven separate groups (mostly Thursday evenings at the church) and two Life Groups. It has been a joy to see the lives of many significantly impacted and changed as we have learned how to resist temptation, get out of hopelessness, leave behind past influences and negative behaviours, and move on to freedom.

This year, the Freedom in Christ Grace Course has been offered to anyone who has completed the discipleship course. About 50 people are currently participating in the Grace Course. The emphasis of this course is that a true understanding of God's grace becomes our motivation for all that we do, replacing default, false motivators as legalism, shame, guilt, failure, fear, and anxiety.

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast."

Ephesians 2:8–9 (NIV)



Arabic Ministry

This year has been one of continued growth, deepening faith, and expanding outreach for the City Centre Arabic Ministry. We praise God for His faithfulness and the many ways He has worked in and through our community.

1. Celebrating the Year – Major Highlights

Throughout the year, we witnessed significant spiritual development and stronger engagement within our congregation. Our small groups flourished, with around 45 people actively participating in three groups focused on Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. We are praying and preparing to launch another group soon.

We also celebrated several key outreach and church events that strengthened our connection with the Arabic-speaking community in Mississauga. These included Christmas, Good Friday, and Easter services, as well as our June worship event, which welcomed over 200 attendees. Each gathering provided a powerful opportunity to share the Gospel and welcome new families.

A major milestone was our **5th Anniversary Celebration** in September. This joyful event gathered many families and friends for worship, thanksgiving, and fellowship. Leading up to the celebration, three outreach teams visited the community, connecting with more than 100 people, sharing the Gospel, and inviting them to church.

Our children's and youth ministries also showed steady growth through Sunday classes and junior high programs, with an average weekly attendance of 15–20 kids, fostering strong foundations of faith in the next generation.

2. Key Learnings and Insights

This year reminded us of the importance of reaching our community beyond church walls and combining evangelism with discipleship through relationships. Visiting families, offering pastoral care, and maintaining personal connections strengthened unity and trust within the congregation. We have seen that people grow best in small, relational environments where they feel known, supported, and spiritually nurtured.

We also recognized the crucial role of leadership development. Empowering new and existing leaders to serve in small groups, worship, and children's programs has been essential in sustaining growth and ensuring ministry continuity. Another key insight has been the increasing spiritual hunger among our congregants and newcomers. Many are eager to learn, serve, and share the Gospel, demonstrating a strong desire for personal growth and mission-minded living.

3. Vision and Focus for the Coming Year

Looking ahead, we are excited to continue expanding our outreach, discipleship, and leadership initiatives. Our focus for the coming year includes:

- Launching new small/home groups to reach more families and deepen discipleship.
- Encouraging church membership to foster belonging and commitment.
- Hosting a leadership workshop to equip current and future leaders.
- Expanding youth and children's programs to prepare the next generation to live boldly in faith.
- Continuing evangelistic outreach to the Arabic community in Mississauga, sharing the hope of Jesus Christ.

With God's grace, we believe the coming year will be one of continued spiritual growth and outreach. We thank the Lord for His faithfulness and for everyone who has served, prayed, and supported the Arabic Ministry this year. The best is yet to come!



Armen Hakopian
Pastor of Arabic Ministries



Worship Ministry

This year, we experienced profound moments of worship that strengthened our faith and united our community. During the Christmas season, we hosted a Christmas Concert of Praise, with wide participation from our congregation. This event beautifully commemorated the advent of our Lord, filling our hearts with joy and gratitude.

In the spring, we returned to the Living Arts Centre for our Easter Sunday service. The event was well attended, with our worship team and congregation joining together in songs celebrating the victorious resurrection of Jesus Christ. These gatherings offered a glimpse of heaven's glory, equipping us to face the challenges of this world with renewed hope.

More recently, we marked the 45th Anniversary of City Centre Church with a special concert. This event focused on the hope of heaven amidst an increasingly challenging world, offering an evening of thanksgiving, praise, and encouragement through God's Word. We are deeply grateful for God's provision and presence in these milestones.

Looking ahead, the Worship Ministry is committed to cultivating a vibrant music culture that inspires our congregation to worship authentically and draws in new, qualified musicians to join our team. To support this vision, we are investing in both technology and people, with both short-term and long-term plans:

Technological Advancements: We have acquired in-ear monitoring systems for our singers, enabling a quieter stage environment without speakers. This enhances the worship experience by ensuring clarity and focus during services.

Musical Development: Our primary focus is developing the musical talents of our volunteers. By nurturing their skills, we aim to cultivate a worship culture that glorifies God and inspires others.

Children's Musical Program: We have a fantastic team diligently working on a children's musical for 2026, dedicated to creating an engaging and inspiring experience for our younger members.

Special Events: I am personally choosing special songs and arrangements for the upcoming Christmas season and Easter 2026 celebrations, designed to inspire and engage our congregation, especially our younger members. My goal is to transform every single Sunday service into a special event—an unforgettable worship experience. Nothing is more powerful than a congregation singing the Word of God!

Original Songwriting Initiative: As a short-term plan, I am leveraging my experience as a music producer, arranger, mix and master engineer, and composer to form a writing team. This team will create original songs that reflect our vision, theology, and reality in Christ, rooted in the Bible, the foundation of City Centre's strength as a congregation.

As we reflect on 2025, we stand in awe of God's goodness and faithfulness. The Worship Ministry at City Centre remains dedicated to leading our congregation in worship that honours God and prepares us for the hope of eternity. With new technology, a focus on musical growth, plans for meaningful children's programs, and the development of original worship songs, we are excited for what God has in store for 2026.



Marcello Ovidio
Worship Director



Local Outreach

Operation Christmas Child – Judith Bailey & Lorraine D’Souza

In 2024, the congregation came together in a powerful way—donating 390 shoeboxes and packing an additional 140 during a dedicated packing event. Altogether, through various collection efforts and partner contributions, a total of 5,294 shoeboxes were gathered and sent out to bring encouragement and joy to children around the world. The initiative not only met practical needs but also served as a reminder of God’s love in action. Every box represented a small gesture with a far-reaching impact—bridging distances and delivering hope. Thank you to every individual and family who supported this mission through prayer, packing, or logistics. We look forward to seeing how God will continue to work through Operation Christmas Child in 2025.

Gift Mountain – Kristin Mcleod

This past year, City Centre Church once again stepped up in a quiet but powerful way. Through our ongoing involvement with The Open Door’s Gift Mountain initiative in Mississauga, we took part in something bigger than ourselves—meeting real needs with real solutions. Thanks to the collective effort of our church family, we delivered \$3,640 in gift cards, alongside 36 additional cards with unspecified values. These contributions aren’t about numbers—they’re about stories. Each card represents a moment of relief, a spark of dignity, and a reminder to someone that they’re not alone. In a time when financial strain has become the norm for many, our response speaks volumes—not just about generosity, but about who we are becoming: a people deeply rooted in love, compassion, and action.

JFJ Hope Centre

This past June, something as simple as a baby bottle became a vessel for hope. Through our partnership with JFJ Hope Centre, our community came together once again—quietly, generously, and powerfully. Thanks to your participation in the 2025 Baby Bottle Drive, \$5,047 was raised to help support women navigating unexpected pregnancies. Every dollar is helping to provide practical care, emotional support, and a safe space for mothers and their babies. This isn’t just about fundraising—it’s about showing up for those who need to know they’re not alone. We’re grateful to each of you who joined in, gave what you could, and made compassion tangible. Together, we’re building something stronger than charity—we’re building hope.

Fall Food Drive

What happens when a community comes together with a shared goal? Something pretty amazing. This year, in collaboration with Good Measure Food Bank, we set out to make a difference—and thanks to your overwhelming response, 1121 pounds of food were collected. That’s over half a ton of support, straight from your hands to those who need it most. It’s easy to overlook the power of a single donation, but when those small acts stack up, they become something much bigger. You’ve helped stock pantries, fill dinner plates, and ease worries for families facing tough times. We couldn’t have done it without you. Thank you for being part of something that matters.



Global Outreach

Global Outreach Ministry Report

This past year has been a wonderful season of growth for our Global Outreach Ministry. We have seen God's hand at work through new partnerships and long-standing friendships around the world. From Latin America to the Middle East, the Gospel has been moving in powerful ways—touching hearts, strengthening churches, and inspiring our own congregation to live out our faith with purpose and love.

Colombia Partnership

Our long-standing partnership with the El Redil del Poblado Christian Community Church in Medellín, Colombia, continues to grow in exciting ways. This past summer, we hosted a team of eight from Colombia who joined us during our summer ministries. They helped lead our VBS, taught our Leaders in Training (Grade 6), and shared with our youth and young adults. They also led three workshops for our congregation, each attended by 60 to 80 people.

What made this visit especially encouraging was the way our congregation responded. Many families opened their homes to host members of the visiting team, offering meals, fellowship, and warm hospitality. It was a wonderful example of the body of Christ serving one another and building friendships that go beyond borders. We continue to see both churches encouraged and strengthened through this partnership and look forward to what God will do in the years ahead.

The Arms of Jesus Children's Mission – Guatemala

One of the highlights of the year was expanding our partnership with The Arms of Jesus Children's Mission, where we welcomed Brock Heard as a new missionary partner. Brock serves as the Mission Director and helps lead a ministry that provides care, education, and hope to children in Guatemala and beyond.

In the summer of 2025, a small team from City Centre Church spent a week serving alongside The Arms of Jesus team. They led devotionals with children of all ages, ran soccer clinics with older youth, and hosted crafts for younger kids. The group also built four homes, offered a dental clinic to teach and promote healthy hygiene, and led a foot-washing and Bible clinic at a local public school, where socks and shoes were given to the children. Several team members chose to sponsor the education of children, while others reconnected with kids they had sponsored in previous years.

Looking ahead, Pastor Bryan is planning to lead a team to The Arms of Jesus Children's Mission. Anyone interested can contact the church office for more information.

THIMAR – LSESD – Lebanon

We were also blessed to welcome Wissam and Sophie Nasrallah, serving with THIMAR – LSESD in Lebanon. Their ministry equips and encourages believers across the Arabic-speaking world through biblical teaching, leadership development, and discipleship. They are helping Christians grow stronger in their faith and live for Christ in a region that faces many challenges. We are thankful for the opportunity to partner with them and support the work they are doing.

Kelly Hogg, Shady Fouad, The Office
Global Outreach Team

Prayer & Care Ministry

On any given day at CCBC, the often unseen and quiet acts of prayer, care, encouragement, and support are in full operation. If our City family does one thing well, it is responding once a need is known. And once again, we are deeply thankful for the men and women who make up the CARE Team—over 20 of you! It humbles and blesses me that when a request for care/prayer is sent out, it is often acted upon immediately. THANK YOU to those who serve on this team. Every prayer offered, every hospital visit, card or note sent, every phone call or check-in, every act and offer of practical help, and every word of spiritual counsel given—we offer it all as an act of worship to the One who is worthy of all our best service.

We are almost ready to commission our very first Stephen Ministers! *“Stephen Ministry offers a proven and effective way to organize, equip, and supervise a team of congregation members—called Stephen Ministers—to provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centred care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties.”* (stephenministries.org) This past year has been one of intense preparation to bring this effective and important ministry to our church. We are deeply indebted to Stephen and Lisa Alcia (Stephen Ministry Leaders) for the significant investment of their time and energy to help us launch this ministry. Please email us at care@citycentrebaptist.ca for more information on how you can benefit from this ministry.

One thing that would greatly help us be even better at caring for our CCBC family is a text, phone call, or email from you! If you or someone you know in our church needs prayer or spiritual care, kindly let us know. Please, first ALWAYS seek their permission to share and ask whether the need can be shared with the prayer team or just the pastoral staff.

If I may add a personal note to this report this year, I need to express my heartfelt appreciation for how beautifully Deric and I have been cared for through his cancer journey. This year turned into far more than we ever anticipated, but the prayer, support, encouragement, and love from all of you have carried us through some pretty rough days. THANK YOU, our church family, for every way you cared for us. We love you!



April Bartlett
Care Coordinator





Ministry Partners

Elders

Jerry MacKenzie – Chairman
Ricardo Bowen – Vice Chairman
Andy Vammus, Mak Nasralla, Shady Fouad, Andrew Abraham

Deacons

Tunde Kassim, Richard Titus, Pia Atwal-Gooding

Arabic Ministry

Armen Hakopian
Dhiyaa Naaman and Hiba Majeed

Prayer and Care

Prayer Ministry	Laura Harris
Care Ministry	April Bartlett

Children's Ministries

AWANA	Lorna Martin, Cely Montaniel, Lorraine & Bert Mascall, Sandra Dowlat, Young Kim
Spring Break Camp	Jeevan & Rohini Jalady
Kingdom Kids	Heidi Hlohinec
Parents and Tots	Carrie Kim, Paula Lee
Summer Camps	Young Kim, James Patrick, Jeevan & Rohini Jalady
VBS	Carrie Kim, Chrissee Maria
Musical	Chrissee Maria, Carrie & Young Kim
Tutoring Club	Cathy Patrick

Connections

Greeters, Ushers, Parking and Security, Info Centre	Rafael Tejeda, Randy de Jesus
Hospitality/Agape Cafe	Ivy Lim, Nicole Foote, Judy Rattelade

Men's Ministry

Rafael Tejeda, Richard Titus, Tunde Kassim,
Bruce Sylvester, Mark Dowlat

Outreach

Local Outreach	Church Office
Global Outreach	Kelly Hogg, Shady Fouad



Ministry Partners

Ordinances and Admin

Baptism	Rafael Tejeda
Child Dedication	Church Office
Communications	Church Office
Deacons	Tunde Kassim
Elders	Jerry MacKenzie
Finance Committee	Gary Sullivan
Communion	Deacons
Membership	Elders
Facilities	Sophia Belnavis
Operations	Sami Gheriafi

Senior Ministries

Evergreen (55+)	Paul & Deb Laroche, Denis Gillen
-----------------	----------------------------------

Life Group Facilitators

Cliff Benson	Percy & Imelda Jimenez	Rolando Ramos
Maria Teresa Borja	Tunde Kassim	Beth Ruiter
Alfasa Daka	Carrie Kim	Ronnie Sebolino
Shady Fouad	Ed Lao	Cheryl Sebolino
Celestina Go	Bert Mascal	Victor & Amy Sepidoza
Susan Gonzales	Cely Montaniel	Dante & Marilou San Juan
Vivian Gonzales	Cecile Nava	Bruce Sylvester
Denis Gillen	Lisa Paras	Richard Titus
Grace He	Josie Plum	Hilary & Kin Wong

Women's Ministries

Women's Ministry	Aleksandra Homesin, Kristen McLeod
Women in the W.O.R.D.	Noreen Nazareth
Women's Bible Study	Patti Sullivan, Patricia Morgan



Ministry Partners

Youth and Young Adults

Youth Leaders

Brandon Williams, Hannah Phillips, Isaiah Sepidoza, James Patrick, John Gheriafi, Jordan Desrosiers, Kayra Abad, Melody Morkos, Rebeka Hayek, Stephanie Fabok, Vince Leung

Other Ministries

Technical

Sami Gheriafi

Worship Team

Marcelo Ovidio, Andrew Abraham, Rachel Fouad, Karen Kane

Freedom In Christ

Doug and Dorothy Sargeant

Staff



April Bartlett
Care Coordinator, PT



Isaiah Sepidoza
Pastoral Intern, PT



Armen Hakopian
Pastor of Arabic Ministries



Marcelo Ovidio
Interim Worship Coordinator, PT



Bryan Lee
Senior Associate Pastor



Rafael Tejeda
Pastor of Discipleship



Carrie Kim
Children's Min. Coordinator, PT



Randy de Jesus
Admin Support, PT



Deric Bartlett
Senior Pastor



Sami Gheriafi
Director of Operations



Dhiyaa Naaman
Arabic Ministries Coordinator, PT



Sophia Belnavis
Admin Assistant



Heidi Hlohinec
Director of Children's Ministries



Tim Ersando
Director of Next Generations

We're so glad you're a
part of our City Centre
Church family!

City Centre Church
1075 Eglinton Ave W.
Mississauga, Ontario
citycentre.church
office@citycentrebaptist.ca