



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

Contact

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Worship Times

9 & 10 am

*10 am is livestreamed on WUMC YouTube channel

Office Hours

Mon-Thurs 9 am – 4pm

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The Messenger is published monthly by Worthington UMC. Submit your article at office@worthingtonumc.com



Dear Worthington Church Family,

The season of Christmas will turn into Epiphany on January 6. So if you are a fan of the song, *Twelve Days of Christmas*, you know that there's more gift giving to be done.

Several years back, I read an article that I remember every time I hear that song. It was a young man's story of the girl he was dating and how seriously she took the items on the list of gifts. That year, his true love (on Christmas morning) gave him a small, tree-like branch stuck into a cheery flower pot and adorned with little yellow balloons for pears and a dried mushroom that looked remarkably like a bird.

On the second day of Christmas, his true love gave him two Turtles, the chocolate confection, each riding atop a bar Dove soap. On the third day of Christmas, she presented him with three French hens - well, okay, a small glass hen she found at a Salvation Army thrift store, plus three eggs. He could tell they were French because each wore a tiny black felt beret. On the fourth day, while he was at work, his true love called his answering machine at home and mimicked the calls of four birds. On the fifth day of Christmas, he opened a tasteful little jewelry box and discovered his true love had gifted me with five golden-looking rings (probably washers) obtained from her brother, a factory worker.

On the sixth day of Christmas, he got a basket of six eggs big enough to have been laid by geese. On the seventh day, his true love presented him with a small, round hand mirror, its face gleaming like a lake—on it swam seven tiny, origami swans. On the eighth day, he answered the doorbell at his house and found, on the front steps, a basket containing small cartons of dairy products - 2%, half-and-half, chocolate, eggnog - eight in all. The note was signed simply "The Maids." On the ninth day, his true love gave him an aerobics video with nine buff ladies dancing.

On the tenth day of Christmas, his true love picked him up in her car and drove them to parking garage in downtown Minneapolis, where ten royally well-compensated men - members of the Minnesota Timberwolves and Utah Jazz - were about to do some serious leaping. She had purchased affordable seats for them in the high-altitude section. At halftime, he fell to one knee and proposed!!

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January 2023 Outreach Calendar

Join us as we “Make a Difference”!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Operation Sandwich*	2 Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	3	4 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm	5 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm	6 *	7 Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon
8 Operation Sandwich*	9 Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	10	11 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm	12 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm	13	14 Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon
15 Operation Sandwich*	16 Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	17	18 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm Mat Ministry Plann Party 1 – 4 pm*	19 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm Friendship Dinner 5 – 8 pm Red Cross Blood Drive 1 – 6 pm*	20	21 Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon
22 Operation Sandwich*	23 Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	24	25 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm	26 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm	27	28 Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon Gates Fourth UMC Breakfast 8:30 am -10 am*
29 Operation Sandwich* Bags of Blessings Sort 11:00–11:30*	30 Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	31		Ready For Reading 30 Minutes any Monday - Thursday	Bags of Blessings for NNEMAP Food Pantry*	*Family Friendly Ministries

Bags of Blessings for January to benefit the NNEMAP Food Pantry

The NNEMAP Food Pantry is a cooperative ministry of over 30 churches (including WUMC) distributing food and material assistance to needy residents of Columbus. Their service area primarily includes the Short North, Downtown, Weinland Park, University District and Linden zip codes (43201, 43211, 43215 and 43224), but there are currently no zip code restrictions. Established in 1969, NNEMAP has become one of the largest food pantries in Franklin County. Their clientele consists of families living in or near poverty. For 2020 they served over 1,500 families per month. The pantry is located at a former VFW hall at the corner of Essex and 11th Avenue, just a block west of I-71. Hours are Saturday 10 am – 1 pm, Thursday 3 pm – 6 pm, and other weekdays 9 am– noon. Refer to www.nnemappantry.org for more information.

We invite you to join us in helping NNEMAP’s clients by donating the food items listed below. As always, feel free to donate or purchase any or all of the items on the list. Thank you for supporting this important outreach ministry.

Bags of Blessings Needs: canned fruit; canned vegetables; canned tomatoes; canned beans; canned ravioli, chili, or stew; tuna or peanut butter; boxed pasta or boxed rice; toothpaste; shampoo; deodorant; bar soap.

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On the eleventh day of Christmas, he was still so euphoric that he didn't mind that his true love gave him an old LP of bagpipers piping. And on the twelfth day, she gathered a dozen or so of their friends in her living room to drum up a solstice storm on everything from bongos to empty oatmeal canisters.

The cost of this Christmas extravaganza was less than \$50, and no doubt it remains on of his most cherish memories.

As you make your New Year's resolutions, would you take a few moments and reflect thoughtfully about the 12 months that are before us in 2023. Our TRUE LOVE has never stopped blessing us with the gift of God's presence, year in and year out. Please consider what 12 things (large or small) you might do in 2023 that would bless God's heart in return. I'd love to hear what you came up with! After all, you are the children of God, always!

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Lou

Sunday coffee hour needs cookies

We need help with our cookie/snack supply for Sunday Coffee Hour. At this time we are comfortable with the store-bought individual packages of cookies or snacks like you see out on Sunday. But, we do welcome and appreciate donations of pre-packaged individually wrapped cookies and other snack treats!

If you have been a cookie supplier in the past or would like to help provide **pre-packaged** cookies, please drop them off in the Dixon lounge on Sunday morning, or you can drop them off during the week at church during church hours—just mark them for the coffee hour. Or, if you would rather we shop for the cookies, a donation would be appreciated. If you want to write a check, please make it out to the church and put in the memo line "Coffee Hour".

Thank you so much for your support to continue this weekly hospitality time.

SAVE THE DATE! THERE IS PLENTY OF TIME TO PLAN.

We are now accepting applications for the next Adult Mission Trip.

The dates are February 26 – March 3, 2023. We will be going to the Hinton Center (a retreat and conference center) in Hayesville, North Carolina. They also do mission trips and are associated with the United Methodist Church. At this time we do not know exactly what type of work we will be assigned. Please join us for a time of fun and fellowship while we are carrying out God's work. 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 final date to sign up for this is January 19, 2023. For more information, contact Russ Line at (614) 885-3111 or (614) 595-1028 or rjlineohio@aol.com.

Serve at Sunday Worship

Whether you worship on Sunday mornings in the sanctuary, at home through the livestream, or during the week by watching online, each worship is enhanced by the sound system, the projection screen, and the multiple video cameras. This is available to you thanks to the dedicated people of the volunteer Projection Team. And they need your help. Please consider volunteering occasionally to be a critical part of the Sunday morning worship experience.

Interested in helping but not sure you would like it? Join them in the balcony any Sunday morning and watch them work. You would be welcomed and surprised at how your ability to use your computer or operate your TV translates to service to the church. Contact Craig Kramer at EMIM@WorthingtonUMC.com or craigwkramer@gmail.com to learn more.

Worship Schedule

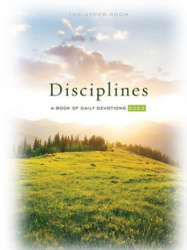
9am—Worship in Potter Chapel & Sunday School for all ages.

10am—Worship in Sanctuary, livestreamed on YouTube channel.

Childcare will be provided for both services!

2023 Disciplines Book of Daily Devotions

There is a sign-up sheet in the church office for anyone who wishes to purchase a copy of the Upper Room Disciplines 2023 book of daily devotions that is used by the Prayer/Study group on Monday mornings. The group is also welcoming new members.



Disciplines 2023 is based on the Revised Common Lectionary, a three-year cycle of Sunday scripture readings. *Disciplines* features: a focal scripture passage for each day, short daily meditations from 53 thought leaders from diverse Christian traditions, a reflection or prayer to carry with you each day, weekly scripture overviews, an index of scripture readings, and a guide to daily prayer.

The church will order books in your choice of regular or large-print, with payment due in December on receipt of your copy. The regular edition costs \$17, and the large-print edition costs \$20. Please place your order in the church office.

Martha Circle is back!

Martha Circle's mission is to offer you two hours to do something you want to do, time for you. Come join us and bring your own thing -- cross stitch, scrap booking, knitting, crocheting, sewing, embroidery, coloring, stamping, whatever you need time to work on. Want to learn something new? Come, someone in the group can probably help you. Just want some fellowship time out of the house? Come and sit and visit. We will meet the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7 pm in the Dixon Lounge. Contact Mary Scott (36.scott@gmail.com) or Karen Roderick (k28rode@yahoo.com) with any questions.

Summer Camp Dates 2023

Save the dates now for our annual summer camps!

VBS – Monday, June 12 – Friday, June 16

Work Camp – Sunday, June 25 – Friday, June 30

ReachOut – Sunday, July 9 – Saturday, July 15

Explorations – Monday, July 31 – Thursday, Aug 3

Below is a brief summary of each of these:

Vacation Bible School – VBS is offered for children ages 3 years through 3rd grade. We offer dinner for your whole family each night, followed by programming broken into small groups and stations by age! Each night, children experience lessons surrounding our theme through stations including science, crafts, games, Bible story led by our Pastors Lou and Dom, and music led by our children’s choir directors Tim Byrer and Erin Angel. Dinner begins at 5:30pm, then programming follows from 6-8pm. We always need LOTS of helpers – so please consider volunteering now. In order for VBS to be successful, it takes approximately the same amount of volunteers as we have children participating! We cannot do it without a village of servant hearts coming together to offer a safe and fun experience for our youngest members.

Work Camp – Work Camp is our annual youth mission trip, offered to students entering their freshman year of high school in Fall of 2023, to those who have graduated Spring of 2023. We travel out-of-state with our high school students to serve a local community alongside adult leaders. Our location for this year is still to be determined, but if you are interested in attending, contact Ashley for more information.

ReachOut – ReachOut is a week-long camp offered through East Ohio Camps, taking place in Lakeside, Ohio. Our youth have been attending this camp for 20 years, and have often been involved in the youth leadership that plans the camp. The week of camp is planned by a small group of juniors and seniors in high school, and they help lead the week of events. A 2-day overnight mission experience offsite is also a major component of the week. It is a great way to meet youth from other churches and to spend a week at Lake Erie for fun, mission, and fellowship.

Explorations – Explorations is our camp for 4th-6th graders. This camp occurs during the day on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of the week. We meet at the church, pack a lunch, then travel offsite to a local organization to get volunteer experience, then travel back for pick-up at the church. We meet during the day as we serve directly at local organizations. It is a great way to gain volunteer experience and to grow with others at the church.

For any questions or for more information regarding these opportunities, please contact Ashley Gerard at ashley@worthingtonumc. Looking forward to Summer 2023!

Giving in 2023

Thank you to everyone who made a financial commitment to the church in 2023. These commitments are vital to our financial planning for the year ahead. Many of you have made changes to your giving amount. If you donate through the Christian Family Credit Union, your new donation amount will automatically take effect January 1. If you have recurring giving set up through the church website (Vanco), please contact Mindy if you need help adjusting your donation amount. Recurring/regular giving is certainly helpful to the church for month-to-month income planning. If you are interested in setting up automated giving for 2023, there are a few options to choose from:

- 1) Bank draft from the Credit Union – weekly, monthly or quarterly – NO FEES
- 2) Bank draft through the church website (Vanco) – weekly, biweekly, monthly – 1% fee (donor has the option to pay the fee)
- 3) Credit card payment via the church website (Vanco) - weekly, biweekly, monthly – 2.55% fee (donor has the option to pay the fee)
- 4) Bill Pay through your own bank – frequency may vary by bank – NO FEES

Please contact Mindy for more information at finance@worthingtonumc.com or by calling the church office at 614-885-5365

Year End Statements

2022 year end giving statements will be mailed out before the end of January. Everyone will receive a paper statement to ensure these important tax documents are not lost in a spam folder or sent to an out of date e-mail address.

Housing Needed

The Akhundzada family, for whom we have been providing support since they fled Afghanistan, is searching for new housing beginning in February. There are a family of seven, with two parents and five children, ranging in age from five to fourteen. They will need housing with at least three bedrooms. If you know of long-term or temporary reasonably-priced housing in the Columbus area, please contact Pastor Dom at dominic@worthingtonumc.com

Kroger Community Rewards Program

This is an easy way to help those in need. It costs you nothing, and the money received helps fund the UMW missions for women, youth and children. All you need to do is link your Kroger shopping card with our organization through their Community Rewards Program and then Kroger will send us a donation based on the total amount you spend in their stores.

To sign up visit Kroger's website: <https://www.kroger.com/signin?redirectUrl=/account/communityrewards>

Either create a new account or log into your account, select the community rewards page and follow the instructions to select WORTHINGTON UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (JQ294) as your organization.

You DO NOT need to renew your settings each year unless you switch where you want your donations to go.

Sojourn: Virtual and In-Person Young Adult Community

Sojourn is a Bible study and small group for people in their 20s and 30s. Designed for both life-long Christians and those who are just learning about church, we strive to reflect on the Bible with creativity and support one another with care. We meet online the first Wednesday of each month and in-person the third Wednesday of each month, both at 7:00 pm. For more info and to receive the Zoom link, email Pastor Dom at dominic@worthingtonumc.com.

January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10am—Worship 6pm—Impact	2 Church office closed	3 10am—Naomi Circle 10:30am—Prayer Group 11:30am—Advent Study 7pm—Scouts Crew 7pm—Trustees 8pm—Devos	4 10am—Riverside Sewing Guild 1pm—Immunization Clinic 7pm—Sojourn 8pm—Scouts PLC meeting	5	6	7
8 9am—Worship 10am—Worship 11:15am—Open Hearts 6pm—Impact	9 10:30am—Prayer Group 6:30pm—Elizabeth Circle 7pm—CPC Board Meeting 7pm—Scouts	10 9:30am—Creative Hands Needlepoint 10am—Ruth Circle 8pm—Devos	11 10am—Riverside Sewing Guild Board 7pm—Novel Women 7:30pm—Taize Worship	12 1pm—Deborah Circle 6:30pm—Children's Choir 7pm—Children's Bells 7pm—Northland Star Partners (Zoom)	13	14 WUMC Leadership Board Retreat
15 9am—Worship 10am—Worship 6pm—Impact	16 10am—Worthington Thrift Shop Board 10:30am—Prayer Group 7pm—Scouts	17 5pm—Worthington Cotillion 7pm—Scouts Crew 8pm—Devos	18 12pm—Mat Ministry 7pm—Sojourn	19 2pm—What's the Buzz 6pm—Friendship Dinner 6:30pm—Children's Choir 7pm—Children's Bells	20	21 9am—Columbus Rings
22 9 am—Worship 10 am—Worship 6pm—Impact 6pm—Columbus Rings	23 10:30am—Prayer Group 7pm—Scouts	24 5pm—Worthington Cotillion 7pm—Martha Circle 8pm—Devos	25 7pm—Hannah Circle 7pm—Chancel Choir	26 6:30pm—Children's Choir 7pm—Northland Star Partners (Zoom) 7pm—Children's Bells	27	28
29 9am—Worship 10am—Worship 11:30am—Jubilee Ringers 5pm—WIN Movie Series 6pm—Impact 6pm—Columbus Rings	30 10:30am—Prayer Group 6:30 pm—Elizabeth Circle 7pm—Scouts	31 5pm—Worthington Cotillion 8pm—Devos				

The Messenger

Worthington United Methodist Church

600 High Street, PO Box 307

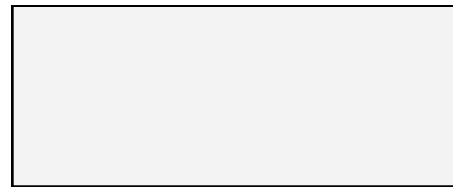
Worthington, OH 43085-0307

Volume 67, No. 1

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Dated material:

Please deliver by January 1, 2023



January 2023

January 2 - Office is closed

January 4 - Immunization Clinic

January 11 - Taize Worship

January 14 - WUMC Leadership Board Retreat

January 19 - Friendship Community Dinner