



THE CENTRAL CONNECTION

Spring 2019



"Just by breathing you are changing things whether you want to or not." - David LaMotte

It was in a time that he was transitioning between songs that I saw David say those words on stage. It took a moment for them to sink in. We like to live under an assumption of stability and constancy. We like when things follow a pattern and when we feel we will know the outcome. We enjoy the familiar and it can give us comfort. I will own that if I am sick at home I will put in a familiar movie or watch an older television show from my youth to

push those nostalgia buttons. But if I'm being honest with myself it's not the same. Even if the story is the same. I have changed. How I'm watching it has changed. Perhaps another member of my family is in the room with me and they ask questions or laugh and that changes the experience. It is virtually impossible to have a repeat of the same experience over and over.

I'm a lover of wooden-style roller coasters. Now in theory it should be the same ride over and over. The rails lead a certain way and the cars have to follow those rails, but wood expands and contracts. Winds change causing changes in speeds and resistance. Different amounts of weight are placed in the cars that will make miniscule changes to the overall experience. And in many ways worship is the same way. We have different participants each week. Some people may not be there. A choir member may be missing, or a visitor is with us changing the overall experience. The world may have had a traumatic event which touches our hearts changing how we worship.

When we hear that an upcoming service is going to be different we can get anxious and want to put on the brakes and resist. But every service is already different. The anthems are different every week, the hymns are different every week. The sermon is different every week. We may be exploring some changes that are a little bigger than that in the future, but every other aspect of our lives we go through changes in an attempt to adapt to our world and improve our understanding. Any changes that come will have been thought over, planned, prayed over, and honed as best as we can to make the right fits and be true to what God is calling us to be in a worshiping body. Thank you for those who have already shared thoughts and pray for us as we discern what God is leading us to on the path ahead.



Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 10, at 2:00 AM.



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6. Join us for our traditional soup supper at 6:15 PM with worship at 7:00. Soup supper attendees are asked to RSVP by completing the yellow *Central Happenings* bulletin insert. Donations of vegetable, chicken noodle and potato soup are requested; Parish Life will provide crackers, drinks and tableware.

During the Season of Lent, we will blend our Sunday morning worship services and journey together toward our Lord's resurrection on Easter Sunday.

March 10 - April 7

9:20 - Prayer

9:30 - CE Classes

10:30 - Worship

April 14 (Palm Sunday)

9:20 - Prayer

9:30 - Continental Breakfast

10:30 - Worship

April 21 (Easter Sunday)

9:20 - Prayer

9:30 - CE Classes

10:30 - Worship

Maundy Thursday worship will be at 7:00 PM on April 18. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper during the service, as we gather around the Communion table, just as Jesus and his Apostles did over 2000 years ago.



Easter Flowers

Again this year we are offering lilies and hyacinths for you to honor or remember someone special. The flowers will beautify the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 21, and may be taken home after worship.

The cost of each lily or hyacinth is \$10 and comes in a gold-covered pot. Please note we are unable to offer specific hyacinth colors, as we receive what grows best for the florist. In past years, we have received a mixture of purple, pink and white.

Please look for the order form in the yellow *Central Happenings* insert. The final day to place an order is Palm Sunday, April 14.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - Quarter 1 2019

	BUDGETED YR TO DATE	ACTUAL YR TO DATE	YR TO DATE 8.3% of year
INCOME			
Loose	\$333	\$155	3.9%
Pledges	15583	11822	6.3
Presby Foundation	250	800	26.7
Non-Pledged Giving	333	353	8.8
CPC Endowment	600	600	8.3
CPC Housing Fund	391	391	8.3
Other	83	83	8.3
TOTAL INCOME	\$17574	\$14204	6.7%
EXPENSES			
Administrative	\$1490	\$746	3.9%
Maintenance	2485	1477	5.0
Mission	587	0	0.0
Program	1146	319	2.3
Pastor's Expense	6590	7427	9.4
Staff Salary	6019	5631	7.8
TOT EXPENSES	\$18316	\$15599	7.9%
NET BALANCE	-\$743	-\$1394	



Ada Long passed away February 23. Ada and J.B. joined Central when it was still located in downtown Dayton. At her passing, she had been a member of Central Presbyterian Church for 70 years and three days, having joined on February 20, 1949. We extend our love, prayers and condolences to her family and friends.

A visitation will take place at Central Church on Saturday, March 2, from 11:00 AM-Noon. Her funeral service follows at Noon with committal at Woodland Cemetery. The family then invites you to Central's Fellowship Hall for a light reception.

On Sunday, January 27, we said farewell to our long-time organist, Tom Guth. Tom served as Central's organist since 1996 and was an integral member of our praise band, Central Message, since its inception in 2006. With Tom's blessing, we share his farewell speech for those unable to attend the reception.

What a journey the last 22 years has been. At the age of 24, when I got the call about a church needing someone to play for them, I thought it would be fun to do once or twice. I certainly didn't expect it to become a position, let alone one that would span two decades. I immediately felt welcome at Central and noticed the family atmosphere that ran throughout the congregation. I am fortunate to have worked with wonderful staff. A couple of special thank you's. First to Linda Haller for guiding me through this position. Without her, I'm not sure I would have navigated the early years smoothly. Second, Suzie and everyone who has helped and assisted in the nursery/child care through the years.

Central was willing to give me a chance and the space to grown into an organist, something for which I am eternally grateful. When I stop to think about it, it's kind of crazy I was hired in the first place, especially after reading the job description. I have enjoyed the choir and praise band, especially when working on the cantatas and when the praise band went out and played at different venues. Words cannot express how blessed we were to find this church. It obviously was the work of the Lord guiding and shaping where I am today. When I was young, being an organist never entered my mind, yet now I cannot imagine a life without it. Our family is very thankful for the love and support we have received. It is immeasurable. I admit I am leaving with sadness, but also looking forward to the next chapter. Thank you to Pastor Cliff, Karen, Leslie, and the rest of the staff for being exceptional people to work with and also a thank you to the congregation of Central Presbyterian Church — you make such a loving church and have been an integral part of my and my family's spiritual journey.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner

You are invited to attend the West Carrollton Lions Club St. Patrick's Dinner on Saturday, March 16th, 4:30-7:00 PM, at W.C. Methodist Church, 26 N. Locust Street. Corned Beef & Cabbage OR Chicken & Noodles will be served. Tickets may be purchased at the door - \$11 for adults and \$5 for children 10 and under.

The Lions Club supports many initiatives in West Carrollton and the surrounding communities. If you should have any questions, please contact Lion Bill Gilman.





Alice is my new doggie. For years, I had Spirit and Zeus. Spirit developed a tumor and died in August. Zeus is still with me, but has multiple old age problems and likely won't be around for another fall and winter. Spirit had a gentle temperament and followed me around the house, sang with my harp playing and was very attentive to me. I miss him dreadfully.

The advent of Alice was a bit unexpected. A friend from California contacted me and wondered whether I could add a new husky to my pack. Her niece in Kentucky just accepted a position in the Peace Corps to go overseas for quite a stretch and needed to re-home her 9 month old pup. "Well, I said, "I lost one in August, but the guy I still have is crotchety and an alpha dog." "Why don't you try your dog with Alice to see how they get along?", my California friend suggested. Amazingly, Zeus seemed to have fun with Alice. A totally unexpected scenario. So, I brought Alice home. The first 10 days were a bit dicey—Zeus not being happy to have a frisky newcomer in HIS house and HIS yard. But, they've adjusted, and often, I catch them hanging out together in the yard when they think I'm not looking. And, Zeus even seems to have caught a bit of Alice's energy. He putts around in the yard following her, seems just a bit cheerier in his elder role.

None of us really want change. Central Presbyterian Church has been incredibly blessed with fine musicians. When there have been changes in music personnel, I'm sure many of you have felt that no one will measure up to the person who has moved on. We all felt such a loss when Tom took a position closer to home, and yet all are happy for him that such an opportunity has presented itself. The church is looking at the possibility of incorporating different musical styles into one Sunday service so that everyone can attend together. Many think this is a terrific idea, some are likely lukewarm, and some folks probably think that combining music styles in a single service is akin to treason. I'd suggest that there is life, and a GOOD life, during and after change. We get to experience new guest musicians, we can hear and appreciate new types of music, and above all, we can love and care for our fellow churchgoers by respecting their styles of worship. Yes, we CAN all get along...it's a positive light to shine to the rest of the world. We love our fellow Christians because they follow Christ, and we enjoy each other despite our differences in style and taste.

I hope that the friendship between Alice and Zeus continues to blossom. Alice doesn't replace Spirit, but she brings her own dynamic personality to my household and makes it better. Alice perturbs Zeus a bit, but I think he's happier with her here rather than being solo.

As we go forward, think of the neat possibilities that we can explore. Maybe the choir will sing with guitar accompaniment. Maybe the band will take on a new profile with some new participants. Maybe the bell choir can boogie with some percussion. And just maybe, it will be fun and exciting!

Look forward to some guest organists for the next few months, and a string quartet to join us for Easter. Praising and honoring God with all kinds of music is the goal, and I am pleased that Central Presbyterian is focused on providing music that is a blessing to all the different parishioners that attend.

Happy spring, and consider adding a new dog to your pack. It is a learning experience!

Leslie Stratton - Music Director

PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE – SPRING 2019

Happy (almost) spring everyone!!

With the Lenten season fast approaching, we will host the **soup supper on Ash Wednesday, March 6th, 6:15 p.m. with worship following at 7 p.m.** We will have three soups, chicken noodle, vegetable, and potato, prepared by our church members (there is a sign-up sheet in the Sunday bulletin). The meal will be followed by a disposition of ashes service led by Pastor Cliff.

April 14th is Palm Sunday. There will be a continental breakfast served at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall with our church service following at 10:30 a.m. Please plan to join us.

Pentecost Sunday is June 9th with an 11 a.m. outdoor service. The picnic will follow in the Fellowship Hall and Parish Life will provide hotdogs and condiments. Church members will be asked to bring a dish or two to share.

Don't forget our annual trip to the Dayton Dragons!! The date is Saturday, July 13th, 7 p.m. We have 25 seats reserved (behind home plate) just several rows from the top and under cover. The price remains at \$15 which includes a ballcap, \$5 concession stand voucher, private raffle, and recognition on the scoreboard. A sign-up sheet will be available later.

September 8th will be our last outdoor service with a picnic to follow.

*****If you are not on a committee and would like to get involved, please join us. We meet every other month (odd) on Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. in the Lounge.*****

Submitted by: Barb Webner, Co-Chair

Committee Members: Tom Oole, Co-Chair, Marsha Dues, Betty Hurley, Diora Randolph, Nancy Westfall, Randy Webner, and Linda Moorhead (Session rep)



We will receive the *One Great Hour of Sharing* offering through Palm Sunday, April 14. This special denominational offering is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. When you make a gift to the offering, you are making a transformative impact on people's lives through the ministries of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (which works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after natural and human-caused disasters), the Presbyterian Hunger Program (which is sharing bread with the hungry and joining hands with them to alleviate hunger and address its causes) and Self-Development of People (working to loosen the bonds of injustice by partnering with communities as they seek to overcome oppression and poverty through initiatives they own and from which they directly benefit). A special offering envelope can be found in the Sanctuary pews and on hall tables beginning March 10.

Spring Flowers



March 24 - **Don Henry**, in remembrance of Connie on her birthday, March 23

March 31 - **Betty Hurley**, in remembrance of Ione Savage on her birthday, March 30

April 21 - **Jim & Sarah Alverson**, in honor of Annabelle's second birthday

May 12 - **Nancy Watson**, in remembrance of Homer on his birthday, May 8

May 19 - **Jim & Sarah Alverson**, in honor of their 10th wedding anniversary

If you would like to donate a floral arrangement for our 9:30 service in 2019, we have many available dates: March 10, 17; April 7, 14, 28; May 5, 26; June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; July 7, 14, 21, 28; August 18, 25; September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; October 13, 20, 27; November 3, 10, 17, 24; December 1, 8, 22, 29. Contact Karen in the church office to place an order. Each arrangement is \$30, unless special requests, such as specific colors or flowers, increase the cost; Furst Florist will work with us to design an arrangement to suit your needs.

Coupons Needed

Do you regularly throw away the slick coupons from your Sunday paper? If so, I would be interested in taking them off your hands and putting them to good use. Weekly I cut mine up and submit to the American Legion Women's Auxiliary. They mail them overseas for use by military families. Expired coupons may be included up to six months old. Please feel free to give them to me at church. (If we haven't met, my dad and I occupy the back row during the first service.) Thank you in advance.

Karen (Gilman) DeBell



March 3rd Servers

9:30: Joe Espelage, Don Henry, Linda Moorhead, Sheila Reynolds and Tom Troxell

11:30: Carol Evans and Steve Gagen

April 21st Servers - One Service at 10:30 AM

Bill Awsumb, Diora Randolph (*3 additional servers are needed*)

June 9th Servers - One Outdoor Service at 11:00 AM

4 servers are needed

July 21st Servers

9:30: *5 servers are needed*

11:30: Diora Randolph

The following dates all need five (5) servers for 9:30 worship and two (2) servers for 11:30:

August 18th Servers

September 15th Servers

October 6th Servers

November 24th Servers

December 22nd Servers

As you can see, we have many needs for Communion servers in 2019. Ordained Elders or Deacons wishing to serve should contact Karen in the church office (karen@centralpreschurch.com or 298-2864, ext. 0).



3 - Miriam Beck
 7 - Steve Ford
 9 - Morgan Espelage
 10 - Linda Moorhead
 13 - Marcy Wilson
 16 - Joe Espelage
 23 - Marsha Dues



3 - Leslie Bailey
 5 - Janet Myers
 7 - Rod Bluhm
 9 - Beulah Armstrong
 9 - Betty Ennis
 9 - Margaret Mowery
 10 - Carol Walker
 13 - Tamra Gengler
 28 - Ameer Espelage
 28 - Sue Labatzky



3 - Collin Troxell
 4 - Wanda Bundy
 6 - Hayden Troxell
 12 - Joey Gengler
 15 - Gary Neeley
 17 - Merv Hardman
 27 - Del Bower
 29 - Marlene Murray

***If you have a March, April or May birthday and are not listed above,
 then we do not have your birth date on file in the church office.
 Please contact Karen in the church office to update your membership file.***

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

4699 LAMME ROAD

DAYTON OH 45439-3099

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Pastor: Rev. Cliff Haddox (revncliffie@gmail.com)

Clerk of Session: Sarah Alverson

Board of Deacons Moderator: Jack Lightcap

Director of Music: Leslie Stratton (leslie@centralpreschurch.com)

Childcare Provider: Suzie Harris

Treasurers: Joe Espelage and Marcy Wilson

Custodian: Kevin Duffy

Church Secretary / Bookkeeper: Karen Mitchell (karen@centralpreschurch.com)

Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Church Office Phone Number: (937) 298-2864, Ext. 0

Church Email: cpcoffice@centralpreschurch.com

Church Website: www.centralpreschurch.com

Traditional Worship: 9:30 AM (Sanctuary)

Christian Education for All Ages: 10:45 AM

Praise Worship: 11:30 AM (Fellowship Hall)

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

...to glorify God through



**WORSHIPING
LOVING
TEACHING
MINISTERING**

that **Christ** may be made
known...

Spring
2019

