



Christ Centered.  
Engaged in Community.  
Sharing God's Love.

#### Contact

614.885.5365

PO Box 307

Worthington, OH 43085

office@worthingtonumc.com

worthingtonumc.com

#### Worship Times

9:00am & 10:00am

The 10:00am service is  
livestreamed on our  
YouTube Channel

#### Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

9:00am - 4:30pm

### A LETTER FROM PASTOR DOM

A quote (dubiously) attributed to Martin Luther says, "Work, work; I have so much to do tomorrow that I shall spend the first three hours in prayer." Many things demand our attention and our time; getting the kids to their practices, keeping up with the news, meeting deadlines at work, advocating with those who are continuously marginalized by those who hold power, and finding an hour to catch up on our favorite show.

It can be hard to find time for prayer, but prayer is critical in tending to our faith. It interrupts cycles of both anxious production and escapism by connecting us to the One who created us, redeems us, and sustains us. This deepens our compassion and helps us to respond to the world's needs with wisdom. Maybe we can't commit to praying three hours a day, but we can take a few steps to nurture our prayer life. Here are some ways to get started:

1. **Set aside time as sacred.** Try and pray at the same time in your morning or evening routines every day. Prepare your body, mind, and spirit with a simple ritual, such as lighting a candle or touching water in a bowl to remind you of your baptism.
2. **Find a Bible reading plan or devotional that works for you.** Reading from scripture and from the writings of other people of faith helps to center our hearts and minds on God. I've found [A Guide to Prayer for All Who Walk with God](#) by the Upper Room and [This Day: A Wesleyan Way of Prayer](#) by Laurence Hull Stookey to be particularly useful.
3. **Recruit a buddy.** Seek out someone who will help you meet your prayer commitments and wants the same help. Pray for each other and check-in weekly.
4. **Begin with gratitude.** Gratitude is the foundation of a life of prayer. No matter how crummy things are, you have received grace and God loves you unconditionally. Prayer begins with the awareness of this unconditional love.
5. **Keep a prayer list.** Once centered in God's love, we can then extend compassion to those who have requested our prayers. Keep the Church's prayer list near when praying and add those who ask you personally for prayer. It's the spirit of compassion, not the perfect words, that matters.
6. **End with the Lord's Prayer.** This prayer connects us to all the faithful across time who have lifted the same prayer to God.
7. **Remember: faith ain't linear.** You will eventually oversleep, get distracted, or decide not to pray. It's okay. Acknowledge the mistake and recognize that there is no shame in missing prayer - only grace in returning to it. Get back on that horse.

Prayer connects us to God, moves us to act with compassion toward our neighbors, and grounds us in grace. Your church family and pastors are here to support you as you grow in your prayer life.

In Christ,  
+Dom

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Pastor Dom's Greeting.....	01
Children's and Students Ministry.....	03
Easter Egg Hunt.....	04
The Carpenter's Helping Hands .....	04
Going Green Corner.....	04
United Women in Faith.....	04
Photo Directory.....	05
Lenten Paraments.....	05
Explorations Day Camp.....	05
Vacation Bible School.....	05
February Mission Trip Recap.....	06
Outreach Calendar.....	07
Bags of Blessings Information.....	07
Bags of Blessings - April.....	08
A Message from the Finance Office.....	08
Church Updates.....	08
Easter Information.....	09
Church Calendar.....	10

The Messenger is published monthly by Worthington UMC.  
Submit your article by the 15th of the previous month at  
[office@worthingtonumc.com](mailto:office@worthingtonumc.com)

[OFFICE@WORTHINGTONUMC.COM](mailto:OFFICE@WORTHINGTONUMC.COM) | 614.885.5365

[WORTHINGTONUMC.COM](http://WORTHINGTONUMC.COM)

## SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



VBS is offered for kids 3 years (must be potty-trained) through incoming 3rd graders. We start our evening together with dinner each night for your whole family, then the kids are broken into small groups based on age to travel through stations to learn through music, arts & crafts, games, bible lessons, and science! Monday-Thursday schedule will be dinner at 5:30pm, then programming from 6:00pm-8:00pm. Friday is a cook-out celebration for everyone on our front lawn from 5:30pm-6:30pm.

Our theme this year will be "We Are Built to Love!" using the movie *The Wild Robot* and the gospel of Matthew to guide us in learning how to live out God's love in our world! VBS will be Monday through Friday, **June 9-13**.

To register, please see <https://worthingtonumc.com/vacation-bible-school-2025/> for more information!

*\*We will need MANY volunteers! Please keep an eye out from church communications how to help us make VBS happen. If you are interested in serving, please go ahead and contact Ashley Gerard.*

### EXPLORATIONS



Explorations is a day-camp focused on serving our local community! This is offered to incoming 4th graders-incoming 7th graders. We meet at the church each day at 10:00am, pack a lunch, then travel to different organizations around Columbus to learn about how they support our community. At each location we will help with various outreach projects depending on their need. Pick up is back at the church at 2:00pm each day. We serve at farms, local food pantries, and learn about the on-going outreach ministries our church participates in. This is a great way to get kids involved with missions and to grow in fellowship together! Exploration dates are Monday through Thursday, **July 28-July 31**.

To register, please see <https://worthingtonumc.com/explorations-day-camp-2025/> for more information!



### REACHOUT

This is for those currently in 7th grade and older. ReachOut is a United Methodist Camp that happens each July in Lakeside, Ohio. If you are unfamiliar with Lakeside, it is a beautiful, gated community right on Lake Erie. One of the perks of this camp is the location itself! Campers and counselors stay in cabins and lodge housing for the week, located close to the downtown area with shops, putt-putt, and the best ice cream and donuts! There are worship services each night, a two-day mission component where we serve local non-profits around northern Ohio, sports and art activities, and a chance to get to know youth from other churches. A unique and valuable aspect of ReachOut is that it is planned and run by a group of high school youth who are elected by the previous year's campers. That group of students meet year-round to pick the theme verse we build our week around, plan fun activities, and even speak and lead messages at our worship services. It is a great way to experience student leadership! Ashley Gerard, along with other youth leaders from the church, serve as camp counselors for the week. ReachOut 2025 dates are **July 13 - July 19**.

To register and to learn more about ReachOut, visit <https://reachoutcamp.com/>



For more information on any of the above camp opportunities, please contact Ashley Gerard at [ashley@worthingtonumc.com](mailto:ashley@worthingtonumc.com)





# United Women in Faith



## APRIL PROGRAM DATES

- 1 Naomi Circle
- 2 Riverside Sewing Guild @ 10am
- 3 Leadership Team Meeting - Dixon Lounge @ 6pm
- 8 Ruth Circle
- 13 Palm Sunday
- 14 Elizabeth Circle
- 15 Martha Circle
- 17 Maundy Thursday
- 18 Good Friday
- 20 Easter Sunday



## GOING GREEN CORNER

The Sustainability Group is happy to announce that there are now larger, more accessible mugs for coffee hour. Since we started offering mugs at coffee hour, we have saved over 200 paper cups from being thrown away! We have also been using washable dishes for events like the Spaghetti Dinner and Game Night. Accessibility is top of mind for us, so we will be looking at options for lighter reusable dishes for Vacation Bible School and other children's events.

We have also made strides in composting! All of our food scraps are collected and composted as part of the Worthington Food Scraps Drop-Off Program. We have successfully composted the coffee grounds from coffee hour, and we have begun composting the food stuffs from larger events. We are also planning a sustainable cooking class this summer, so keep on the look out for more information about that.

Interested in getting involved? Email us at [goinggreenwumc@gmail.com](mailto:goinggreenwumc@gmail.com) to get started!

## The Carpenter's Helping Hands

### Service Day - Saturday, April 26, 2025

Do you need a few extra hands around the house? The Carpenter's Helping Hands will be conducting its Spring Service Day on Saturday, April 26 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to help those needing assistance with yard work and simple household chores. Volunteers are also needed. Both volunteers and those in need of help should contact Eric Oldenburg at 614.433.0862 or [ericoldenburg6@gmail.com](mailto:ericoldenburg6@gmail.com). You can also stop by The Carpenter's Helping Hands table in the Ministry Hallway after the service on Sunday, April 20 to sign up. Please do not be shy if you need help. We look forward to serving you!

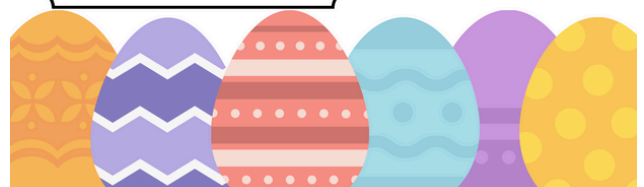
*Sunday, April 13th*  
*4pm-6pm*

## **EASTER EGG HUNT & POTLUCK**

We kick things off with an **Easter egg hunt** on our front lawn, time to hang outside with **outdoor games and music**, and enjoy a **potluck meal** together in our fellowship hall after!

4pm - Gather!  
4:10pm - Egg Hunt  
4:30pm - Outdoor Games  
5pm - Dinner in South Fellowship Hall

RSVP





Worthington United  
Methodist Church

## Photo Directory

# PHOTO SHOOT

We will be creating a new photo directory which will be out later this year. Photos will be taken in April and May by Jessica Sapp, our former Communications Director, in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings in as well as Tuesday evenings. Please use the QR code to sign up for your spot. If you have any questions, please contact the Church Office.



## LENTEN PARAMENTS

Paraments include the liturgical hangings on and around the altar, such as altar cloths, as well as the cloths hanging from the pulpit and lectern. Purple is a color of both penitence and royalty used during the preparatory seasons of Advent and Lent. The purple paraments we are using were designed and created by members of WUMC several years ago. The design represents the path we take as we follow Jesus on his journey to Calvary.

# Explorations Day Camp

Join us for a day camp focused on  
serving our local community!

July 28th – July 31st

**Who?:** If you are entering 4th grade through entering 7th grade in fall of '25

**When?:** We gather during the day during operation hours of the organizations we work with! 10am-2pm fits that schedule. We meet at the church for drop-off and pick-up, pack a lunch each day, and have fun while helping others!

**Cost** is \$30 per child

REGISTER  
NOW!



SEMINARY HILL  
FARM  
ON THE CAMPUS OF WUMC



WARM  
WORTHINGTON AREA RESOURCE MINISTRY



WE ARE BUILT  
TO LOVE!

JOIN US AS WE LEARN FROM  
THE WILD ROBOT AND  
THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW THAT  
WE ARE BUILT TO LOVE!

WORTHINGTON UMC  
**VBS**  
2025  
JUNE 9-13

AGES: 3 YEARS (MUST BE POTTY  
TRAINED) - 3RD GRADE  
TIME: 5:00PM DINNER FOR THE  
WHOLE FAMILY  
6:00PM-8:00PM PROGRAMMING  
COST: \$40 PER CHILD



REGISTER NOW >



## FEBRUARY MISSION TRIP RECAP

On February 23rd Brad Arensberg, Russ Line, Eric Oldenburg, and Duane Snyder left for a six-day mission trip to Hinton Center in Hayesville, North Carolina. Paul George met us there since he was already in Tennessee. It was a ten-hour drive with stops for meals and gas. After unpacking our gear and tools, we had dinner in the dining hall.

On this trip we worked on a house in Georgia. Hinton Center is on the North Carolina / Georgia border. On the first day and one half we put railings around a 12' by 8' porch that was right outside the kitchen. We also installed a ramp that came off the porch. On the next two- and one-half days we installed railings around a 36' by 8' porch. We build a set of stairs on both ends of the porch. On one of these days, we removed a window air conditioner from a downstairs window.

While this outside work was going on, we had a team working inside. There was a narrow staircase that went up to the second floor. The opening above the stairs was covered by a door that laid flat on the floor of the second floor. The door was quite heavy and had to be pushed up from the stairs. It had hinges on one side of the door and leaned against a bedroom wall on the second floor when it was open. We took out the door and built two walls. One wall was a frame that would support the door that would be standing up like a regular door at the top of the stairs. This connected to the wall of a bedroom. The second wall ran along the other side of the hole at the top of the stairs and connected to the wall that would support the door. This wall was completely framed out with studs, insulation, and wall board on both sides. The door was made from the wood of the old door. The staircase was up against one wall. We attached grab bars to the wall going up the stairs. We also attached grab bars above the wall to provide additional help in climbing the stairs.

We managed to stop at the ice cream store on one day of the trip.

See the Outreach bulletin board outside of the library for pictures.

Please consider joining us on our next Adult Mission Trip to Covered Bridge Ministries at Jefferson UMC (most likely 8/17/25 to 8/22/25) or elsewhere. We usually do two 5 – 7 day trips each year. This is your chance to be the hands and feet of Jesus in carrying out his work. Join us for a time of fun and fellowship while we are carrying out God's work. I guarantee that you will have a good time and that the food will be great (don't plan to lose any weight). Don't feel that you have to have a lot of skills in order to participate. We do the best we can with the skills that the members of the team have, and there is always something that everyone can do. The trip is not just for men, if you are so inclined. More information will be available when we set the date and place for the next trip. For those who have trouble getting away, we usually plan a one day mission trip in the spring and fall. This year we have been having trouble lining up a place to go. Information will be provided as it becomes available. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact Russ Line at (614) 595-1028.



## Outreach Ministry

### April 2025 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>Ready For Reading</b> 30 Minutes any Monday - Thursday	1	2 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm	3 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm	4	5 Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon
6 Operation Sandwich*	7 Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	8	9 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm	10 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm	11	12 Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon
13 Operation Sandwich*	14 Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	15	16 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm  <b>Mat Ministry Prayer Party 1 pm – 4 pm*</b>	17 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm  <b>Friendship Dinner 5 pm – 8 pm</b>	18	19 Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon
20 Operation Sandwich*  <b>Easter Sunday</b>	21 Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	22	23 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm	24 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm  <b>Red Cross Blood Drive Noon – 6 pm</b>	25	26 Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon  <b>Gates Fourth UMC Breakfast 8:30-10* TCHH Service Day 8:30 am – 1:00 pm*</b>
27 Operation Sandwich*  <b>Bags of Blessings Sort 11:00 – 11:30 am*</b>	28 Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	29	30 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm			<b>*Family Friendly Ministries</b>

### BAGS OF BLESSINGS INFORMATION

Thank you church family for continuing to support our Bags of Blessings outreach program! We continue each month to provide vital supplies to NNEMAP Food Pantry, YWCA Family Life Center, Family Mentor Foundation, Worthington Resource Pantry, and United Methodist Children’s Services School Supplies.

On the first Sunday of the month, collection bags are hung on the bag tree racks with a list of needed items for that month’s receiving organization. You are welcome to pick up a bag anytime during the month. Any items on the provided list are welcome, feel free to purchase what you can from the list. Purchasing all items on the list is not required. We ask that bags with your donations be returned to the church on the last Sunday of the month.

Sorting of items happens on that last Sunday of the month in the Sanctuary following the 10AM service. This involves emptying the bags and packing like items into boxes for transport to the receiving organization. Help is always needed. Feel free to come to the front of the church on bag Sundays and jump in on the fun!

The donations are then transported to the organization by Dan McIntyre or Lesly Wade. And volunteers help the office staff print and stuff new lists into the bags and hang them back on the bag tree rack for the new month.

Please contact Lesly Wade at [wadefamily@columbus.rr.com](mailto:wadefamily@columbus.rr.com) with questions or ideas on how to improve this outreach program.



## Outreach Ministry

### BAGS OF BLESSINGS - APRIL

The Worthington Resource Pantry opened in 2009 and is a non-profit community-based organization. WRP offers a CHOICE food pantry and serves 8 zip codes in northern Franklin and southern Delaware counties (43016, 43035, 43065, 43081, 43085, 43229, 43235 and 43240). Each eligible household can receive three days of food & personal items twice each month. Hours are Mondays 10 am – 2 pm, Wednesdays 3 pm – 7 pm, Thursdays 3 pm – 5 pm, and Saturdays 10 am – noon. In 2024 WRP provided over 6,764,000 meals and served 631,377 neighbors! WRP sponsors educational & health programs and provides trained counselors to help families meet other basic needs. The resource center offers job and health care information and Ohio Benefit Bank referrals. See [www.worthingtonresourcepantry.org](http://www.worthingtonresourcepantry.org). We invite you to join in this important effort by donating the items listed. As always, feel free to purchase any or all of the items on the list. To get involved in this ministry, please email Aura Lee Whittaker at [awhittaker03@columbus.rr.com](mailto:awhittaker03@columbus.rr.com).

In April we are collecting items for the Bags of Blessings for the Worthington Resource Pantry. Please return the bags by Sunday, April 27th. Please drop off items for Bags of Blessings in the bins in the office. This month we are collecting: Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables or Tomatoes, Canned Beans, Canned Soups, Canned Ravioli, Chili or Stew, Peanut Butter, Cereal or Oatmeal, Boxed Rice or Packaged Side Dishes, Shampoo or Deodorant, Toothpaste or Bar Soap.

### A MESSAGE FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE

First Quarter statements will go out via email (unless otherwise requested) the first week of April. Questions to [finance@worthingtonumc.com](mailto:finance@worthingtonumc.com)

The Community Relief Fund (CRF) is used to help individuals with real and immediate financial needs. Originally called the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, the fund was renamed in 2023 to better reflect its use to help members of our community keep a roof over their heads, food in their bellies, gas and electric in their homes, as well meet other requested needs.

Currently the pastors work with individuals to understand their needs, spend time verifying the need (such as calling a landlord or utility company), and processing or requesting the payments. All payments are made directly to the party that is owed to ensure it is used for the needed purpose. Money is never given to individuals directly.

In 2024, the CRF provided over \$25,000 in assistance for 48 households. The 4 main categories for assistance for 2024:

- 20 Rental Payments
- 20 Utility Payments
- 7 Hotel Stays
- \$1000 in Kroger Gift cards purchased

In 2024, the CRF was funded by individual designated donations as well as a percentage of our Easter and Christmas offerings. Last year, 30% of the CRF income came from our holiday offerings! This Easter, we have another opportunity to share with those in need. The Leadership Board has decided 50% of the Easter offering will go to the CRF. This is a higher percentage than last year, but given the good financial standing of the church, it was decided to share a larger portion with those who are truly in need. Look for more information in the Easter letter which will go out in early April.

### CHURCH UPDATES

Please check the weekly E-blasts and Joys & Concerns for prayer requests.

Please inform the church when there are major life events such as births or deaths so that we can inform the church body.



# Easter Services

*at Worthington United Methodist Church*

**600 HIGH STREET WORTHINGTON, OH 43085**

Join us on Sunday, April 20th at 9:00am  
or 10:00am as we celebrate the discovery  
of the Resurrection!

We would like to extend a warm invitation for you to join us for each of our Holy Week Services. We would be honored to have you join us as we celebrate this meaningful week in the Christian calendar.

**April 13: Palm Sunday Services**  
**at 9:00 and 10:00am**

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week and commemorates the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

**April 17: Maundy Thursday Service**  
**at 7:00pm**

Maundy Thursday marks the day of the Last Supper and the washing of the disciples' feet. This service will feature music, communion, a brief sermon, and a cleansing ritual.

**April 18: Good Friday Service at 7:00pm**

Good Friday marks the day of the crucifixion of Jesus and his death. This service will focus on the telling of the Passion narrative through scripture, reading, and song.

**April 14-19: Praise and Prayer at 8:00am**

Each morning of Holy Week, from Monday through Saturday, we will have a brief service of prayer, silence, and scripture.

The Nursery is available on Sundays for children ages 0-3 on a first-come-basis.

If you have any questions, please contact the church office at: (614) 885-5365.

*We Would Love to See You Here!*

## APRIL 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 10:00am Naomi Circle 1:00pm Lenten Class	2 10:00am Riverside Sewing Guild 1:00pm Immunization Clinic 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:00pm CPC Budget 7:00pm Euchre	3 6:00pm Children's Music Dinner 6:00pm UWF Leadership 6:30pm Children's Choir 6:30pm Foundry Group 7:00pm Children's Bells	4	5
6 9:00am Worship 9:00am Lenten Class 10:00am Worship 11:00am Photo Directory Photos 11:15am Family Ministry Team 11:30am Jubilee Ringers 11:30am Foundry Group 11:30am Discipleship Group 6:00pm Columbus Rings 6:00pm Impact	7 10:15am Prayer Group 7:00pm Scouts Court of Honor	8 9:00am Needlepoint 10:00am Ruth Circle 1:00pm Lenten Class 5:00pm Photo Directory Photos	9 6:30pm CPC Evening Tour 7:00pm Scout Troop Parent Committee 7:00pm Chancel Choir	10 6:30pm Children's Choir 6:30pm Foundry Group 7:00pm Children's Bells	11	12
13 9:00am Worship 9:00am Lenten Class 9:30am Photo Directory Photos 10:00am Worship 11:30am Sunday Serve 11:30am Jubilee Ringers 4:00pm Easter Egg Hunt 6:00pm Columbus Rings	14 8:00am Praise & Prayer 10:15am Prayer Group 7:00pm Scouts	15 8:00am Praise & Prayer 11:00am Prayer Shawl 1:00pm Lenten Class 3:00pm Martha Circle 5:00pm Photo Directory Photos 6:00pm CPC Teacher Work Night	16 8:00am Praise & Prayer 1:00pm Mat Ministry 7:00pm Euchre 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:15pm Sojourn	17 8:00am Praise & Prayer 6:30pm Friendship Community Dinner 6:30pm Foundry Group 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service	18 8:00am Praise & Prayer 7:00pm Good Friday Service	19 8:00am Praise & Prayer 9:00am WUMC Music - Easter Dress Rehearsal
20 9:00am Worship 9:00am Lenten Class 10:00am Worship	21 Church Offices Closed	22 10:15am Prayer Group 1:00pm Lenten Class 5:00pm Photo Directory Photos 6:30pm Finance 6:30pm Trustees 7:30pm Leadership	23 1:00pm Grief Support 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:00pm Sustainability	24 12:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive 6:30pm Children's Choir 6:30pm Foundry Group 7:00pm Children's Bells	25	26
27 9:00am Worship 10:00am Worship 11:00am Photo Directory Photos 11:30am Jubilee Ringers 3:00pm OhioHealth Memorial Service 6:00pm Columbus Rings 6:00pm Impact	28 10:15am Prayer Group 7:00pm Scouts	29 5:00pm Photo Directory Photos	30 7:00pm Chancel Choir			



The Messenger  
Worthington United Methodist Church  
600 High Street, PO Box 307  
Worthington, OH 43085-0307  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Dated Material:  
Please deliver by: April 1, 2025