



Connect

Newsletter of Central Trinity UMC

Let your light shine...
Matthew 5:16

The Affirmations of Faith II

by Pastor Jon Exman

“The Apostles’ Creed connects us to every generation of believers who have proclaimed, ‘I believe.’”



The Affirmation of Faith we will look at this month is the Apostles’ Creed. **The Apostles’ Creed is one of the most treasured affirmations of our Christian heritage.** Although it is not part of the Bible itself, it beautifully summarizes the core teachings of Scripture and has united believers across the centuries in a common confession of faith. **To show its importance here at CT, it is an affirmation that we recite together each and every Sunday.**

Historical Background

You might wonder about the origin story of the Apostles’ Creed. The Apostles’ Creed did not originate

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with the twelve apostles writing it together, as a later medieval legend suggested. Instead, **it developed gradually from earlier statements of faith used in the early church**, particularly in baptismal services in Rome.

In fact, an early form, known as the Old Roman Creed, dates back to the second century. The version we say today took shape between the fifth and eighth centuries, with roots in southern Gaul (modern-day France). It was first called the “Apostles’ Creed” around AD 390 by figures such as Ambrose of Milan, emphasizing that **its content faithfully reflects the apostolic teaching handed down from the earliest disciples of Jesus.**

During these times of persecution, heresy, and rapid church growth, such creeds helped new believers express the essentials of the gospel and guard against false teachings. **They served as a “rule of faith”—a concise summary of what Christians believe.**

These powerful words, crafted throughout the centuries, have given people hope and shown them the way, the truth, and the life. In a world of shifting opinions and spiritual confusion, **the Apostles’ Creed reminds us that our faith is not new or novel. It is the historic, biblical faith once delivered to the saints.** It connects us to the church of the apostles, the martyrs, the reformers, and every generation of believers who have proclaimed, **“I believe.”**

May God bless each of you this month. I am praying for you!

Want to **Connect**
with
Pastor Exman?

(740) 505-0665
thexmanatct@gmail.com



Take **ignite** *with you wherever you go!*
at Central Trinity

Scan the QR code to listen and enjoy
the songs that inspire, encourage,
and help us connect with God
throughout the week.



Family Life

by Lesa Exman

Your go-to spot for updates, tips, and opportunities to help children and youth grow in faith.



What a wonderful summer we have been having together as a church family! Our **Pool Party on July 19** was an incredible evening of fun, fellowship, and laughter. We are so thankful for everyone who was able to join us and share in that special time together. Events like these remind us of the joy of being connected as a church family beyond Sunday mornings.

Now we are looking ahead to another exciting opportunity to gather together: our third **Glow Night on Saturday, August 9, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.!** This event will be filled with fun activities for the whole family, including mini golf, face painting, bowling, skee-ball, delicious food, worship, and so much more. Whether you come with your family, invite a friend, or bring a neighbor, there will be something for everyone to enjoy. **Feel free to take some of the invitations available on the Welcome Desk and share them with your family, friends, and neighbors.** We hope you will help us spread the word and invite others to experience the love and fellowship of our church community.

If you would like to volunteer or help with the event, please contact **Katlyn Border at 740-586-1096**. We would love to have you be part of making this event a success!

As we prepare for the new school year, we will also be celebrating our **Backpack Blessings on Sunday, August 16, during the 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services.** Together, we will pray for God's guidance, protection, and presence throughout the year ahead.

Don't forget our next **Family Life Meeting on Wednesday, August 5, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.** We look forward to continuing to build meaningful connections and creating opportunities for our church family to grow together.

We hope to see you at these upcoming events as we celebrate faith, fellowship, and the joy of being part of the Central Trinity family!

August 16
During the 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services

Blessing OF THE Backpacks

Students, teachers, and school administrators are invited to bring their backpacks to church for a special back-to-school blessing.

Want to **Connect** with
Lesa Exman?

☎ (419) 605-6858

✉ itslesaexman@gmail.com



CT Pool Day Collage





INVITES YOU TO

GLOW NIGHT



WORSHIP



FELLOWSHIP



FOOD



FUN



GIVES
AWAYS



AUGUST 9TH, 2026



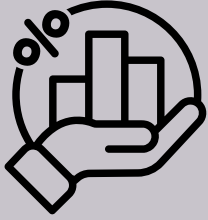
6 P.M. TO 8 P.M.



CENTRAL TRINITY UMC
62 S 7TH ST.



Ministry News



"Thank you for generously giving to the ministries of Central Trinity.

Here is what your gifts supported in June 2026."

Holly Ruetz

June Attendance:
140

YTD Income:
\$209,747

YTD Expenses:
\$234,299

YTD Budget Target:
\$231,262

United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith does not meet this month. Remember that books are available at the public library or can be purchased online to complete one of the plans for the Reading Program.

United Women in Faith at Faith UMC has invited us to join their **Book Club** Monday, August 31, 1 p.m., in the church lounge. They will discuss *The Four Winds: A Novel* by Kristin Hannah. This historical fiction novel is set during the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl. We have discussed this book, but this is an opportunity to explore the viewpoint of others.

West Ohio Expanding Connections Book Club

West Ohio Expanding Connections Book Club meets Tuesday, August 18, 7 p.m., on Zoom to discuss *A Faith of Many Rooms: Inhabiting a More Spacious Christianity* by Debie Thomas. When your faith begins to feel too small, too confining, you could choose to leave it. But what if the faith we inhabit is roomier than we'd thought? What if our collapsing faith is just a closet in a much larger dwelling? Register at <https://www.westohiouwf.org/woc-expanding-connections-book-club>.

Angel Wings Prayer Shawl Ministry

Angel Wings Prayer Shawl Ministry meets periodically during the summer; contact Jayne Dunlap or Janice Deal for schedule. If you are not able to join the group, please continue to stitch and pray for this ministry.

Choirs Kickoff

The choirs of Central Trinity invite all prospective members and their families to our kickoff potluck on **Sunday, August 30, after the 10:30 worship service**. Hot ham and mashed potatoes will be provided, and we ask that you bring side dishes or desserts to share. Table service and drinks will be provided for you. Please invite anyone you feel may be a prospective choir member for our adult or youth choirs. This will be a time of fun and fellowship! Information about the fall season will be shared with you and our fall performance schedules will be distributed. **Please reach out to Ann Sims** (Chancel & Children's Choirs) **or Andy Ruetz** (Carillon Handbells & Wesleyan Choirs) **if you have any questions**.

Gratitude

As we look back on the month of July, we are filled with gratitude for the many people who helped make our worship services so meaningful.

A heartfelt thank you to Michael Border and Chaplain Lynne Hottle for sharing God's Word with us while Pastor Jon was away. Your messages encouraged, challenged, and inspired our congregation.

We are also deeply grateful for the wonderful gift of music shared by **Eric Shields, the Y-City Barbershop Chorus, Hannah Jordan, and Lucas Stant**. Your talents enriched our worship and reminded us of the joy and hope found in praising God together.

If you were unable to join us in person, we invite you to watch our worship services online through our website or by scanning the QR code included in this issue on the CT Worship page. You can also download our church app, available on the Play Store, making it even easier to stay connected with Central Trinity wherever you are.

Coming soon, we'll announce a special date when we'll be available to help anyone who would like assistance installing and setting up the church app on their phone or tablet. We look forward to helping you get connected!

Thank you to everyone who serves, participates, and supports the ministry of Central Trinity. Your faithfulness continues to make our church a welcoming and vibrant community. We are truly blessed to worship alongside each of you.



Lucas Stant



Y-City Barbershop Chorus



Eric shields

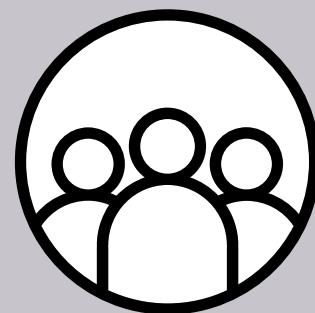


Hannah Jordan

Connect would not be the same without Leslie Miller, Sue Wright, Dee Huntsman, Janet James, Gloria Kieffer, Marjorie Sims, and Janice Deal, who generously share their time and care to help keep our congregation connected.

Thank you for your continued support and for being part of this ministry.

Monica



Lead Pastor

Jon Exman

Children's Ministries

Lesa Exman

Director of Music

Jim McLaughlin

Chancel and Children's Choir

Ann Sims

Wesleyan and Carillon Bells

Andy Ruetz

Ignite Worship

Katlyn Border

Custodian

Dennis Dunlap

Treasurer

Holly Ruetz

Financial Secretary

Rick Mohler

Secretary

Monica Bevan

CT Worship

Come as Yourself • Grow in Faith • Serve with Love

August 2, 2026

Sermon by
Alivia
Sims



August 9, 2026

Wrestling With
The Truth

Genesis 32:22-31,
Colossians 4:12,
Ephesians 6:12



August 16, 2026

Near

Romans 10:8-13,
Matthew 4:12-17

Service Schedule

Ignite (Modern) 9:00 a.m.
Traditional: 10:30 a.m.

Children's worship
available each Sunday
from: 8:50 to 11:30 a.m.

(Birth - Infants - 6th grade)



Handicapped Parking available
at North entrance of parking lot.

August 23, 2026

Who Am I?

Matthew 16:13-20,
Luke 9:18-22

August 30, 2026

The Burning Bush

Exodus 3:1-15, 17:14-20,
Hebrews 12:25-29

Ushers

Karen Herron
Junior Muse
Kenny Skidmore
Bruce Morrison



Music and Volunteers

Music During the 10:30 a.m. Service



August 2

Beth Hurst

August 9

Ken Skidmore & Sue Williamson

August 16

Macey Wheeler, Holly & Evelyn Ruetz

August 23

Kim Lee

August 30

Emily Fisher & Ann Sims

Volunteers 9:00 a.m.

August 2

Patty Bradley

August 9

Katie Garret

August 12

Amy Stanton

August 23

Holly Ruetz

August 30

—



Volunteers 10:30 a.m.

August 2

Lexi Sims & Lilly Bradshaw

August 9

Amanda Smith

August 16

Lexi Sims & Lilly Bradshaw

August 23

Amanda Smith

August 30

Amanda Smith



Regular at Central Trinity



9:00 a.m.

Ignite Service

9:00 a.m.

Sunday School

10:30 a.m.

Traditional Service

10:30 a.m.

Sunday School

6:30 p.m.

CT Youth



5:00 p.m.

Angel Wings PSM

Everybody is Welcome! Join us for our regular church activities, including worship services, Bible studies, fellowship gatherings, and special events. No matter where you are on your faith journey, there is a place for you here at Central Trinity UMC. We look forward to welcoming you and growing together in faith and community.

Kids Own Worship

August 2

Lori Wyatt

August 9

Lesa Exman

August 16

Amanda Smith

August 23

Lesa Exman

August 30

Lesa Exman



Central Trinity UMC



@centraltrinityumc



@centraltrinityumczanesvill719

JOIN NOW ➔

Birthdays and Anniversaries

This month, we joyfully celebrate the birthdays of these cherished Central Trinity family members! May the year ahead be filled with blessings, joy, and new opportunities to grow in faith and love. Be sure to wish them a happy birthday when you see them!

Ann Briggs	08/01	Shawn Harper	08/15	Evelynn Dilley	08/21
Elizabeth Duff	08/02	Alex Wyatt	08/15	Robert Buck	08/22
Sherrill Swanson	08/03	Aaron Ball	08/15	Nancy Beitzel	08/24
Ethan Garrett	08/04	Julianne Guthrie	08/15	Dakota Garrett	08/25
Zane Rollins	08/04	Jason Lanning	08/16	Bridgette DeCastro	08/26
Melody Greiner	08/05	Emily Miller	08/16	Ava DeCastro	08/26
Daniel Kieffer	08/05	Claudia Simon	08/16	Jordan Zimmerman	08/26
David Artman	08/07	Judi Welker	08/16	Mia Edgell	08/27
Darren Talbot	08/08	Alec Hartman	08/17	Maci Edgell	08/27
Lucas Ruetz	08/09	Abby Mohler	08/17	Patricia Dilley	08/29
Shelley Zimmerman	08/10	Nicole Miller	08/18	Benjamin Heigley	08/29
Andrea Faust	08/11	Eva McClung	08/19	George Roberts	08/30
Doug Briggs	08/12	Sydney Barnes	08/19	Joe Lanning	08/31
Kyle Morgan	08/12	Alyssa Skelton	08/20	Jeffrey Smith	08/31
Mike Young	08/13	David Harper	08/21	Debbie Raney	08/31

80s and 90s+

Tom Neff 08/01 (91) 1515 Carrie Circle Zanesville, OH 43701	Judy England 08/01 (84) 13945 Darcie Dr. Zanesville, OH 43701	Barbara Dodd 08/01 (83) 1764 Candlestick Dr. Zanesville, OH 43701	Roger Lee Smith 08/08 (91) Helen Purcell Home 1854 Noorwood Blvd Zanesville, OH 43701
Brenda Mackall 08/21 (84) 1295 Stonington Place Zanesville, OH 43701	Carl Snider 08/22 (85) 3180 Harper Dr. Nashport, OH 43830-9745	Mary Colopy 08/29 (86) Brandywine Blvd Apartment A Zanesville, OH 43701	

We thank God for the gift of each of these lives!

"I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well."

—Psalm 139:14 (NKJV)

A wedding anniversary is a beautiful reminder of love, commitment, and the journey shared together. As a church family, we celebrate these special milestones and give thanks for the lasting bonds that reflect God's love.

Bill* & Sue* Williamson	08/01	57	James & Beverly Huth	08/21	50
Anthony & Britney* James	08/06	5	Matthew & Morgan* Ring	08/22	11
Katlyn & Michael Border	08/06	4	Dan & Connie Hilty	08/23	57
Matt & Kelsey Ball Moleski-Belski	08/07	5	Shawn & Kelly* Harper	08/24	30
Willard & Sharon Wheeler	08/09	40	Mike & Taylor Slone	08/26	20
Selina & Adam Brooks	08/13	5	Jennifer & Shane* Stegmiller	08/26	20

Andrew & Elysa* Roberts 08/27 15

August

Note:
80s & 90s+ in bold letters

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Tom Neff (91) Judy England (84) Barbara Dodd (83)
2 Holy Communion 9:00 a.m. Ignite Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Traditional Service	3 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting	4	5 6:00 p.m. Family Life Meeting	6 5:00 p.m. Angel Wings PSM	7	8 Roger Smith (91)
9 9:00 a.m. Ignite Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Traditional Service 6:00 p.m. Glow Night	10	11	12	13 5:00 p.m. Angel Wings PSM	14 ConnecT due Date	15
16 Backpack Blessing 9:00 a.m. Ignite Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Traditional Service Fair Night	17	18	19	20 5:00 p.m. Angel Wings PSM	21 Brenda Mackall (84)	22 Carl Snider (85)
23 9:00 a.m. Ignite Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Traditional Service	24	25	26	27 5:00 p.m. Angel Wings PSM	28	29 Mary Colopy (86)
30 9:00 a.m. Ignite Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Traditional Service Choir Potluck after Traditional Service	31					

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