

# CONNECT

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## Welcome Pastor Jon Exman and Family to Central Trinity

Jon Exman has been an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church for 23 years. During that time, he has been a Youth Minister, Associate Pastor, and Lead Pastor. Before that time, he worked at several churches on staff as a Youth Worker, Local Pastor and Student Pastor. For the last 11 years he has been Lead Pastor at Bethany United Methodist in Celina, Ohio.

Jon met his wonderful wife Lesa while they both attended college at Mount Vernon Nazarene University. In 1994 they left college, got married and moved to Wilmore, Kentucky. While in Wilmore, Jon received his Masters of Divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary and Lesa worked as a Social Worker in Lexington, Kentucky.

Jon and Lesa have four children. They have two adult daughters, Alexandria (Alex) who is a Children's Director at Cypress Wesleyan Church in Hilliard. Alex is married to Jason who is a police officer in Upper Arlington. Bailey is 20 years old and working on her Teaching Degree at Wright State University. Their youngest daughter Samantha (Sammy) is finishing up her Senior Year at Celina High School. Their youngest is their son Jaxon who is in the 5th grade and 11 years old.

The Exman family has lots of things they love to do together. They love to go to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. They are a big-time board games family or really any games because they are all super competitive and love nothing more than to hold a Monopoly meltdown over someone's head. They love their dogs and just being together. There are three things in the Exman house that are 100% true. Faith is vital. Family is everything. Lastly, loving the University of Kentucky Wildcats and the Dallas Cowboys are both a blessing and a curse.

The Exman's are so excited to be joining the Central Trinity Family! They can't wait to meet all of you. The Exman's first Sunday at Central Trinity will be June 27.



**Central Trinity  
United Methodist Church**

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**Church Staff**

In Ministry with you ...

**Lead Pastor**

Steve Judson

**Associate Pastor**

Jon Carter

**Children's Ministries**

Kifin Judson

**Director of Music**

Jim McLaughlin

**Chancel & Children's Choir**

Ann Sims

**Wesleyan & Carillon Bells**

Andy Ruetz

**Nursery Attendants**

Callie Carter

Sue Loader

**Secretary**

Barb Colvin

**Treasurer**

Holly Ruetz

**Financial Secretary**

Rick Mohler

**Custodian**

John Thomas

**Sunday Schedule**

9:00 a.m. *Ignite Service*

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship

Childcare provided each Sunday

8:50 to 11:30 a.m.

Handicapped parking available at  
North entrance of parking lot

**Office Hours**

Mon. – Thu. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Closed Noon – 1 p.m.

Fri. 9 a.m. - Noon

Dear Friends,

It has been a long winter. And no, I am not talking about the season of the year. I am referring to the long winter that we have been enduring with regard to the coronavirus. And we are probably *all* ready for that winter to end and spring to come. After more than a year of wrestling with the physical virus, sickness, and death; the burden on so many health care professionals; the resulting shut downs, closures; inability to see loved ones; the elderly cut off from physical connection of family and friends; many other precautions and restrictions; and much COVID fatigue, we are hopeful that the end is near. But then again, friends, we are Christians, and we, among *all* people, should be people of hope!

Of course, we are also in transition from the season of the year of winter to the season of spring. Now that the winter season has officially transitioned to spring, and the weather is really beginning to feel like it, we look forward to the budding flowers and blossoming trees that will surely soon be upon us. I believe every season has its advantages, but one of the things I like so much about spring is the way everything becomes so beautiful as it grows. God's creation puts on a great show this time of year. The buds on the trees begin to sprout. Flowers begin to bloom. The grass begins to grow.

Spring reminds me of the way God takes a human being, gives them new life in Christ, and then works with them to help them grow and blossom as they walk daily with Him. The Bible tells us we are a new creation in Christ. The Christian life is a process in which, if we are open to it, God molds us and makes us into a precious instrument of His love, which then becomes a gift to others as we show those around us the love that God has shown us.

In the same way that God works in an individual, God also works in the Church. As Central Trinity moves into a new season of the year, both the Judsons and Central Trinity are gearing up for a new season of ministry. Although transitions are not always expected and sometimes not especially desired, if God is in them, they can always be good. In the midst of this transition, I am confident that God will take our church, build on all the good that has already been done, and continue to guide us into all that we have been created to be.

So here's to April 2021, a month of new beginnings. May we embrace this first full month of spring, may God begin to move us beyond the reality of the past year and back into full physical fellowship with one another, may God guide the current transitions in the church and in the clergy families who are transitioning this year, and may God rekindle in us the joy of the new life we find in Christ.

May God bless you richly this spring!  
Pastor Steve



## Mission Team

Missions are active in so many ways at CT. This year we are launching a new mission. At the March Administrative Council meeting the council voted to formally become a part of the Habitat For Humanity of SE Ohio's Faith Build Coalition. We will be one of many Muskingum County churches in the coalition. In addition, CT voted to support this year's build with a financial gift of \$3,000. This is an excellent opportunity for linking CT financial support and members in service. The build is on Mead Street and is scheduled to begin in April and be completed by fall. For those who cannot make a week-long commitment to the Henderson Settlement build (scheduled for this year; more on that project next time), you can volunteer for a day, two days, or a half day Wednesday through Saturday. No previous experience is necessary. There is a knowledgeable job superintendent on site during all work. Katie Garrett is the CT coordinator/liaison with the mission effort. Please contact Katie at 740-297-4615 or katiegarrett6@gmail.com if you can volunteer. Katie will have specifics on dates and times concerning the construction schedule within the next two weeks. Get out and drive a nail, stuff insulation, or one of many other tasks while working alongside other community persons of faith.

## Update on In-Person Meetings and Activities

The Re-opening Task Force and Administrative Council announce updates to our in-person guidelines. We are **anticipating** the return to in-person meetings effective Monday, April 5. All church groups and committees will be able to start meeting at the church again. Protocols still include physical distancing (seating to be 3-6 feet apart) and face coverings to be worn by everyone. All groups have the option to either meet in person or continue to use Zoom for meetings.

Adult Sunday School classes re-start will be based on the comfort level of the leader and participants of each class. If you have questions, please contact your Sunday School teacher/leader.

Children's ministry activities will resume on Sunday, April 11.

To help accommodate an uptick in persons attending Sunday morning worship services, the seating in the sanctuary has been adjusted from every third pew to every other pew. Cleaning will still continue between the services.

We honor and respect each person's decision regarding in-person gatherings. We are blessed to be able to continue meeting over Zoom and to have Sunday worship livestreamed and services then posted on the CT website. This gives multiple options to everyone to be engaged and involved in the life of the church.

These are first incremental steps and as statewide guidelines and mandates are lifted, we will have further discussions to adjust the protocols for CT.

Cathy Dorman, Administrative Council Chair

## United Methodist Women

Continue to bring vegetable seeds until Sunday, April 11. Place seed packages in the basket in the Welcome Center.

**West Ohio Spiritual Retreat** is Saturday, May 15, 1 p.m., by Zoom Meeting. Dr. Katelin Hansen from Community Development for All People is the leader. More information and registration will be available soon at [www.westohioumw.org](http://www.westohioumw.org).

**2021 Virtual Mission u** will use Zoom Meetings to offer three study selections: *Bearing Witness to the Kin-dom* (June), *Pushout* (July), and *Finding Peace in an Anxious World* (August). Class dates, times, and registration information will be available soon at [www.westohioumw.org/mission-u](http://www.westohioumw.org/mission-u).

## Many Thanks

A heartfelt thank you to Janice Deal, Marcie Hunter, Diane Jones, Mary Longshore, Leslie Miller, Nancy Moose, Sandra Robe, Kay Stubbins, Bill Williamson, Sue Wright & Lori Wyatt for helping in the office this past month.

Also, Patty Bradley who helped in February.

Office Staff

## Family Life Ministries

**Camp registration is OPEN!** Camp Otterbein will be open and ready for faith-building adventure this summer! You can register and see their Covid protocols at [westohiocamps.org](http://westohiocamps.org). camp catalogs are also available at the Welcome Desk. Because of your gifts and the continued generosity of our United Methodist Women we will again be able to provide reimbursement scholarships to all Central Trinity children and teens who want to attend church camp this summer. Parents and grandparents can give a copy of their children's completed camp registration forms to Kifin or the church office to receive reimbursement.

### "80 Plus Club"

#### Happy Birthday

Geraldine Rutledge, April 2  
The Oaks at Northpointe #506  
3291 Northpointe Dr.

Norma Nichols, April 8  
8890 Cooper Dr.

Margaret Baker, April 15  
1284 Ellen Dr.

Barbara Welker, April 22  
1310 Pfeifer Dr.

Nancy Moose, April 29  
1078 Pfeifer Dr.

Marilyn Willey, April 29  
3305 W. Winding Way

If we missed anyone or do not have the date right, please call the church office.

**Father's Day** is June 20 and just as we plan to honor the mothers of Central Trinity, we want to honor the fathers in your life by featuring them in a slideshow presentation during the Sunday services. Send a digital picture of your dad to Pastor Jon at [jc.worship@outlook.com](mailto:jc.worship@outlook.com). **All pictures need to be received by June 9** to allow time for creating the presentation. Mother's Day pictures need to be received by April 28. We look forward to celebrating the men and women who have created a legacy of faith for our church family.

Be sure to pick up a **Berenstain Bears Easter book** from the Welcome Desk! We encourage you to share the books with your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, neighbors, and friends. Thank you to the McIntire family for making these beautiful books available to our congregation in memory of Clyde McIntire.

## Signature Ministry

The Signature Ministry Team, members of CT Family Ministry Team, and several staff members have been meeting with Eastside Community Ministry about Central Trinity partnering with them and their Youth Program. There are many opportunities that the team will be sharing with the congregation in the coming months. At our most recent meeting, an immediate need for tutors was identified. Tutoring is 1 hour, 4:30–5:30, Monday through Thursday at Eastside. If you are able to give 1 hour a week, please contact Dessie Craig (740-452-7519; [youdir@eastsideministry.org](mailto:youdir@eastsideministry.org)) for more information.

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**Come as Yourself, Grow in Faith, Serve with Love**

**April 4**

Message: "What a Difference a Day Makes"  
Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:1-22  
Special Music: Chancel Quartet

**Easter****April 11**

Message: "Spiritual Food Tastes Better"  
Scripture: John 6:25-59  
Special Music: Ann Sims

**April 18**

Message: "Work: Divine Punishment or Gift from God?"  
Scripture: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15  
Special Music: Cameron Scott

**April 25**

Message: "Christianity in America:  
The Good Life or The God Life"  
Scripture: Romans 12:1-2  
Special Music: Lucas Ruetz

**March worship attendance**

(in-person only)  
(through 3/21): 87

**Feb. 2021 Financial Report**

YTD Budget	\$73,799
YTD Income	69,637
YTD Expenses	64,808

## April Calendar of Events

### April Calendar of Events is subject to change due to COVID-19

**1 Thursday, Maundy Thursday**

6:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service

**4 Sunday, Easter**

9:00 a.m. *Ignite Service*  
10:30 a.m. Worship

**5 Monday, Office Closed****7 Wednesday**

6:00 p.m. Space Refresh Team, In-person

**11 Sunday, Holy Communion**

9:00 a.m. *Ignite Service*  
10:30 a.m. Worship

**13 Tuesday**

1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting  
6:30 p.m. Family Life Ministries - Zoom

**16 Friday, Connect Deadline**

**18 Sunday**  
9:00 a.m. *Ignite Service*  
10:30 a.m. Worship

**25 Sunday**

9:00 a.m. *Ignite Service*  
10:30 a.m. Worship

**29 Wednesday**

6:00 p.m. Trustees

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Prepared Especially For



**Special Dates This Month**  
**April 1, Maundy Thursday Service**  
**April 4, Easter Sunday**  
**April 5, Office Closed**  
**April 11, Holy Communion**  
**April 16, ConnecT Deadline**

Editor reserves the right to edit for content  
and space.

