

THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION OF THE LEADERSHIP OF CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Throughout Scripture, God used leaders to help His people accomplish His work. Today, God's churches require leadership in order to continue His work and be effective ministers for Him. In order for Central to be effective in its ministry, the church must understand how its leadership is structured and how it functions.

☞ **Central's leadership is made up of staff members and deacons.**

☞ **Central is structured as a *multi-staff* church.**

- Multiple staff positions are filled by paid or volunteer staff.
- The lead pastor is responsible for staffing, and will work to fill positions when needed with the help of the existing staff and deacons.

☞ **Central's leadership functions with a *linear model*.**

- The basic idea of this model is that each staff person is on the same "line" (linear), leading out in his/her area of ministry.
- By functioning in this way, no one is greater than the others—the entire staff works together, *on the same line, on the same page*, in order to carry out the ministry of the church.
- For a visual, this model would look like this (with the current Central leadership):



☞ **The *functioning benefits*** of this type of leadership structure are:

- Each staff person is *freed up to lead* in his/her ministry area without being distracted by unrelated matters.
- The church can usually *operate quickly* since ministry work is led by a staff person instead of multiple committees collaborating.
- Staff can *involve and lead others in helping* in the ministry work. In this, tasks could be accomplished quicker and many ideas can be brought together to ensure creative and effective ministry.
- The church knows who leads each area of ministry, so they can direct related matters to the appropriate person, making the church's *leadership more efficient*.

☞ **What makes this leadership structure function properly is **trust**.**

- Each staff member has to trust the others to carry out their work.
- Each staff member is trusted to discern when decisions need to be made in collaboration with the entire staff (or more) and not just those related to their ministry.
- The church trusts those who are voted into staff positions to faithfully carry out God's calling in their lives, and to work in ways that will benefit the Kingdom of God and the church.

The responsibility of the church's leadership: to glorify God in their service to Him, and to work in order to build up His kingdom. Each staff member is accountable to God and to the church.

The responsibility of the church: to pray for the leadership, and direct any church-related matters to the appropriate staff person so the church can function efficiently.