



**CAMBRAY**  
**BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**CHELtenham**  
LOVE + GROW + GO

## CHURCH MANAGER

### Church Profile

### WHO ARE WE?

Cambray Baptist Church is a welcoming and Fellowship with around 300 adults and children meeting on Sundays. Although situated in the town centre, the majority of the Church family come from outside. We are Evangelical and Baptist by constitution and persuasion, though we attract members from a wide spectrum of Christian traditions, experience and worship styles. We believe God's Word and good Bible-teaching is central to our church life.

The Regency spa town of Cheltenham is renowned for its high quality shopping, period buildings, excellent schools and the beautiful Cotswold countryside, but away from its comfortable exterior it has areas of social deprivation. With perhaps 4% attending any kind of church on a Sunday, our town needs Jesus and we want to proclaim the Gospel of Salvation.

### WHAT IS OUR VISION?

We want everything we do as a church to reflect our strap-line:

**Together Proclaiming Jesus, to impact our town, nation and the world for Jesus**

The greatest commandment is to **LOVE** God with all our heart, mind and strength and we can only do this if we know him. So we are gathered together by God to hear his Word in which Jesus is revealed, and we respond to His word in praise, adoration, and application.

Together we are called to **GROW** in Christ likeness. We need each other's help to accomplish this. Our aim is that every believer is equipped to be a disciple-making disciple. So we meet in homes regularly, seeking to apply God's word in our lives and grow together in Jesus, and we provide regular training evenings to train in discipling others.

God clearly commands us to **GO** and make disciples of all nations wherever the Lord scatters us during the week. We aim to equip every member to speak clearly and boldly of Jesus to those about them. We would love to see so many people coming to faith in Jesus that we run out of space on a Sunday!

### WHO WORKS AT CHURCH?

All of us – well, that's our aim! As regards full time staff, the team is growing and we currently have three full time posts – a Senior Pastor, Associate Pastor and Children, Youth and Families Pastor. Part time posts are also an important part of the work, with a Church Manager, Finance Officer and Cleaners.



In the recent past we have been blessed by a number of apprentices, and we are actively seeking to be in a position to re-establish our Apprentice Training Scheme.

Our staff are ably assisted by a myriad of volunteers both in the back-room tasks, and in the front-line ministries of the church.

There is a maximum of 14 Trustees, currently consisting of 6 Elders (including the three Pastors) and 7 Deacons (we have 1 Deaconate vacancy at the moment) elected by about 170 members.

We firmly believe that every regular and Member should be actively engaged in the task that God has readied for him or her throughout the week, with Cambray being the place where we are equipped for gospel service in our communities.

## WHAT IS THE BUILDING LIKE?

We are blessed with an ideally situated town centre building dating from 1855, near the main shopping streets and a few metres from the large John Lewis store. From the outside, it looks rather formal, with limited parking. However, on the inside, the main meeting room is an impressive space, able to accommodate 400+ people. Behind is a hall big enough for badminton, as well as teaching rooms, lounges, kitchens and offices.

We are actively developing the way we use the building to be a blessing to town centre workers, shoppers and visitors alike.

## ANY LINKS TO OTHER ORGANISATIONS?

We are an independent evangelical church, linked to the West of England Baptist Association, the Mid-Cotswold Evangelical Alliance and other local groups.

Cambray Baptist Church is a founding partner church in the Gloucestershire Gospel Partnership, a partnership, under the national Gospel Partnerships scheme, of evangelical Anglican and non-conformist churches for the training of people for various forms of ministry, the planting of new churches, and the development of shared training and outreach events.

We partner with other Evangelical churches within Cheltenham to reach out to the town through CAP, Street Pastors, Youth For Christ, Cheltenham Family Space, Food Bank, and in combined events and courses.

We have Charitable Incorporated Organisation status.

## GLOBAL MISSION

As well as our local community, Cambray has a long history of working in partnership around the world. We currently have mission partners working in Madagascar (SIM), Zambia (CrossLinks), Nigeria (Wycliffe), Kosovo (OM), and Italy (IFES). We also partner with three other national and international Mission Partners who we support in prayer, and various Mission Organisations.



Each year our Harvest appeal raises funds to support Christian work in Developing Countries.

## WHAT MINISTRY GROUPS ARE THERE IN CAMBRAY?

Cambray has a large variety of ministry groups to many kinds of people. For example, Gateway meets every Sunday at 9 am for adults with care and support needs, while Gloucestershire Chinese Christian Church uses our premises on Sunday afternoons.

On Sunday mornings our children and youth join with us for the first part of the service before going to their own groups for Worship and Bible teaching.

Through the week there are events for Toddlers (about to be re-launched), children (BLAST), young people (Monday Youth bible study and two Friday Youth clubs), twenties and thirties, women, men and older folk as well as a wide range of small groups meeting in homes.

We run various outreach courses, parenting courses, and other training events throughout the year, with a regular planned Spring Training initiative run in January to March with parallel training courses run on the same night.

As a church, we hold a monthly prayer meeting. New opportunities for prayer are encouraged and are started as desired. Every ministry commits itself to prayer as a team before and/or after each ministry meeting.

## What will the future of Cambray look like?

Our hope is that our church life will be more pleasing to God, our walk with Him will be closer and we will be able to welcome hundreds more into His family. Our desire is to be a thoroughly 'outward looking' church, connecting more effectively with the community around us and bringing the gospel into the town where we are situated and where we are scattered during the week.

We aim to be a 'household of faith', discipling one another, equipping and facilitating members of the church to be bold in their gospel witness in the places they live and work.

Small groups meeting through the week provide close fellowship and, under God, these are becoming key to disciple-making and localised outreach.

The young people's work is the outreach to the next generation of believers and church leaders. We invest heavily in growing this work in order to reach the many young people who have no contact with churches or the gospel, not only to build our own children and young people's work, but also to encourage and establish similar work in other churches within the town.