

# The Messenger

*Building a more diverse and open community  
of committed Christian servants.*



We are on a journey, each of us and together. As we wander through this Lenten season we are met with floods nearby us, the tragic taking of young life, heightened anxiety and division within our community and country and growing needs around the world. And we are met by Jesus on his journey to the cross, asking us to follow – *giving up, letting go and breaking free.*

In this Messenger we celebrate ways you have and are responding to need by your involvement and we know that the numbers here are not inclusive of all the ways that we each reach out and seek to make a difference in the world – but they are indicative of what we know at this time and place and the records we keep. As you look inside this Messenger, you may also see new ways you can enter into outreach and ministry. Check them out and give them a try.

As you journey through Lent please be in prayer for those who are victims of flooding and know if you would like to contribute, any gift you give through WUMC that is marked for flood disaster relief will be used 100% for that purpose. We will make you aware of additional ways to be of service in response to flooding damage as they materialize.

Also, please be in prayer for the tension places in our world, country and community. Today I heard from a teacher with over thirty years of experience speak of the anxiety and tension inside the suburban school in which she teaches. I have told many of you that when I was in junior high we had many bomb threats and drug raids, spent much time in the gym when we arrived at school and in the parking lot throughout the day as the building was searched. Yet, the world is different today. Perhaps we are in disagreement about how we count school shootings or how today’s tensions compare to the past, but there seem to be some nuances to our ways of life today--- automatic assault weapons kill more quickly and in greater numbers than other prominent weapons of the past; and some of the drugs with which persons experiment today are laced with chemicals that make their first-time use a more lethal probability.

I am aware we do not all agree on the answers to the issues which face us, but I do believe we all care. And maybe there are some things we can agree on. Bishop Palmer is encouraging churches and individuals to take part in an offering of letters to our government officials, state and national, to prioritize the safety and sanctuary of our children amidst this repetitive and escalating violence. In the church office we have information on participating in the support of commonsense background checks for gun purchasers and copies of the UMC Book of Resolutions #3428 Our Call to End Gun Violence for those who would like to read it.

Finally, you will see in this Messenger a schedule for Holy Week and all it offers. Once again we will join with St. John’s AME Church for Maundy Thursday and our Chancel Choir will help us to remember on Good Friday, to remember the saving grace of Jesus the Christ. As we journey through the Lenten Season may we be open to God’s gentle and not so gentle call on our lives! And, yes, Easter is on April 1; that’s no April Fool’s joke!

Cyndy

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**EASTER  
EGG HUNT  
& POTLUCK**  
**Sunday, March 18**  
**4:00 p.m.**  
 All ages welcome!  
 Main course &  
 drinks provided.  
 Please bring a side  
 dish or dessert  
 to share!

**Children’s Musical**  
**Sun, March 11**  
 at both services!  
 “David & The Giants”,  
 as presented by our  
 WUMC children,  
 directed by  
 Gretchen Wessel

*The Messenger* is published monthly by Worthington United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 307, Worthington, OH 43085 (614-885-5365). **Thursday, March 15** is the deadline for the **April Messenger**. To submit your article, drop it off or email it to Jessica Sapp at [jessica@worthingtonumc.com](mailto:jessica@worthingtonumc.com).

## Parish Concerns and Joys

### *We express love and sympathy:*

- To friends & family of Dick Donaldson, who died February 18.
- To Brad Arensberg & family, at the death of his father, David, on February 6.

### *We express joy and congratulations:*

- To Ali Wade & Mike Lang, who were married on February 3.

*Members of WUMC,  
Because we both value our relationship with WUMC, we wanted to share this news with you. After much prayer and thoughtful consideration, we have decided to dissolve our marriage. Ryan and I have been committed to counseling individually and together. As we begin this new transition, we welcome your prayers and support. We have tried to keep this process as healthy as possible and as you see us around WUMC, we ask you to respect our privacy.*

**Ashley and Ryan Mills**



**Deborah Circle** will meet March 8 at 1 p.m. in Dixon Lounge to celebrate Women's History month by having a program focusing on 12 leaders from our past who have helped establish an inheritance of sacred space for today's UMW. Visitors are welcome.

**Naomi Circle** will meet Wednesday evening, March 21, at 7:00 pm, at the church. Members will bring "Easter basket" items and assemble gift bags to be delivered to home-bound members of our church.

**Elizabeth Circle** will be meeting on Monday, March 12 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Beth Strasser for a potluck and her Annual Health Panel. If you have any questions for Beth to be answered at the meeting & to RSVP please email her or contact Margaret Tyler

## Holy Week

**Palm/Passion Sunday, March 25:** Join us for 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Worship Services. Our Children's Choir will sing at the 9:30 service. Rainbow Singers will perform at the 11:15 service.

**Maunder Thursday Service, March 29** 7:30 p.m., at St. John's AME church as we celebrate the Seder together. Watch for more information to come as Holy Week approaches.

**Good Friday, March 30:**

- **Community Worship Service**, at 12:00 Noon - This service begins at Worthington Presbyterian Church, traveling to seven worship stations around the Village Green, experiencing the seven last words of Christ. The last station is in the cemetery at St. John's Episcopal Church. Worthington UMC will host one of the stations.
- **Good Friday Service with Special Music**, 7:30 p.m., in the Sanctuary, featuring Franz Schubert's "Mass in G," performed by the Chancel choir with organ and strings, directed by Linda Nolan.

## Easter Sunday, April 1

- **9:30 a.m. - Easter Worship Service**, in the Sanctuary. Our traditional service features festive music with Chancel Choir, Organ and Brass.
- **11:15 a.m. - Easter Emerge Service**, in the Potter Chapel. Our "Emerge" service features energetic vocal and instrumental music with a contemporary flavor.

## ***Bags of Blessings sees a great start with Buddy Bags***

**Thank you** to our church family for the great start to our 2018 Bags of Blessings! Our January collection was for Buddy Bags through Family Mentor Foundation. This organization began in 2013 with a mission to create services that help fill in the area's lacking in a child's life. They seek to help meet the unmet needs of children in our community through a variety of programs and resources that will help them reach their full potential. One of their programs is Buddy Bags. Many children who qualify for free or reduced fee lunch at their schools have little to eat at home and return to school after weekends distracted by their hunger and unable to focus on learning. Buddy Bags bridge this gap by providing a disposable bag or box filled with kid-friendly, nutritious, individual sized, non-perishable food items that are easy for children to eat and prepare on their own. This food helps sustain the children on weekends when they are not in school.

In January, we collected **53 bags** filled with individual microwavable dinner cups like ravioli and chicken, shelf stable milk, pudding cups, fruit cups, vegetable cups, granola bars, oatmeal packs and peanut butter. **This was our biggest collection in years.** Kari Vernon at Family Mentor Foundation was overwhelmed by our donation. What a show of support for children in Worthington Schools, Columbus City Schools and Southwestern City Schools, where this program is currently providing services. A huge thank you to this church family, who continues to provide to so many in need, and show God's love way beyond our church doors. A special thank you to our Bags of Blessings sorters month after month, Mark and Michelle Hadley, Charles and Ann Tarr, and Mike and Melissa Alexander.

*- Lesly and Dave Wade*

## **9054 hours! 1796 volunteers! \$56,200 in material goods! WUMC MADE A DIFFERENCE IN 2017!**

Last year we recorded 9054 hours of time donated to a variety of mission projects; 1796 volunteers participating in a variety of mission projects; and \$56,200 worth of materials, supplies, and goods donated to support a variety of mission projects.

While we had a 2% decrease in the number of hours donated over the previous year, and a 1% decrease in the number of people who participated in mission giving projects, we saw a 105% increase in materials, supplies, and goods donated. 105% increase!! And an additional \$15,064 was given in Second Mile donations.

### **More and more people at WUMC are making a difference!**

If you participated in any of these ministries or others unnamed, and you made a difference for someone else. If you gave your time, you made a difference. If you gave 2<sup>nd</sup> mile money or goods, you made a difference. If you made, gave, or served food you made a difference. If you made a sleeping mat, gave a unit of blood, gave a bag of blessing, or partnered with a student to practice reading, you made a difference. If you walked, worked, sorted, cleaned, or built, you made a difference. Making a difference can take as much or as little time as you want. If you're interested in getting yourself, your children and youth, your family, your neighborhood, your coworkers, or a random group of friends together to make a difference, there's something for every age and ability to do! Previous experience not needed – just a desire to make a difference!

Information about opportunities to make a difference can be found on the Outreach bulletin board near the church library, or on the website ([worthingtonumc.com](http://worthingtonumc.com)), or on the Outreach Calendar included in the March Messenger, or call the church office!

Thanks for a great 2017! Looking into 2018, know that anything you do makes a difference!

## Family-Friendly Volunteer Opportunities

Each month the Outreach Team coordinates a whole host of volunteer opportunities for individuals, families with children and youth, and groups of friends to help make a difference in the communities around us and beyond. Below is a list of family-friendly ministry volunteer opportunities for individuals, children and families of all ages. Additional information can always be found on the church website [worthingtonumc.com](http://worthingtonumc.com), on the Outreach bulletin board near the church library, or by calling the church office.

Make a difference by helping with:

### Seasonal/holiday/disaster collections

**American Red Cross blood drive** registration and check-in

**Bags of Blessings** – help sort and pack items that have been donated

**The Carpenter's Helping Hands** – light household and yard projects for youth and adults

**Gates-Fourth UMC** community breakfast – help welcome, serve, or fellowship with guests who range in age from infants to elders

**Mat Ministry** – sort, fold, cut, craft, or crochet plastic bags into sleeping mats for the homeless

**Operation Sandwich** – make a dozen or more sandwiches as a family and drop them off at church for delivery to a shelter, or take the whole family as a delivery driver to see where donated sandwiches go and how they make a difference

**Worthington CROP walk** – make a difference by walking to raise money

**Worthington Friendship Dinners** – bring the whole family and help set-up, serve, or visit with friends and members who come for the monthly free meal.

You don't need to have previous experience or knowledge to make a difference! Just show up and someone will show you the ropes, and your whole family or group will be making a difference in no time at all! Family-friendly ministries are indicated with an asterisk on the Outreach calendar below.

### March 2018 Outreach Calendar

Join us as we "Make a Difference"!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Bags of Blessings</b> for Worthington Resource Pantry*	<b>PROJECT MORE</b> 30 Minutes any Monday –Thursday	* <b>Family Friendly Ministries</b>		1  <b>AL Mission Trip</b>	2 NNEMAP Pantry 9 am – noon  <b>AL Mission Trip</b>	3  <b>AL Mission Trip</b>
4 Operation Sandwich*  New Life Clinic 7 am – 9 am	5 NNEMAP Pantry 9 am – noon  Worthington Pantry 9 am – 3 pm	6 NNEMAP Pantry 9 am – noon  New Life Clothing Room 9 am – 11:30 am	7 NNEMAP 9 – noon  New Life 9 – 11:30  Worthington Pantry 2 pm – 8 pm	8	9 NNEMAP Pantry 9 am – noon	10 <b>YWCA Family Center Dinner 4 – 9 pm</b>
11 Operation Sandwich*  New Life Clinic 7 am – 9 am	12 NNEMAP Pantry 9 am – noon  Worthington Pantry 9 am – 3 pm	13 NNEMAP Pantry 9 am – noon  New Life Clothing Room 9 am – 11:30 am	14 NNEMAP 9 – noon New Life 9 – 11:30  Worthington Pantry 2 pm – 8 pm	15 <b>Friendship Dinner 5 – 8 pm*</b>	16 NNEMAP Pantry 9 am – noon	17 Worthington Pantry 9:30 am -12:30 pm
18 Operation Sandwich*  New Life Clinic 7 am – 9 am	19 NNEMAP Pantry 9 am – noon  Worthington Pantry 9 am – 3 pm	20 NNEMAP Pantry 9 am – noon  New Life Clothing Room 9 am – 11:30 am	21 NNEMAP 9 – noon  New Life 9 – 11:30  Worthington Pantry 2 pm – 8 pm  <b>Mat Ministry Plann Party 1 – 4 pm*</b>	22	23 NNEMAP Pantry 9 am – noon	24 Worthington Pantry 9:30 am -12:30 pm  <b>Gates Fourth UMC Breakfast 8:30-10*</b>
25 Operation Sandwich*  New Life Clinic 7 am – 9 am  <b>Bags of Blessings Sort 12:00–12:30*</b>	26 NNEMAP Pantry 9 am – noon  Worthington Pantry 9 am – 3 pm	27 NNEMAP Pantry 9 am – noon  New Life Clothing Room 9 – 11:30 am	28 NNEMAP 9 – noon  New Life 9 – 11:30  Worth Pantry 2 – 8	29	30	31  <b>Gates Fourth UMC Breakfast 8:30-10*</b>

## VBS

JUNE 18 - 22

ages 3 years through current  
2nd grade

## WORK CAMP

JUNE 24 - 29

current 8th grade through  
seniors

## REACHOUT

JULY 15 - 21

current 7th grade through  
seniors

## EXPLORATIONS

JULY 30 - AUG 2

current 3rd grade through  
current 6th grade

## REGISTER:

VBS

[vbsmate.com/wumc](http://vbsmate.com/wumc)

WORK CAMP

e-mail Ashley

REACHOUT

[reachouteoc.com](http://reachouteoc.com)

EXPLORATIONS

[vbsmate.com/wumc](http://vbsmate.com/wumc)

questions? contact Ashley at [ashleymills@worthingtonumc.com](mailto:ashleymills@worthingtonumc.com)

### *Scouting Grows at WUMC with addition of Venturing Crew*

The Scouting program at Worthington United Methodist Church is being expanded! As many know, Boy Scout Troop 365 has been a part of our church family for over 66 years. Recently, the WUMC Administrative Council approved the charter of an additional group for older Scouts. This program is known as Venturing.

Venturing is a youth development program of the Boy Scouts of America for young men and women who are 13 and have completed the eighth grade, or age 14 through 20 years of age. Venturing's purpose is to provide positive experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults. Venturing crews can specialize in a variety of avocation or hobby interests. Our crew is still planning its future activities but clearly community service and outdoor adventure unique to this age group are high priorities. As the chartering organization for Troop 365, and now Venturing Crew 247, we can be proud of the experiences they provide the youth of our community.

If interested in being a part of the Boy Scouts or Venturing or know of someone who is, please let us know or leave a note in the church office and we will contact you.

Jerry Roderick, Boy Scouts

Chris Deis, Venturing

Keith Stimpert, Chartered Organization Representative



Come and join  
Worthington UMC  
as we learn about  
our theme verse,  
"When you pass  
through deep  
waters, I will be  
with you"  
(Isaiah 43:2)

*Vacation Bible School  
June 18-22*

## West Ohio Camps

<https://www.westohiocamps.org/camp>

Have a child who may be ready for overnight church camp? Head over to the West Ohio Camps site to explore options for children as young as 7 years old. There are a variety of opportunities and types of camps, including one-day camps to try out! Most of our children have attended either Camp Otterbein or Camp Wesley as they are closer to Columbus, but West Ohio has three retreat centers that are each unique. If you have any questions, e-mail Ashley at [Ashley@worthingtonumc.com](mailto:Ashley@worthingtonumc.com)



West Ohio Conference  
United Methodist Church

**Camps & Retreats**



# March



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p align="center"><b><u>Sunday Schedule at Worthington UMC</u></b>            9:30 a.m. <i>Worship in the Sanctuary &amp;</i>            11:15 a.m. <i>Emerge Worship, in the Potter Chapel;</i>  <b>Sunday School at 10:40 a.m. for children, youth &amp; adults</b>  <i>Childcare for infants &amp; toddlers at 9:30' &amp; 11:15 a.m.;</i>  <b>Children's Church at both services</b>  <i>Fellowship Time is 10:30-11:15 a.m. in the Dixon Lounge;</i>  <b>Youth Impact is on Sundays at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.</b></p>				<p><b>1</b>            4:30 p.m.—UMW Leadership Meeting            4:30 p.m.—Children's Bells            5:00 p.m.—Children's Choir            7:00 p.m.—Chancel Choir</p>	<p><b>2</b>            9:00 a.m.—Bulletin Assembly            9:30 a.m.—Alzheimer's Support &amp; Respite Care            11:30 a.m.—Alzheimer's First Friday Meeting</p>	<p><b>3</b>            5:30 p.m.—ProMusica Concert</p>
<p><b>4</b>  <b>See Sunday Schedule</b>            11:00 a.m.—Jubilee Ringers            2:00 p.m.—Handbells Meeting            2:00 p.m.—Central Ohio Singing Competition: Winner's Recital            5:30 p.m.—Youth Choir</p>	<p><b>5</b>            8:00 a.m.—Sermon Shaping            10:30 a.m.—Prayer Group            6:00 p.m.—Emerge Planning            6:00 p.m.—Scout Venture Crew            7:00 p.m.—Boy Scouts Troop 365</p>	<p><b>6</b>            7:00 a.m.—Lenten Communion &amp; Meditation            5:30 p.m.—Lenten Communion &amp; Meditation            7:00 p.m.—Welcoming &amp; Inviting            7:15 p.m.—Devotions            7:30 p.m.—Trustees            8:00 p.m.—Sr High Devos</p>	<p><b>7</b>            9:30 a.m.—Riverside Sewing Guild            7:00 p.m.—Boy Scouts Patrol Leaders Meeting            7:00 p.m.—Lenten Study</p>	<p><b>8</b>            10:00 a.m.—CANDO Board Meeting            12:30 p.m.—Worthington Women's Book Club            1:00 p.m.—Deborah Circle            4:30 p.m.—Children's Bells            5:00 p.m.—Children's Choir            6:00 p.m.—Liberty Bells            7:00 p.m.—Chancel Choir            7:00 p.m.—Martha Circle</p>	<p><b>9</b>            9:00 a.m.—Bulletin Assembly            6:30 p.m.—WUMC Singles Pizza &amp; Cards Event</p>	<p><b>10</b>            7:30 a.m.—Men's Breakfast            5:00 p.m.—YWCA Family Dinner</p>
<p><b>11</b>  <b>See Sunday Schedule</b>  <b>Daylight Saving Time</b>            Children's Musical at both services            11:00 a.m.—Jubilee Ringers            3:00 p.m.—Ohio Health Memorial Service            5:30 p.m.—Youth Choir</p>	<p><b>12</b>            8:00 a.m.—Sermon Shaping            10:30 a.m.—Prayer Group            6:00 p.m.—Lay Leadership            7:00 p.m.—Boy Scouts Troop 365            7:00 p.m.—CPC Board Meeting            7:00 p.m.—Elizabeth Circle</p>	<p><b>13</b>            7:00 a.m.—Lenten Communion &amp; Meditation            9:30 a.m.—Ruth Circle            5:30 p.m.—Lenten Communion &amp; Meditation            7:00 p.m.—Boy Scouts Adult Committee            8:00 p.m.—Sr High Devos</p>	<p><b>14</b>            1:00 p.m.—PLARN Party            7:00 p.m.—Lenten Study            7:00 p.m.—Boy Scout Summer Camp Meeting            7:30 p.m.—Taize Worship Service</p>	<p><b>15</b>            4:30 p.m.—Children's Bells            5:00 p.m.—Children's Choir            6:30 p.m.—Friendship Community Dinner            7:00 p.m.—Chancel Choir</p>	<p><b>16</b>            9:00 a.m.—Bulletin Assembly            10:00 a.m.—Prayer Shawl Ministry</p>	<p><b>17</b>            12:00 p.m.—Youth Lock-In</p>
<p><b>18</b>  <b>See Sunday Schedule</b>            11:00 a.m.—Jubilee Ringers            4:00 p.m.—Easter Egg Hunt &amp; Potluck            5:30 p.m.—Youth Choir</p>	<p><b>19</b>            8:00 a.m.—Sermon Shaping            10:00 a.m.—Worthington Thrift Shop Board            10:30 a.m.—Prayer Group            6:30 p.m.—Scout Venture Crew            7:00 p.m.—Boy Scouts Troop 365</p>	<p><b>20</b>            7:00 a.m.—Lenten Communion &amp; Meditation            1:00 p.m.—Immunization Clinic            5:30 p.m.—Lenten Communion &amp; Meditation            7:00 p.m.—Finance Committee            8:00 p.m.—Sr High</p>	<p><b>21</b>            6:30 p.m.—Naomi Circle            6:30 p.m.—Hannah Circle            6:30 p.m.—CPC Info Session            7:00 p.m.—Lenten Study            7:00 p.m.—Family Ministry Team</p>	<p><b>22</b>            4:30 p.m.—Children's Bells            5:00 p.m.—Children's Choir            6:00 p.m.—Liberty Bells 4H            7:00 p.m.—Chancel Choir</p>	<p><b>23</b>            9:00 a.m.—Bulletin Assembly            6:30 p.m.—WUMC Singles</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>
<p><b>25</b>  <b>See Sunday Schedule</b>  <b>Palm Sunday</b>            11:00 a.m.—Jubilee Ringers            5:30 p.m.—Youth Choir</p>	<p><b>26</b>            8:00 a.m.—Sermon Shaping            10:30 a.m.—Prayer Group</p>	<p><b>27</b>            7:00 a.m.—Lenten Communion &amp; Meditation            9:30 a.m.—Worthington Women's Club            5:30 p.m.—Lenten Communion &amp; Meditation            6:00 p.m.—CPC Staff Meeting            8:00 p.m.—Sr High</p>	<p><b>28</b>            7:00 p.m.—Lenten Study</p>	<p><b>29</b>  <b>Maundy Thursday</b>            4:30 p.m.—Children's Bells            5:00 p.m.—Children's Choir            7:00 p.m.—Chancel Choir            7:30 p.m.—Maundy Thursday Service</p>	<p><b>30</b>  <b>Good Friday</b>            9:00 a.m.—Bulletin Assembly            12:00 p.m.—Good Friday Community Worship            7:30 p.m.—Good Friday Service</p>	<p><b>31</b>            10:00 a.m.—Library Work Day</p>

*The Messenger*

Worthington United Methodist Church  
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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

Dated material:  
Please deliver by March 4, 2018



**This Month's Happenings**

- ProMusica Concert - March 3
- Daylight Saving Time - March 11
- Children's Musical - March 11
- Easter Egg Hunt & Potluck - March 18
- Palm Sunday - March 25
- Maundy Thursday - March 29
- Good Friday - March 30