

CONNECT

“Renewal”

A couple of years ago I was frustrated. For what seemed like the umpteenth time I was trying to fix a patch of grass that just would not grow. I had tried every kind of seed imaginable. Each time they would begin to sprout and then the next big rain...mud...every time. I sighed and thought to myself, “I need a do-over.” There are certain times in life when we all feel like, “I need a do-over.” We think, “If I could just get another opportunity...If I could just get another chance. I know I could get it right this time.” It might be with a job or with a project. The do-over might be with an important relationship. It could even be with our choices. “If I could just have a do-over, I would have never said that to her.”

In our everyday life Jesus gives us that chance or opportunity. He actually gives us it in the form of a promise. The Bible says this in 2 Peter 3:9–13 *“The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead, he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare. Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.”*

If we read these verses, we can see the do-over. It occurs when we repent and give ourselves to our Savior. We put all the past at the foot of the cross and give the burden to Jesus. When we do this, we are made new. When we are made new, we “ought to live holy and godly lives.”

Maybe this is you, and you are reading this right now and saying, “I did this, Jon, I am new in Christ. I want that do-over! I want that promise!” But...What happens to the rest of us? The rest of us? Now you may be asking, “Jon, what do you mean by the rest of us?” What I mean is this...take a good look at those 5 verses. Notice something? How about the phrase, “You ought to live holy and godly lives?” There is a word in there that I want to look at...ought. If we look at the definition of ought, it is used to indicate duty or correctness. Meaning we SHOULD live holy and godly lives. I don’t know about you, but that is definitely not one of my stronger suits. I can do it *some* of the time. In fact, *most of the time* I am holy and godly in my life. But LIVING it each and every day. Well, that is definitely something I need a do-over on. Or maybe...I don’t. A do-over is another opportunity, a chance to succeed in the promise of the Lord. We have already had that. So maybe what we are really trying for is something different.



Central Trinity
United Methodist Church

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Church Staff

In Ministry with you ...

Lead Pastor

Jonathan Exman

Associate Pastor

Jon Carter

Children's Ministries

Lesa Exman

Director of Music

Jim McLaughlin

Chancel & Children's Choir

Ann Sims

Wesleyan & Carillon Bells

Andy Ruetz

Nursery Attendants

Callie Carter

Sue Loader

Administrative Assistant

Bonnie Gerda

Treasurer

Holly Ruetz

Financial Secretary

Rick Mohler

Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m. *Ignite Service*

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

9:45 a.m. Wesleyan Choir

10:30 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. CT Students Grades 5–8

6:00 p.m. CT Students Grades 7–12

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

Continued

James 1:21–27 says this, *“Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do. Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.”*

Look into that mirror. What do you see? You see your reflection. I read something once and it went like this, “Reflection can be a useful practice, but reflection followed by application has the power to change your life.” Reflecting on what Christ HAS DONE in your life is great, but it is a futile practice unless it moves you to action. This action comes from RENWAL. Renewal is defined as “making something strong again.” And when we accept the renewal that happens when we listen to Christ...that is when our heart changes. Renewal causes new growth. Growth where there wasn't much or even any. Growth where we had a dead patch. A patch or spot that needs some work. Kind of like grass that just won't grow in one spot. Hmmm...renewal...maybe I don't need a do-over after all.

Whether you are in the midst of a do-over or a renewal this Spring, we would love to be more a part of it! There are many new (and renewed) things happening at Central Trinity! Come and join us!

Pastor Jonathan Exman

Family Life

This month we will be learning about God sending his Angels and preparing our hearts to worship him. It is an honor for me and each volunteer to love and teach your children. I love that their lives are still so innocent, and their hearts are pure. They love learning about God and the answers seem so simple to them. Love God and love others. I am reminded that we are called to have child-like faith. A faith that is humble and honest, filled with unbridled joy. As our days fill with this crazy thing called life, I encourage you to slow down and take some time to see Jesus through the eyes of your children.

I want to give a HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who helped with our Easter egg hunt and event. I am continuously blown away by your kindness and generosity. Each child received a ton of eggs filled with candy, walked each station to learn the real reason we celebrate Easter, and finished with some hot dogs and chips. My prayer is that CT will be known for our dedication to sharing God's love and kindness with everyone we meet.

The noisy coin was a huge success thanks to ALL of you!! We collected \$729.00. This money allows our CT kids and youth to attend church camp free of charge. I know that our youth appreciate this opportunity as they get to spend a week with friends and grow in their faith.

God Bless,

Lesa Exman

United Women in Faith

Thank you all who donated vegetable seeds for Jackson Area Ministries Gardening Project; 237 packages were collected.

United Women in Faith meets Monday, May 2, 6 p.m. The program is “Celebrate the Little Stuff.” This month we consider how the process of growing spiritually through acts of healing and joy works by celebrating the little things, like the woman who lost (and found) her tenth coin.

Angel Wings Prayer Shawl Ministry meets Thursdays, 5 p.m., in the parlor to knit or crochet prayer shawls, baby blankets, and support shawls. All are welcome for stitching, praying, and fellowship.

All are welcome to join the **book discussion** Thursday, May 26, 5 p.m., of *Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race* by Margaret Lee Shetterly. This title is available at the Muskingum Public Library as a printed book, large-print book, audio book, and e-book. Before Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of African-American female mathematicians were among those who served as NASA’s “human computers,” calculating flight paths and playing a crucial role in America’s space program. Moving from World War II through NASA’s golden age—touching on the civil rights era, the Space Race, the Cold War, and the women’s rights movement—this book interweaves a rich history of humankind’s space explorations with the intimate stories of five courageous women whose work forever changed the world.

Who Can We Be Together?

Building Communities of Hope and Joy ... A Biblical Exploration of Luke 13

Community is God’s desire for us. Please join us at **Mission u 2022** as we reflect on the community that Jesus is calling us to be!

This year, as we study Luke 13, we find ourselves in a period of disruption and uncertainty. We turn to the stories of Jesus that have anchored Christian communities for two millennia. Our hope is that we will leave **Mission u** with a bigger and broader vision of the community Christ is calling us to be in times of loss, grief, and massive disruption. What would be possible if we tend to the needs of our communities in small yet radical ways, as Jesus did in Luke 13?

Join us online Wednesday, July 13, through Saturday, July 16, for the morning session (10 a.m.–noon EST) or the evening session (7–9 p.m. EST). Registration opens May 15 at www.westohiomw.org/mission-u and costs \$20.



United
Women
in Faith

Come as Yourself, Grow in Faith, Serve with Love

McLaughlin Music Studio Recital

Jim McLaughlin presents his private music students in recital Sunday, May 8, at 2:00 p.m. The recital will be held in the church sanctuary. Students will perform voice, organ, and piano music. A fellowship hour will follow the recital. You are invited to attend. The recital is free and open to the public.

Music Club Concert

The Thursday Music Club presents a concert of music Tuesday, May 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the Central Trinity sanctuary. The concert includes the PanJGea Steel Drum Band from John Glenn High School and the Civic Chorus Chamber Singers. You are invited to attend. The concert is free and open to the public.

Music Sunday

The Central Trinity Music Ministry will present a "Sermon in Song" Sunday, May 22 at the 10:30 Church Service. All the CT Choirs will participate in the service of celebration and rejoicing. During the pandemic our choir ministry had to be suspended. We are so happy and blessed to have all the choirs back in worship this past year. Many thanks to our choir leadership for all the extra efforts. Please invite a friend and join us in the special service celebrating the music blessings at CT. By the way, there is room for more of you to join with us when we kickoff the fall choir schedule.

Piano Dedication Recital

You are invited to attend a special recital and dedication ceremony in Elson Hall on the Ohio University-Zanesville campus Sunday, May 22, 3:00 p.m. The recital performer is Harsha Abeyaratne, Associate Professor of Music at Muskingum University. This dedication recital celebrates the Thursday Music Club's new Baldwin 9' Concert Grand Piano at OUZ. The Music Club has worked diligently for many years to complete this project. The recital is free and open to the public. Plan to attend and bring a friend.

Jim McLaughlin



Thank You so much!

Many thanks to those who have sent greetings, words of encouragement, birthday cards, and home visits.

Robert L. Reed

Helen Purcell Home

Warmest Thanks

Phyllis Bradshaw, Leslie Miller, Mary Longshore, Marcie Hunter, Nancy Moose, Bill Williamson, Sandra Robe, and Sue Wright for helping me in the office . Please call the office if I left anyone off this list.

- Bonnie Gerdau, Administrative Assistant



Help by Recycling!

We are still collecting **aluminum cans** for the youth ministry. A can has been placed in the hallway beside the back entry door.

You may leave your empty **printer ink cartridges** for recycle on the counter in the church office.

Recycle your eyeglasses, hearing aids & cell phones. This is an ongoing project for the Duncan Falls Lion's Club, and a box has been placed in the hallway next to the parlor for your use.

The Ronald McDonald House pays its electric bill with money raised through recycling of pull tabs from aluminum cans. Please save your tabs and bring them into church and place in the bin in the hallway next to the parlor or give to Sandy Holbein.

Come as Yourself, Grow in Faith, Serve with Love

May 1

Message:
Scripture:
Special Music:

Holy Communion/Confirmation Sunday

"Either/Or"
Psalm, Mathew 7:13-14
Chancel Choir

May 8

Message:
Scripture:
Special Music:

Mother's Day

"Amazing Love"
Jeremiah 8:18-22
Children's Choir

May 15

Message:
Scripture:
Special Music:

"The Shadow"
Psalm 91:1-16
Chancel Choir

May 22

Message:
Special Music:

Music Sunday

Jon Carter Preaching 9:00 a.m. Service
"No Message, Music Sunday"
All Choirs

May 29

Message:
Scripture:
Special Music:

"Salvation"
II Timothy 2:7-13
Special Music

"80 Plus Club" Happy Birthday

Loren Allen, May 8

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



Birth Announcement

Eric & Alisa Woodard welcomed a baby boy, Lucas Andrew, into the world on Friday, March 4, weighing 8 lbs. 13 oz. Grandparents are Bill and Carol Murphy. Congratulations to the Woodard family on their new, beautiful little blessing!

Mobility Equipment

CT Friends:

Please contact the office if you would like to use or borrow a transport chair, wheelchair, or walker.

Game Night

CT Friends:

Game night the month of May will be Saturday May 21 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Come join us for fellowship, card games, and other games.

Average YTD attendance:

April worship attendance (through 04/17/2022): 185

March 2022 Financial Report

YTD Budget	\$115,294
YTD Income	\$89,663
YTD Expenses	\$108,533

May Calendar of Events is subject to change

1 Sunday 9:00 a.m. Ignite Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Wesleyan Choir 10:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. CT Students (Grades 5–8) 6:00 p.m. CT Students (Grades 7–12)	Holy Communion/Confirmation Sunday <i>Ignite Service</i> Sunday School Wesleyan Choir <i>Worship</i> Sunday School CT Students (Grades 5–8) CT Students (Grades 7–12)	16 Monday 6:30 p.m. Bible Study	
2 Monday 6:00 p.m. United Women in Faith 6:30 p.m. Bible Study		17 Tuesday 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting 6:00 p.m. Verla Moore Service Club	
3 Tuesday 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting 7:00 p.m. Civic Chorus		18 Wednesday 11:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Stewardship & Finance 7:00 p.m. Administrative Council	
4 Wednesday 11:00 a.m. Bible Study		19 Thursday 5:00 p.m. Angel Wings Prayer Shawl 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir practice 6:00 p.m. Carillon Bells practice 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir practice	
5 Thursday 5:00 p.m. Angel Wings Prayer Shawl 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir practice 6:00 p.m. Carillon Bells practice 6:00 p.m. Suicide Survivors Loss Support 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir practice		20 Friday 3:00 p.m. ConnecT Article Deadline	
8 Sunday 9:00 a.m. Ignite Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Wesleyan Choir 10:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. CT Students (Grades 5–8)	Mother's Day <i>Ignite Service</i> Sunday School Wesleyan Choir <i>Worship</i> Sunday School CT Students (Grades 5–8)	21 Saturday 6:00 p.m. Game Night	
9 Monday 6:30 p.m. Bible Study		22 Sunday 9:00 a.m. Ignite Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Wesleyan Choir 10:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. CT Students (Grades 5–8)	Music Sunday <i>Ignite Service</i> Sunday School Wesleyan Choir <i>Worship</i> Sunday School CT Students (Grades 5–8)
10 Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Civic Chorus		23 Monday 6:30 p.m. Bible Study	
11 Wednesday 11:00 a.m. Bible Study		25 Wednesday 11:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Trustees	
12 Thursday 5:00 p.m. Angel Wings Prayer Shawl 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir practice 6:00 p.m. Carillon Bells practice 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir practice		26 Thursday 5:00 p.m. Book Discussion 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir practice 6:00 p.m. Carillon Bells practice 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir practice	
14 Saturday 7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast		27 Friday Bonnie Vacation day, Office Closed	
15 Sunday 9:00 a.m. Ignite Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Wesleyan Choir 10:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. CT Students (Grades 5–8)		29 Sunday 9:00 a.m. Ignite Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Wesleyan Choir 10:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. CT Students (Grades 5–8)	
		30 Monday Memorial Day, Office Closed	

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Prepared Especially For

Special Dates This Month

- May 1 Holy Communion
Confirmation Sunday**
- May 2 United Women in Faith**
- May 5 Suicide Survivors Loss Support**
- May 8 Mother's Day**
- May 14 Men's Breakfast**
- May 17 Verla Moore Service Club**
- May 18 Stewardship and Finance
Administrative Council**
- May 20 ConnecT Articles, 3 p.m. Deadline**
- May 21 Game Night**
- May 22 Music Sunday**
- May 27-30 Offices Closed, Memorial Day**
- May 30 Memorial Day**

Editor reserves the right to edit for content and space.

