

RENEW

Official Newsletter of Church of the Master



A Letter from the Pastor:

by Pastor Jay Anderson

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I always remember back-to-school time as when we got most of our new clothes for the entire next year. Summer was spent almost entirely in shorts and Spring did bring a new Easter outfit, but other than that dreaded Christmas gift of socks or underwear, it was back-to-school time that defined any sense of fashion or style one would have for the next year. Oh, we also bought some school supplies, but - and here's a throwback to show how old I am and how things have changed - for the most part the school supplied all the pencils, paper, pens, notebooks, crayons and everything we needed for the entire year. It was a different time.

And I remember how at the beginning of each school year, back then, we didn't have "meet the teacher" nights or anything like that - you went to school on the first day and looked on the list outside the door to see if this is the classroom you were to be in and teacher you were supposed to have. There were no "gifted" programs or "advanced placement" classes, we all just muddled through together - the better students helping out those who were challenged, everyone clamoring to be the teacher's pet in some way, and just learning together and from one another. It was a different time.

These are different times as well. This is turning into one of the strangest back-to-school seasons....ever! We have dozens of schools and multiple school districts represented just in the youth and children of Church of the Master. We have many teachers in our congregation, some of whom are teaching in-person, others who are teaching online, and still others who have to figure out how to do a hybrid, mixing of the two. Rather than spending money on new clothes for school, many families are having to invest in laptops, electronic tablets, or upgraded wi-fi for their kids to be able to "go to school" from the dining room, kitchen, den, or wherever there is room while the parents are also working from home. These are different times...we've never done it this way before!



Yet, even as so many things seem to be changing all around us - as though life is being lived in a blender - some things remain constant. Kids, regardless of how much things are different for you this year, despite how stress levels might be higher at home at times, know that your parents love you more than ever and that they are trying their best to be parent, teacher, coach, friend, and role model in all the best ways. And parents, even as things are changing in ways none of us ever imagined, know that your kids understand - maybe more than you may realize - that this is hard for you too, that you are nervous about how it's all going to work out, and when things will get back to "normal."

I'm reminded of the meme that says something to the effect of "Don't let stress kill you - let the church help!" We know the intent of that message, even if it didn't come across in the way it was intended! In these times, the church is forced to do things differently as well. While the building is closed - we're still here (the church was NEVER the building anyway)! While some things look very different than what they have looked like in the past, God is constant, the love of God is unchanging, and the presence of the Holy Spirit is everywhere - in your "back-to-school" places and your "work-from-home" spaces. Things look different here - VBS and youth and children's ministry, Sunday School classes, even worship being done online - but the church is here. There is no virus, no pandemic, no shut-down that can stop us from being the church for one another and for those we know outside the church. There is no mask that can stop a prayer - there is no "safe distance" that the love of Jesus Christ cannot reach. As we share in Telecare calls, Zoom meetings and classes, online worship, and all that this time has foisted upon us, know that your church, and your church family is here - we're willing and able to help in any way we can. These are different times - but the God of all time is here with us and works through us. What more do we need?

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Jay



INFORMATIONAL
TABLES



HOLY
COMMUNION



COFFEE &
DONUTS



ICE CREAM



LIVE MUSIC
& OF COURSE
SOCIAL
DISTANCING

CHURCH OF THE MASTER UNITED METHODIST

24 N. Grove Street
Westerville, OH 43081
www.chmaster.org

SEPT
13TH
9-11AM

SAVE THE DATE RALLY DAY!

FOR ANY QUESTIONS, CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE (614)-882-2153

NEED TO KNOW ABOUT RALLY DAY:

- Please remember to wear your masks!
- Open house style from 9-11am on Sept 13th.
- We will have different stations for communion, information and goodies.
- Our parking lot will be pedestrian only.
- Parking is off site in the Barlow or Cowan lots at Otterbein.
- Foot traffic will be in one direction as we move from station to station.
- Route will begin in front of the red doors at the communion station.
- Room to socially distance and greet each other in our parking lot.
- Exit will be out the church parking lot.
- Rain contingency plan will be in the sanctuary and gathering space.

SEE YOU THERE!



1 South Grove Street
Westerville, OH 43081-2004
TEL (614) 890-3000
www.otterbein.edu

August 21, 2020

Dear Otterbein neighbors,

I am writing today to keep you informed about Otterbein University's plans for the fall. As you know, Otterbein students are an important part of our vibrant community. They shop and work at local businesses, volunteer with local non-profit organizations, teach in local schools — they care about this community.

We've heard loud and clear from our students that they want to come back to campus. And Otterbein and Westerville want them to come back — safely. That's why we've worked hard to develop thorough plans in consultation with Franklin County Public Health and OhioHealth (Otterbein's campus healthcare provider). We've also followed recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Ohio Department of Health every step of the way.

Based on current COVID-19 trends, Franklin County Public Health (FCPH) has recommended Otterbein adopt a phased approach as the safest way for our residential students to return to campus. Through this plan, our students will move back to campus in four phases that we will monitor as they happen. Assuming everything goes smoothly, the last phase of students will be moved in by Sept. 13.

Our semester started on Monday, Aug. 24. During the phase-in, some classes (including many courses for first-year students and select courses with significant lab or experiential components that cannot easily be replicated online) will meet in person or in a blended format; all other courses will begin the semester online. Beginning Monday, Sept. 14, all courses will return to their original intended mode and about 75% of our classes will have significant in-person components.

You can review our Return to Campus plans and other information about fall semester at www.otterbein.edu/rtc.

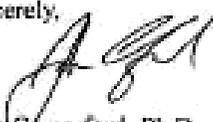
We are counting on every member of the Otterbein community to do their part in keeping the community safe. That means wearing facial coverings indoors, performing a daily self-assessment, practicing good hygiene, maintaining social distance, and not gathering in groups of more than 10. These expectations apply on and off campus.

We want to be a good neighbor to you, so if you see any behaviors that concern you, we have a COVID Support Line and Email set up where you can report those concerns. Just call 614-823-1586 or email covid@otterbein.edu.

If you would like future updates from Otterbein about campus news and events, please send your email to community@otterbein.edu.

Thank you for welcoming our students back to this wonderful community.

Sincerely,



John Comerford, Ph.D.
President

July 30, 2020

Dear WAMA Members and Friends,

I hope and pray you are well and the blessings of our Lord have carried you through these challenging times.

In the spirit of providing help and guidance to those facing current or future unemployment woes, please feel confident that our Way2Work program stands ready to offer assistance. To that end, our virtual program is a viable solution, which combines self-educating with personal employment support coaching.

Please distribute the enclosed flyers to anyone in need. If you need more, please let me know.

God Bless,

David Crago
Workforce Development
david@warmwesterville.org





ONLINE JOB Support Program Now Available



The Way2Work Program provides best practices for any job seeker. Courses are now accessible virtually to improve resume results, job search strategies, and interviewing. Employment coaching included.

As a local faith-based organization, WARM is able to provide these services free of charge, thanks to the generosity of so many.

Register Today, Begin Today



TinyURL.com/W2W-Online

www.warmwesterville.org
(see Services>W2W Employment)

Contact: David Crago
david@warmwesterville.org
614-899-0196 x231



A Thank You Note

by Remona Carter

Dear Church Family,

I can't thank you enough for the love and care you've shown me from the time I became the administrative secretary and then a member of COM - especially now with the passing of my brother. I so much appreciate the many cards and personal contacts I've received. It truly does help. THANK YOU!

Love, Remona Carter

United Methodist Women

by Barbara Piper

Once again, we will be forgoing our monthly circle meetings in September. I would like Circle leaders to take a poll in their groups to see if we could possibly conduct our October meetings at the church within the pandemic guidelines. It would be wonderful to see our friends again.

A note from our Capital Area North District about the Re-Entry Health kits that were made by various members all over Ohio reveals that 2400 kits were put together by our Capital Area North District to give to UMCOR for delivery. As was stated in the Church of the Master July Newsletter, our UMW women put together 22 kits and contributed \$200 to provide items for more kits. The Ohio Reformatory for Women received 500 kits and 500 kits will go to two other prisons to be decided by the ODRC. The other kits will go to the prisons in the area of other Districts in Ohio.

On a sad note... We are in mourning for our beloved sister, Wilma Watson, who passed away on August 19th this year. Wilma was a long time member of both our church and United Methodist Women, and her smile and good nature will be dearly missed.

Note from the Office

We are currently not accepting donations of any kind at the church unless it is a planned donation event. Please do not leave items outside the red doors or anywhere else on the property. We have no way of distributing goods at this time. Thank you!

Christmas Under the Tree

By Barb Hinton

Dear Church Family,

As everything around us seems to change and be different, there are still ways to spread God's love. Because of the virus, we can't ask people to shop for our friends at the Columbus Development Center this year. So, we are taking a different approach. This year we are asking for monetary donations.

They can be sent to the church. Please write the checks to: Church of the Master and put Christmas Under the Tree in the memo line. Lisa Harris and her staff will do the buying, mostly online.

Our financial secretary, Bill Ruff, will put all the contributions in a separate account and send the lump sum to CDC. The deadline for donations is October 15, 2020. If you cannot send a donation by then, please send your donation directly to:

CDC I@E Fund
Attention Lisa Harris
1601 W. Broad St.
Columbus, OH 43222

We have cared for our friends at CDC for over thirty years. Thank you for all your help to bring Christmas to them once again. Questions? Contact Barb Hinton, 614-891-7814.



Children's Ministry News

by Erin Flory

Erin Flory – Director of Children's Ministries

email: children@chmaster.org

Cell: 614-436-0549

Our Children's Ministry program will look different this fall as we continue to adapt to pandemic style ministry. Instead of separate programs for M&Ms, Rainbows, Dewdrops and Sunday School, we will have ONE overarching virtual program that will include elements of all of these. Families will receive a link for "Virtual M&Ms" each Sunday. Virtual M&Ms will be set up very similarly to our virtual VBS this summer. Kids can "choose their own adventure" and jump into a lesson, music or activity that connects to our theme for the week. For families who prefer to be more "offline" we will also have a weekly family devotion that connects to our theme. Thursday evenings, we will have virtual meet-ups for our preschool and elementary children. These meet-ups are designed to provide opportunities for fellowship with our kids. While the core of our children's ministry will be done virtually for now, keep your eyes out for special pop-up events as the health conditions and weather conditions allow. We look forward to growing in faith together as we start our new school year!

(If you would like to be added to the Children's Ministry email list, please contact Miss Erin.)



Our theme for M&Ms this fall is *Empowering Courageous Kids*. During September, our children will learn these keys points as we dig into the stories of Abraham, the twelve spies and Gideon.

In the midst of uncertainty – We can trust God's power.

When we are fearful – God's power is bigger than anything else.

If we feel like we can't do something – God's power makes us strong.

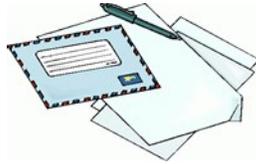
M&Ms Kick-Off

Join us Thursday, September 10 for our M&Ms Kick Off. Your family will have a chance to sign-up for a half hour time slot (5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00 p.m.) to come enjoy some music, puppets and lots of fun in the parking lot. We will have a special bag of goodies for you too! A limited number of families will be able to come to each time slot to make sure we can be safely spaced. Check your email for the sign-up link.



[This Photo](#) by Un-

Can You Help? Sign Up to be a Buddy!



Our M&Ms kids need you! We are hoping to match every child in our M&Ms program with a buddy from the congregation. Buddies will commit to sending a short note to the assigned M&M child once a month this school year. This is a wonderful way to help our children feel connected to their church family and to provide some encouragement as our kids are in the midst of a very different school year. If you are interested, contact Erin Flory (children@chmaster.org) and she will provide you with more details.

Youth Ministry News

Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12)

by Bev Pancoast

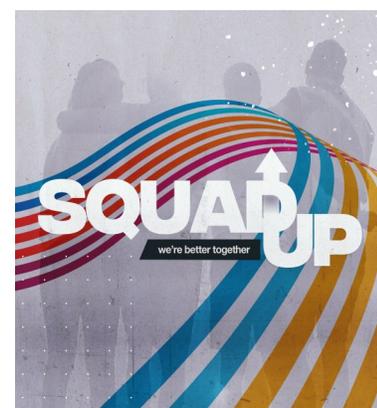
The Church of the Master Youth Ministry program is open to all youth in grades 6-12. Currently, our youth meet via Zoom (unless noted elsewhere) in 2 groups—Junior High (Grades 6-8) and High School Grades (9-12). Groups will start in the Zoom meet together and then break into the 2 groups for age level ministry time. The Zoom link will be sent out weekly via email and text. If you have youth aged students and do not receive youth ministry emails, please contact Bev at youth@chmaster.org or 330-416-4656.

Sunday Evenings @7:00 p.m. 9/13, 9/20, 9/27, & 10/4

SQUAD UP: A 4-WEEK SERIES ON FRIENDSHIP

Based on the book of Ephesians

Everyone wants a squad — a community of people that cares for us, helps and supports us, and gives us a place to belong. In short, we all want to be part of a community that feels like family. That kind of community isn't easy to come by, but it's exactly what Jesus had in mind for His followers when the Church first began. In this series, we'll discover why the word "Church" means something much bigger than a building, we'll learn what life was like for some of the earliest Christians, and we'll explore four big ideas that mean as much for us today as they did to the Jesus-followers who lived nearly 2,000 years ago. The truth is, we can all be part of God's family, and because we're God's family, we can do for others what God has done for us, we can grow together, and we can stand strong together.



New Youth T-shirts

The Youth t-shirts will be available beginning on Sunday, September 13th at the Rally Day Celebration between 9-11 in the Church parking lot. Look for the Youth Ministry Space to pick up youth t-shirts and other Youth Ministry information and opportunities.





A REACH Mission Trip Update for 2020 & 2021

By now all youth families who made payments for the 2020 should have received a refund. If you made a payment for Reach 2020 and have not received a check, please let Bev know so we can take care of that.

On 8/25 Mike Jones, the Executive Director of Reach Mission Trips called to let us know that after much prayer and conversation, the Reach Board of Directors have decided to suspend 2021 Mission Trips season. They will watch what is going on in connection to Covid19 in the spring to see the feasibility of 2022 mission sites.

Assuming that Covid19 restrictions have been lifted we will offer a Summer 2021 Youth Mission trip. The Youth Ministry Task Force will be looking at options that will offer our youth a meaningful experience.

Youth Mission Focus for September

Fleece Blankets

Youth who are interested may pick up a Fleece blanket kit to work on in September. The completed blankets will be added to the ones made last school year (that were supposed to go with us to Reach) and given to a local mission. (TBA).

Join the 2020 Confirmation Class as they join Church of the Master after a confirmation experience that started in person and finished virtually. Eight youth will be joining the church and Pastor Jay and I have been blessed to travel this journey with them. Our Confirmands include:

Sam Driscoll is the son of Tom & Janna Driscoll. Sam is a freshman at Westerville Central High School. His confirmation mentor is Todd Lotz.

Kenadie Eblin is the daughter of Wade & Denise Eblin. Kenadie is an 8th grader at Walnut Springs Middle School. Her confirmation mentor is Tiffany McGinnis

Nolan Fedak is the son of Brett & Tori Fedak. Nolan is an 8th grader at Walnut Springs Middle School. His confirmation mentor is Ron Jones.

Zaine Foster is the son of Shawn & Michelle Foster. Zaine is an 8th grader at Walnut Springs Middle School. His mentor is Melissa Oakes

Isabelle Hill is the daughter of Stuart & Beth Hill. Isabelle is an 8th grader at Berkshire Middle School. Her mentor is Julie Porretta.

Blessing Jaygbeh is the son of Monee Sunnyway. Blessing is a freshman at Westerville South High School. His mentor is Chuck Erickson.

Gianna Johnson is the daughter of Toby & Justina Johnson. Gianna is an 8th grader who is home schooled. Her Mentor is Kitty Laurich.

Evan Pate is the son of Alan & Laura Pate. Evan is an 8th grader at Walnut Springs Middle School. His mentor is Neil Stutz.

Roofing & Gutters Project

by April Smith

General Restoration began on August 24th and they will be on the property for approximately the next five weeks. Work hours are Monday - Friday, 7:30am to 4:30pm. Their equipment will be in the parking stalls closest to the building with workers vehicles also parked in our lot. There will be a dump truck and not a dumpster for disposal of materials. The gutter work will be first followed by the shingle replacement. Expect some entrance doors to be blocked off at different times as the crew makes their way around the perimeter of the building for their work. The two 24/7 handicap parking stalls will remain accessible for church visitors and there may be other stalls available depending on the number of church staff in the building at any given time. Please use caution when entering the church parking lot.





**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.

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