VOL 3, ISSUE 8 AUGUST 2021



Official Newsletter of Church of the Master



This Issue:

A Letter from the Pastor	Page 01
Updates from Pastor Lucy	Page 02
Children's Ministry News	Page 03
Music Ministry News	Page 05
Congregation Updates	Page 06
August 2021 Calendar	Page 11
Staff Information	Page 12

A Letter from the Pastor: by Pastor Jay Anderson

One of the things I have most enjoyed about the worship series, "Sacred Earth, Sacred Work" that we've been doing in July and heading into August is the emotions I see on your faces in the congregation: joy as we have enjoyed drum circles and singing and chanting parts of our worship, deep thoughtfulness as we join together in clenching and then opening fists (and hearts) during our time of prayer, happiness and familiarity in singing songs in worship that we don't normally think of as either spiritual or worshipful. One of the things I most appreciate about Creation Spirituality is how we are invited to see and experience God "outside the box" of what we in the church have oftentimes come to believe is "normal" or "right" worship practices. Just because we've never done something a certain way before doesn't mean God can't be experienced in the doing, since God is present in all things, at all times, at all places. Thanks be to God!

As we move forward from this series we'll be moving toward a focus on our own intentional faith formation. We'll be doing that in two ways. One, in September we'll be kicking off our new Discipleship Program, which is a series of educational or faith formation classes for adults to help each of us move further along the Way of Jesus. We'll have more information

about this for you in August, but that is but one part of what we'll be doing. The second part is the direction we're going in worship for the fall. Worship, as well, is going to be discipleship focused as we continue some of the themes we've explored through Creation Spirituality and dig a little deeper into the biblical story, starting in Genesis. For many folks, the Bible is, at best, difficult to read and even more difficult to understand. Using as a guide the book *We Make the Road by Walking*, by Brian McLaren, we will join together in a quest for spiritual formation, reorientation, and faith activation, by looking at some of the familiar stories of Bible (Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, the Tower of Ba-



bel, Abraham and Sarah, Moses, etc.) through a broader lens of how we can make the lessons found there applicable in our lives. I'm excited about the opportunity to bring this approach to discipleship into a worship experience and I hope you'll be as engaged with this as you have been with "Sacred Earth, Sacred Work."

Also in August we'll say goodbye to a couple of dear friends. As you know, Erin Flory, our Director of Children's Ministry for the last two plus years is leaving that position to answer God's call in her life to return to the classroom. Erin's last Sunday with us will be August 29th. Emily Knoth, our ministry intern from Princeton Theological Seminary will be leaving us on August 19th before heading to New Jersey this fall to begin her second year of seminary training. Emily will be bringing the message on her final Sunday, August 15th. So we will have opportunity to thank and celebrate both of them during August as well.

And then there's Covid. At this writing the CDC is considering a recommendation that even vaccinated people mask indoors "in certain conditions." We'll explore whether that recommendation will impact our worship services when we can see what case numbers look like locally. We'll keep you informed. We want everyone to eel welcome to come back to inperson worship, and if that means you would feel more comfortable wearing a mask then, by all means, wear a mask. There is no judgment, only love. It is SO good to have so many people back in in-person worship with us, but we want everyone to feel safe in being here and we'll support that in any way we can.

A couple of side notes: I appreciate all of you who made an extra effort this past week to complete connection cards. After worship one kind soul pointed out to me that it would be easier if there were pens in the pews. Dug! We hadn't yet replaced pens in the pews! You'll find them there beginning this week, along with offering envelopes and prayer cards. And lastly, just a prayer that you all will take care of yourselves and your loved ones. Pastoral care needs have skyrocketed in the last several weeks due to illness, injury, family stresses, and other things (perhaps Covid stress and burnout as well). And don't get me wrong, I'm not saying this because Lucy and I can't handle it—I say it out of concern for you and your physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health. The spiritual practices we talked about a couple months ago in worship, the intentionality of our prayer time in worship right now, are all geared towards helping us to deal with these types of things in healthier, more holistic ways, inviting God into the situation as a source of healing and wholeness, I urge you, if you are not already doing so, to make that time in your day to open your whole self to God and to invite God's peace and presence into the midst of even the most difficult of situations.

Keeping you all in prayer,

Pastor Jay

Associate Pastor News:

I have had the pleasure of serving in ministry at Church of the Master in a variety of roles. My husband, Brian, likes to remind me that there is always room for ice cream, it just fills in the holes. So, Brian and I jokingly called me the "ice cream" of the church: I would fill all of the holes. Now that I am serving as your Associate Pastor, I thought you might like to know my specific roles. I have been, and will continue to serve in three major areas of ministry: pastoral care, campus ministry, and technology. Pastoral care is the strongest part of my ministry calling and I am delighted to serve in this way. I enjoy visiting/calling parishioners, connecting people, and supporting our staff. The staff have graciously allowed me to lead fun games and activities in staff meetings, and we have all been asking "get to know you" questions each week. With April's help, we created a prayer room upstairs (overlooking the gathering space) with a changeable altar, where anyone can quietly gather for prayer. I have hosted centering prayer for the staff, which begins with lighting a candle on the altar and sharing a reading, then a time to simply sit in silence and listen to God. Campus Ministry is growing and changing, which is exciting! I am hopeful that we will be able to connect with students through zoom and in-person gatherings for discipleship development and fellowship. I want to continue to help CoM strengthen their relationship with Otterbein and keep our young adult church family connected. Finally, as we have all experienced in the past year, technology continues to connect us to each other and to the world. I enjoy learning new technology and will continue to work closely with our staff to develop new and meaning-ful ways to utilize technology in ministry. My (usual) Sabbath day is on Thursdays. My office is open and all are welcome!

Campus Ministry News:

The Campus Task Force (CMFT) met this week to discuss plans for this school year. Aaron Shear has joined our team! We discussed things we will be able to do and things we cannot do (due to Covid). We will not be serving spaghetti dinner this fall, but are hopeful about serving in the spring (pending guidelines during the pandemic). We will discontinue midnight pancakes (partially due to Otterbein offering the same meal for students on the same weekend each semester and partially due to other reasons). We will begin the semester with our Monday Morning Coffee Ministry; starting August 23rd (the first day of classes). Emily Knoth and Pastor Lucy will be leading a study on Paul with the undergraduate and graduate students that previously gathered on zoom last spring. These young adults were eager to read through and learn from Adam Hamilton's book, Making Sense of the Bible, and are excited to begin a new study. We will restart Puppies and Prayers, which is an animal-therapy ministry that our college students really enjoy. The CMTF is learning about Dinner Church, a ministry started by Fresh Expressions, to begin planning a new ministry of serving students a free meal and offering a short worship service and small group discussion time. We are excited about this new possibility and will spend this fall and winter making plans and gathering volunteers for this ministry. CoM continues our strong connection with Promise House and the Center for Student Engagement, with the hope of being able to host Fall Plunge this year. Fall Plunge is a tradition at Otterbein that offers first-year students the opportunity to connect with non-profits around the community in order to serve and strengthen relationships with Otterbein and the community. As students get back on campus and into their routines, look for new episodes of our pod-cast "Building Bridges." We look forward to hosting events safely this year and reconnecting with students, both Otterbein students and all of our young adults from Church of the Master who are back to their institutions of higher learning this fall. Additionally, Rev. Judy-Guion Utsler, Otterbein's Chaplain, has begun gathering various faith leaders throughout the Westerville community to form a Chaplain Affiliates program. We will meet monthly to discuss how we can serve the students and help them grow in their faith. This program will also allow leaders better access on campus to connect with students and access to occasionally dine with students on campus.

Summer Worship

Families are encouraged to worship together during the 9:00 a.m. outdoor service. We will have worship bags with activities to help your children stay engaged during the service.

Our Sunday morning children's church programs (Rainbows and Dewdrops) and nursery care are offered during the 11:00 service.

Rainbows and Dewdrops

Our preschool and elementary children begin the 11:00 worship service with their families and will be invited to meet their teachers in the Gathering Space after the children's message to transition to their classrooms.

Week	Lesson Scripture		
August 1	Elijah and the Ravens	ns 1 Kings 16:29-30; 17:1-7	
August 8	Elijah and the Prophets 1Kings 18:20-39		
August 15	Elijah and Elisha	1 Kings 19:1-21	
August 22	Elisha and the Widow	2 Kings 4:1-7	
August 29	Elisha and Naaman	2 Kings 5:1-19a	

This month we will be learning about special leaders in the Bible.

Teachers Needed!

We need volunteers to help nurture and teach our young disciples this fall.. Volunteers are asked to help teach once a month. Please contact Erin Flory (children@chmaster.org) if you would be willing to serve in the teaching rotation.



M&Ms Pool Party

All M&Ms families are invited to gather at the Annehurst Pool on Thursday, August 5th from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The church will supply hot dogs, buns, condiment, paper products and drinks. Families are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Cost will be \$5/person. Please let Erin (children@chmaster.org) know if you are attending.

Summer Bible Bingo Prizes!

Did you complete the Summer Bible Bingo? Return your Bingo page (Either Old Testament or New Testament) to Miss Erin by August 8th to receive your prize!





Bring your Backpack in for a Blessing!

August is here and that means Back to School! We want to show our love and support of our students, pre-school – adult, by blessing their backpacks. Please bring school bags to worship on Sunday, August 8. There will be a special time during the worship service to bring the backpacks to the chancel area to receive the blessing. August 8th will also serve as promotion Sunday. All children and youth will officially move up a grade for church programming. Our new 1st graders will be welcomed to the Rainbows class and our new 6th graders will be welcomed to the youth in the balcony.

Save the Date!

Mark your calendars! Music and the Master (M&Ms) will begin on Thursday, September 9th.



Dear Friends of Church of the Master,

As you are aware, Erin Flory has informed us of her intention to leave her role as Children's Ministry Director at Church of the Master in September. While I'm very excited for Erin as she starts this new chapter of her career, I know that many of us will want to offer words of encouragement and appreciation as she moves forward with her plans for the future. In celebration of her commitment and support of our Children during her tenure as Children's Ministry for Church of the Master, we want to encourage you to send personal best-wishes, virtual hugs and appreciation directly to her. Also, if you'd like to participate in a love-offering for Erin, please send your offering to Bill Ruff at church office.

Thank you for your continued prayers for our children and those that will serve during this interim period while we consider the best next steps for leadership,

Yours in Christ,

Amy Heaton Staff Parish Relations Committee Chair

MUSIC NOTES

It's hard to believe school will be starting soon, as will all the church programming. This includes all the music ministry programs including Chancel Choir and the various Handbell Choirs. The first session of Chancel Choir will kick off with rehearsals on Wednesday, September 8. This fall we will be preparing to offer *A Festival of Hymns* in worship on October 31st and selections from *The Messiah* this Advent, in addition to leading worship. We have plenty of room for singers, and with our season broken into sessions, anyone who would like to sing but finds the full choir season a challenge may join us at a time that fits their schedule. Fee free to contact me at music@chmaster.org_if you have any questions.

We have had a great time with our drum circle in worship. My plan is to continue meeting this group monthly for drumming and some sort of fellowship. Day and time for these meetings have yet to be determined, but if you are interested in joining us, no experience required, again reach out to me via email and we will be glad to have you join us for a time of fun musical fellowship.

I am prayerfully looking for ways to expand our music ministry here at Church of the Master. It is easy to fall into the patterns of "what we've always done," and while it is important to nurture the forms of music ministry we have, we must also consider new ways of making and sharing music. This is the main reason I consider the doors of the music ministry always open. Because, when you try new things you never know how the Holy Spirit may move in a new way and ignite a new spark within our church.

Peace,

Chris



The Bells are Ringing...

And *you* can be the ringers! We're gearing up for handbells in the fall and if you would like to be a part of this Worship piece, you are welcome to join us! There are currently two Handbell groups...notice how I left the door open for more with the word currently"!!

• Exultation Ringers, adult and older youth—Rehearse on Wednesdays from 6:00-7:00 pm

• Youth Bells, grades 6-12—rehearse on Thursdays from 5:30—6:00 pm

We will begin rehearsing the week after Labor Day with both groups. More details will be available in the September *Renew*. If you'd like more information, you can contact Kim Hoessly at 614-537-8596 <u>or handbells@chmaster.org</u>.

...from Kim Hoessly

Great Volunteer Opportunity!

The Mission and Outreach Committee is organizing an opportunity for congregation members to participate this fall in the Westerville School District's I-CAN Program. The I-CAN program is taught on a weekly basis throughout the school year to second grade classes and all learning materials are provided to the volunteer. This will probably be an hour a week. If you have an interest, please get in touch with Diane Hill-Clark at dianna.hclark2@gmail.com or Tiffany McGinnis at tifft_23@hotmail.com. Tiffany will be able to answer any questions you may have.

<u>The Missions Committee will be sponsoring school kits for Church World Service on</u> <u>July 25th and August 1st</u>

Items needed:

1. Two- gallon bags and a list of items will be handed out at both services on July 25 and Aug. 1. Items

need to be returned by Aug. 8 and August 15.

Here are the items needed to be in the bag.

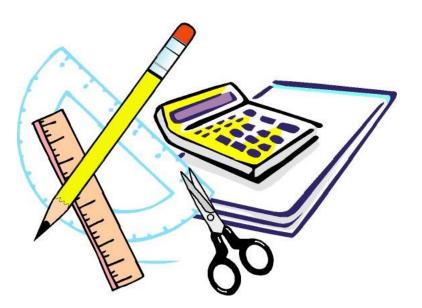
1 pair of blunt scissors

- 3 70 -page spiral notebooks
- 1 pk of loose -leaf notebook paper
- 1 12" ruler
- 1 hand held pencil sharpener
- 1 large eraser (2 inches at least)
- 6 unsharpened pencils

1 box of 24 crayons

Put all of these items in the two-gallon bag and seal it.

Thank you so much for your support.



Yoga and Meditation Series

Join us on Thursday evenings (7/8 - 8/12) at 7pm for a six (6) week yoga and meditation series building on the sermon series, "Sacred Earth, Sacred Work". We'll start with some centering time and move into a gentle yoga flow incorporating seated and standing poses, finishing up with meditation to center us and prepare our hearts and minds to move off our mats into the world.

Location: Hoover Reservoir Park - Park in the Walnut Boat Ramp lot (this is at the intersection of Sunbury Rd and Walnut St; 7940 S. Sunbury Rd, Westerville, OH 43081)

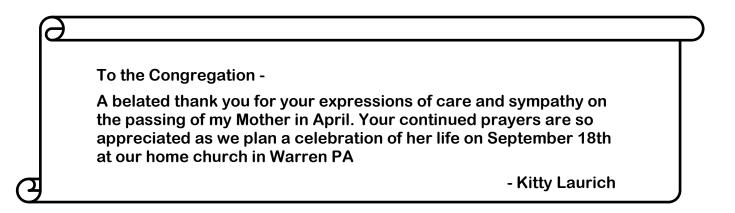
Bring your mat or a towel and an open heart 💙

If it is raining by 5pm on Thursdays we will plan on meeting at Church of the Master in the gym downstairs. Any information on mask usage will be posted on the church doors. Any questions can be directed to Amy Ritts (614.216.5681). Hope to see you there!



Tai Chi Live!! After months of Tai Chi Zoom, we will resume live and in person on Thursday, August 5, at 10:30 AM. Class will meet in the Fellowship Hall and is open to anyone at any level. Cost is \$4.00 per session. Questions? Contact Kitty Laurich at <u>childrenmusic@chmaster.org</u> or Marie Dilley at <u>rjmedilley@gmail.com</u>. We hope to see you there.

Namaste.



We are looking for our construction enthusiasts to lead and participate in the *Westerville Habitat Partnership's Walls Build* on August 20 and 21, 2021 at The Point in Westerville. We need individuals to help prep the wood for building on Friday evening and teams of 4-6 to build walls on Saturday. <u>Students must be 14 in order to participate</u>. We hope to have at **least 4 teams** from COM but would love to have more for this project.

IF YOU HAVE DONE THIS BEFORE, WE NEED YOU BACK!! Once you have formed your team, let

Ed or Amy know that you are participating!

Amy Levine 614-203-6638 (mewsicl1@gmail.com)

Ed Hamann 614-893-4037 (ed.hamann323@gmail.com)

Please *sign up your team together* for the time slots you would like.

Use the link listed in the information below.

Join us!

Westerville Habitat Partnership Habitat for Humanity House Walls Build Prep: Friday, August 20 Build: Saturday, August 21

BACK to WORK!! This year the Westerville Habitat Partnership (<u>https://westervillehabitat.com</u>) will

be assembling the walls of a Habitat for Humanity home. This year's homeowner is Jamarrah, a father of four.

Build: Saturday, August 21, 2021

1st Shift: 7:00am (registration)

7:30am-10am (building walls)

2nd Shift: 10am (registration)

10:30am-1pm (building walls)

Sign up to volunteer here: https://app.pointapp.org/event/5084

Where: Otterbein's The Point | 60 Collegeview Rd. (north parking lot) | Westerville, OH. 43081 Suggested items to bring/wear: closed toe shoes, work gloves, comfortable clothing, water bottle.

Tools and guidance provided! If you wish to wear a mask, please bring one. We will have masks

too.

Prep: Friday, August 20, 2021

5pm-7pm

Where: Otterbein's The Point (same as build)

What to bring/wear: Closed toe shoes, work gloves, hat, comfortable clothing, water bottle, sunscreen.

Experience with a table saw is strongly encouraged and highly appreciated. Pizza and beverages provided.

Habitat for Humanity (H4H) provides affordable housing for those in need; prospective homeowners must contribute 300 volunteer hours, have the resources to repay a mortgage (Yes,

homeowners have a mortgage!), and meet H4H's standards. For more info about H4H Del&Un Co. https://habitatdelawareunion.org/about-our-program/

Health Cabinet Huddle Laurie Bowman, RN

At this point you've heard or read that Church of the Master is walking to Nicaragua this summer in honor of El Porvenir. Have you gotten to the point of asking, "Are they there yet?" The answer is ALMOST! We are making great progress on our walk to Nicaragua and are getting close! As of today, we have collectively walked 2,627 miles and are 82% of the way there! We have now made it from the Gulf Coast of Mexico to the Pacific side of Mexico down to Puentes Margaritas, Mexico! (We are approximately where the red dot on the map is.)

In happy news, El Porvenir was able to reach their recent fundraising goals in partnership with One Day's Wages. Church of the Master's Missions and Outreach committee contributed to this by sending \$3000! One Day's Wages matched El Porvenir's donations of \$43,590 for a total of **\$87,705** to go specifically towards the planned projects in Posoli. Funds will be used for building latrines and water systems as well as restoring their watershed. When the Posoli project wraps up, 65 homes will have water piped directly to their homes, 35 families will have latrines, and 20 families will have vented cookstoves (meaning less wood burned and less dangerous smoke in their homes). If you are interested in learning more about El Porvenir's mission you can go to <u>https://www.elporvenir.org</u>

THERE'S STILL TIME TO JOIN US! It's as easy as sending an email to <u>office@chmaster.org</u>. This is a great opportunity to invite a friend or neighbor out for a walk with you! Happy walking friends!



Called to Love!

A new study group, "Called to Love," has formed within our church as a branch of the Reconciling Ministries Network. "Called to Love" seeks to educate ourselves about the experiences of LGBTQ+ persons, and explore our own implicit biases and behaviors to find ways we can grow as individuals and as a church community. Please join us Thursday, August 26th at 7pm, in the sanctuary, as we continue our educational and grace-filled discussion! If you have questions, contact Cindy Hughes hughes_cindy@yahoo.com.



Saturday, August 28, 2021 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 pm

Please join your Westerville neighbors by participating in our first **free** curbside exchange in a citywide effort to keep ReUsable items out of our landfill and giving them a new home and purpose!

Simply place usable items you no longer need at your curb so others may take what they need, extending their lifespan. Furniture, toys, clothing, tools, and other house-hold items are all welcome. This is not a garage sale, as ALL goods are FREE.

Good for you, good for our community, good for the environment. Join us!

For more information, visit <u>www.SustainableWesterville.org</u>







Church of the Master is embarking on the creation of a sensory accommodation library! S.A.L for short.

The S.A.L will become part of the welcome center, located on the left side of the fellowship hall. There will be several small bins on each shelf. Each bin is filled with different accommodations for folks to use during service.

The goal of the S.A.L is to make our worship experience a more inclusive place for everyone who attends.

For some folks, church service can be overstimulating- too loud, too much to focus on, too overwhelming. For others, church service can be under-stimulating—our eyes wander, we find ourselves wishing we had something to fidget with, or maybe doodle on. So the S.A.L will help solve these issues.

The S.A.L will be open for anyone to use, whether you're 1 or 100. Whether service is too loud or whether you need some extra sensory input to get through it. You'll just walk over, grab what you need before the service, and drop it into the "used" bin when service is over. By the time the next Sunday rolls around, everything will be sanitized and ready to use again.

Expect to see the S.A.L in the gathering space by the end of August. If you have any questions or concerns, you can email Emily at emily.knoth@outlook.com.

August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
1 9 A-Outdoor Worship 11A-In Person and Livestream Worship	2 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 6:30 P-BSA Troop 560 7:00 P-SPRC Meeting	3 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 10:00 A-Staff Meeting	4 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 7:00 P- <i>Soul Re-</i> <i>set</i> Book Study	5 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 10:30 A-Tai Chi Class 1:P-Flute Recit- al 5:30 P-Pool Party 7 P-Yoga Medi- tation	6 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 6:30 P-SA Meeting	7 10:00 A- Memorial Ser- vice 2:00 P-Flute Recital			
8 9A-Outdoor Worship 11A-In Person and Livestream Worship	9 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 6:30 P-BSA Troop 560 7 P-Finance Meeting in Per- son 8 P-Stewardship Meeting	10 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 10 A-Staff Meeting 1 P-UMW Membership Meeting	11 7:30 A-AA Meeting	12 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 10:30 A-Tai Chi Class 6 P-Youth Group 7 P-Yoga Medi- tation	13 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 6:30 P-SA Meeting	14 8 A-Pet Part- ners Training			
15 9A-Outdoor Worship 11A-In Person and Livestream Worship	16 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 6:30 P-BSA Troup 560 Pic- nic 7 P-Trustees Meeting	17 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 10 A-Staff Meeting	18 7:30 A-SAA Meeting	19 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 10:30 A-Tai Chi Class 6 P-Youth Group	20 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 6:30 P-SA Meeting	21 7 A-Habitat Wall Build 9 A-Choir Workshop 10 A-UMW Board Meeting			
22 9 A-Outdoor Worship 11A-In Person and Livestream Worship	23 Otterbein First Day of Class 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 9 A-Coffee Min- istry for Otter- bein 6:30 P-BSA Troop 560	24 7:30 -SAA Meeting 10 -Staff Meeting 6 -Mission/ Outreach Meeting 7 P-Health and Wellness Meeting	25 7:30 -SAA Meeting	26 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 10:30 A -Tai Chi Class 6:P-Youth Group 7 P-Called to Love Meeting	27 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 12:45 P- Otterbein Sing- ers Rehearsal 6:30-P SA Meeting	28 Otterbein Stu- dent Plunge Activities - TBD			
29 9 A-Outdoor Worship 11A-In Person and Livestream Worship	30 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 9 A-Coffee Min- istry for Otter- bein 12:45 P- Otterbein Sing- ers Rehearsal 6:30 P-BSA Troop 560	31 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 10 A-Staff Meeting	1 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 12:45-P Otter- bein Singers Rehearsal	2 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 10:30 A-Tai Chi Class 11 A-Piano Tun- ing 6 P-Youth Group	3 7:30 A-SAA Meeting 12:45-P Otter- bein Singers Rehearsal 6:30-P SA Meeting	4			



LOVE GOD. GROW IN CHRIST. LIVE TO SERVE.

Find us on Facebook at "Church of the Master United Methodist"

> Church office Hours Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Church of the Master United Methodist 24 N. Grove Street Westerville, OH 43081

614.882.2153

Staff

Pastor Jay Anderson, Senior Pastor pastor@chmaster.org

Pastor Lucy Kelly, Associate Pastor/Director of Campus Ministries associate@chmaster.org

Erin Flory, Director of Children's Ministries children@chmaster.org

Kitty Laurich, Children's Choir Director childrenmusic@chmaster.org

Hannah Tonn, Director of Youth Ministries youth@chmaster.org

Chris Bowling, Director of Music Ministries music@chmaster.org

> Tyler Domer, Music Associate choir@chmaster.org

Kim Hoessly, Bell Choir Director handbells@chmaster.org

Amber Fullah, Office Administrator office@chmaster.org

> Bill Ruff, Financial Secretary finance@chmaster.org

April Smith, Facilities Manager facilities@chmaster.org

David Campbell, Custodian