



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 TAD

### West Side Story, and Our Story

Janet and I recently attended a performance of West Side Story. It was a collaborative effort involving the Columbus Symphony Orchestra, BalletMet, CAPA, and Opera Columbus. It was a wonderful show. The story is a modern rendition of Romeo and Juliet, a story of rival people who don't seem to want to get along. This seems to be the story of humanity. I hope many of you were able to see it, or at least are familiar with the story. It was not only a great show, it was timely.

We seem to be experiencing some of the same kind of thing in our country right now. There is much fear and anger, hatred and anxiety. To some extent this has been with us for a long time. It's not just a recent phenomenon. Yet it seems to be especially pronounced now. And it's not just one group of people. Attacks, verbal and otherwise, against immigrants, members of the LGBTQ+ community, black people, Asians, homeless people, the elderly, all kinds of people have experienced assault of some kind. This problem may also involve us. We may be angry with some people, afraid of others, anxious about the future. This may have infected some of our personal relationships, including our families.

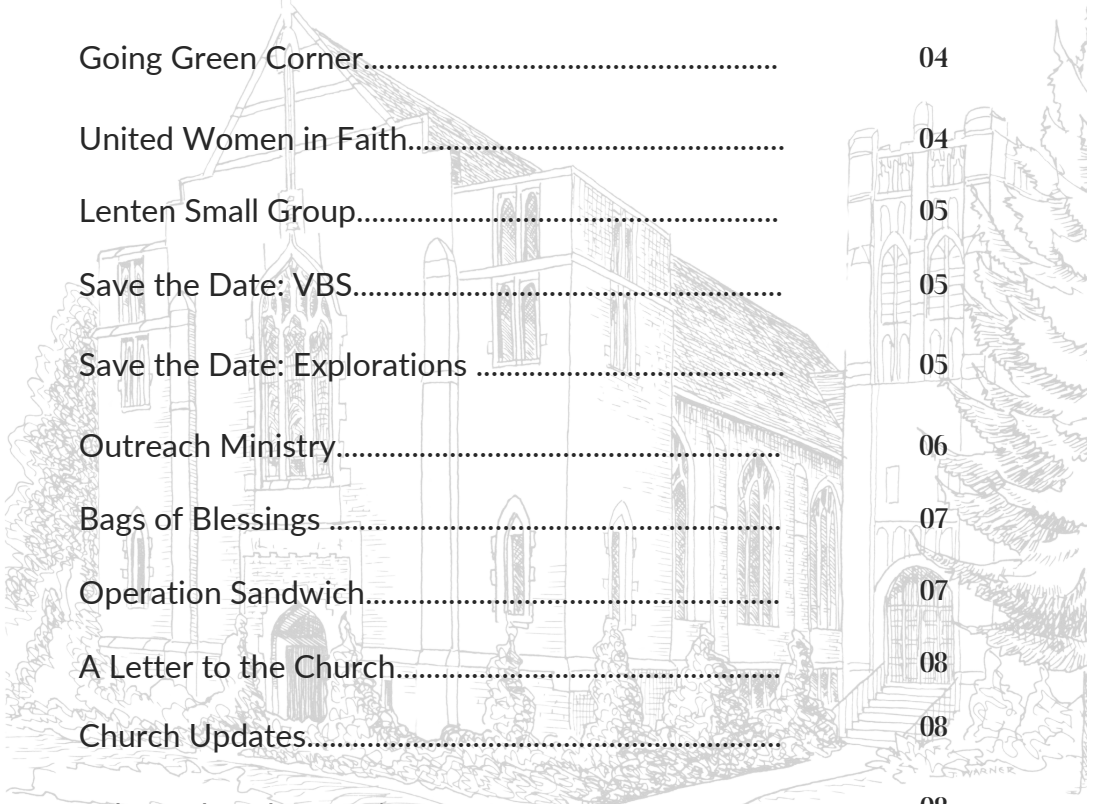
It isn't just an immigrant problem, that can be solved at the border. It isn't just an education problem, that can be solved through new school districts. It isn't just a racial problem, that can be solved with programs to try to help this group or that group. It isn't just a health care problem, that can be solved with cheaper insulin. It's all of this, and more. It's a problem with how we view other people. How do we view our neighbor, and who is our neighbor?

We've asked these questions before, but we need to ask them again. We can be the people who truly live out what we may refer to as the Golden Rule: do to others as you would have them do to you (Luke 6:31). That sounds so simple, and yet it is not easy. We can do this as we go about our daily lives. We can be preaching all the time without using words. This is a time for us to love others. And to have faith that God is with us now. God has not abandoned us. God is with us now. As we live in the reality of God's presence, may we share God's love with others. In the process we may ease the anxiety some people are living with. And we may ease our own fears, too. God bless you.

Pastor Tad

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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)

## SAVE THE DATE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUMMER CAMPS



### 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. \*Theme to be announced! The last few years we have coordinated our own VBS curriculum based off well-loved Disney movies. VBS will be Monday through Friday, June 9-13.

### 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.

Registration for both of these camps will be open in the Spring! We will also need volunteers for both camps - ways to be involved will be listed on our camp registration site.



### 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. For more information, check out ReachOut's website [reachoutcamp.com](http://reachoutcamp.com). Registration will be found through their website, opening soon. ReachOut 2025 dates are July 13 - July 19.



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

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



### GOING GREEN CORNER

The sustainability team is continuing to work together to implement our new grant and learn more about ways we can make a positive impact in our church and community. As winter (hopefully!) draws to a close, we look forward to the bounties of spring and all of our opportunities to take care of the earth.

In need of inspiration? Try:

- Planning your spring garden
- Reviewing recycling guidelines for your neighborhood
- Reflecting on one habit you can start that is kind to yourself and the environment

Interested in joining the sustainability group? Reach out to the team at [goinggreenwumc@gmail.com](mailto:goinggreenwumc@gmail.com) for more details!

### JOIN OUR NEW MEMBER CLASS

Are you interested in learning more about our church community, the United Methodist Church, and what it means to be a member? We invite you to join our upcoming New Member Class! This class will provide an opportunity to: Learn about our church's history and beliefs, discover our mission and vision, and explore ways to get involved in our ministries. The class will be held on zoom on Sunday, March 9th at 8:00pm. If you are interested in participating, please contact Pastor Dom at [dominic@worthingtonumc.com](mailto:dominic@worthingtonumc.com) to sign up and receive the Zoom link. We look forward to welcoming you!



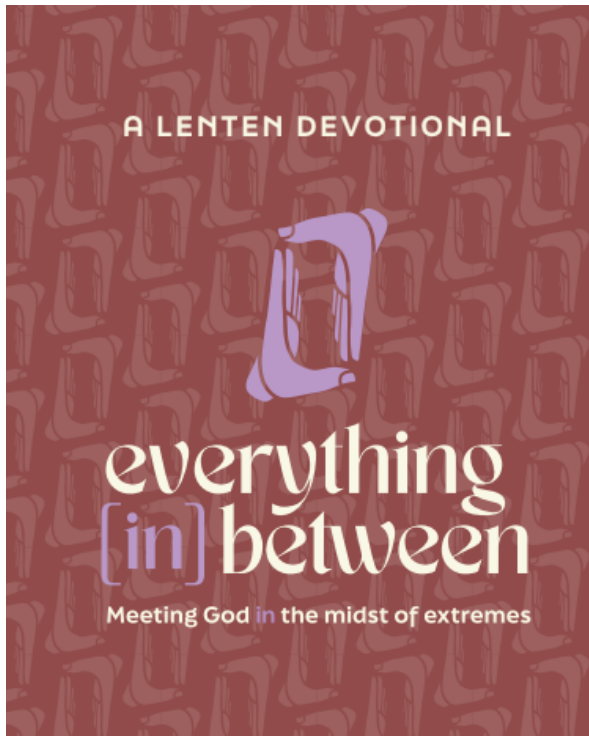
United  
Women  
in Faith

### MARCH PROGRAM DATES

#### March 2025 Homebound - Naomi Circle

- 4 Naomi Circle
- 5 Ash Wednesday - Lent begins
- 5 Riverside Sewing Guild @ 10am
- 6 Leadership Team Meeting - Dixon Lounge @ 6pm
- 9 Daylight Savings Time begins
- 10 Elizabeth Circle
- 11 Ruth Circle
- 13 Deborah Circle
- 17 Saint Patrick's Day
- 18 Martha Circle
- 20 First Day of Spring!
- 20 What's the Buzz Dixon Lounge @ 2pm

Worthington United Women in Faith circles and groups meet at different times and locations, usually on a monthly schedule. Dues are solicited, but not mandatory, to help with local and international mission giving. Special offerings are also taken. Circles take turns four times during the year to provide gifts to the homebound members of the church.



**JOIN US FOR A LENT SMALL GROUP JOURNEY THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF LUKE!**

This Lent, we invite you to explore the Gospel of Luke through material from *A Sanctified Art*, using poetry, visual art, and scripture study. We'll reflect on familiar stories like the Good Samaritan, Zacchaeus, and more—stories that speak to the divides we face today and invite us into God's inclusive love.

Our theme, "Everything In Between", will guide us as we explore the tensions between ideas like faith & works, grief & hope, and discover God in the complexities of life. Groups will begin meeting the week of March 9th and continue through the week after Easter.

The devotional will be sent in digital form and available in hardcopy at the church office for a recommended donation of \$5. To register and to check updated information on the sessions offered, please use the Google Form linked below. We'd love for you to be part of this journey!

Sign-up [here](#):



# SAVE THE DATE

# VBS

## 2025

### June 9-13

Registration will be open soon!

**Ages: 3 years (must be potty-trained) - 3rd grade**  
**Time: 5:30pm Dinner for the whole family**  
**6:00-8:00 Programming**  
**Cost: \$40 per child**

**MORE INFO:**

**Questions? Contact Ashley!**  
[ashley@worthingtonumc.com](mailto:ashley@worthingtonumc.com)

# Explorations Day Camp

## 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**

SEMINARY HILL FARM

ON THE CAMPUS OF MTSO

SUNRISE SANCTUARY  
MARTINSVILLE, OH

**WARM** WESTERVILLE AREA RESOURCE MINISTRY  
FEEDING • WORKING • TRANSFORMING

**Registration will be open soon!**

## Outreach Ministry

### March 2025 Outreach Calendar

**Join us as we “Make a Difference”!**

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

### **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 - MARCH

The YWCA Family Center is a comprehensive 24-hour emergency center for homeless families in Central Ohio. In 2023 the Center served 251 families, 1613 children and 282 meals covered by the community. The program provides services to help families gain independence such as employment assistance, case management, housing placement, and child advocacy. The center provides meaningful support for children and parents including licensed child care, tutoring, and a teen center while also offering amenities such as a computer resource room, laundry facilities, playgrounds and a community garden. The YWCA Family Center relies heavily on the community to assist with donations of supplies, meal hosts, and time to continue providing those in need with support. Through our Outreach Ministry, WUMC has provided support to the center through Second Mile giving, the Bags of Blessings collections, and hosting dinners for the families. For 2025, we are scheduled to host dinners on Sat. March 8, Sat. June 14, Sat. Sept. 6, and Sat. Nov. 8. Volunteer opportunities include cooking and serving the meal, and engaging in conversation and fellowship with the families. If you would like to get involved with this ministry, please contact Cathy Taylor at (614) 935-1238 or by email at tcathy233@gmail.com for more information. We invite you to help us provide these needed items to the families at the center. As always, feel free to purchase any or all of the items on the list.

In March we are collecting items for the Bags of Blessings for the YWCA Family Center. Please return the bags by Sunday, March 30th. Please drop off items for Bags of Blessings in the bins in the office. This month we are collecting: Aveeno Baby Wash, Baby Lotion, Desitin Cream, Baby Wipes, Pull-Ups (sizes 4T & 5T), Adult Body Wash, Bar Soap, Deodorant, Toothbrushes (adult or child), Toothpaste (adult or child).

### OPERATION SANDWICH

It was some 35 years ago when Barry Bennett first inspired members of our church to make sandwiches for the homeless. Barry delivered that first batch to the Friends of the Homeless Shelter, at 924 east Main Street, on Columbus' east side and we've been doing it ever since.

The Homeless Shelter houses men at night and feeds them during the day. These men are primarily from the central Columbus area. Due to increased homelessness, the shelter's nighttime capacity was recently expanded.

All attendees of our church are welcome to make sandwiches for Operation Sandwich whether you are a member or not. Make the sandwiches of meat & cheese or peanut butter & jelly. Individually wrap each sandwich and place them in the bags in which the bread was purchased. On Sunday, bring the sandwiches to the church for safe storage in the Fellowship Hall refrigerator. As you can see, making sandwiches for the homeless is not such a difficult task.

On the first weekday morning that is not a holiday, one of several members of our congregation delivers these sandwiches to the Friends of the Homeless Shelter. Driving duty is shared on a rotating basis. I coordinate these drivers, and we report the mission progress to the assistant pastor.

As mentioned, the numbers of homeless people are increasing, and the shelter's capacity has been increased to meet part of their needs. But these additional men also need to be fed. The shelter needs more sandwiches. And every loaf matters.

If you aren't already making sandwiches. Remember Matthew 25:40 says in part: 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me'.

Women's Circles, we thank you for making sandwiches a regular project. It really makes the difference. And Drivers: Thank you for the extra effort you put into the job this winter. It has been extra cold and in addition to the sandwiches, you have also served as a conduit to get Grace Bags containing hats, gloves, hand warmers and snacks to these homeless.

At the present time, we have enough drivers through June; but it looks like there will be some changes starting in July. So, if you've the time and inclination. Contact: Stephen Rohde at slrohde@att.net or 614-563-6847.

### A LETTER TO THE CHURCH

WUMC recently received a note from out of state regarding the Migrant family. It reads, in part:

*We so appreciate you keeping them safe, and providing them a fresh start and a new life. In these times, it is vital that we offer the love of Christ and support to those who would otherwise be turned away. Thank you for our efforts!*

We share this to let you know that WUMC is reaching people outside our walls, our city, and even our state.

### CHURCH UPDATES

Nicole and Cheyanne Cierpial welcomed Jones Winter Cierpial who was born on February 18, 10lbs 10oz. 22 inches.

Dr. James Wasserman passed on February 10, 2025.

Luann Toth passed on February 20, 2025.

Anne Foltz passed on February 25, 2025.

Mike Byers passed on January 23, 2025.

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.



# ASH WEDNESDAY 2025 MARCH 5 7:30PM

Please plan to join us on  
Wednesday, March 5th at  
7:30pm in the Potter Chapel  
for our Ash Wednesday  
Service.

*"From dust you came and  
from dust you will return."*



**CHURCH CALENDAR**

# MARCH 2025

SUN                      MON                      TUE                      WED                      THU                      FRI                      SAT

1

2 9:00am Worship 10:00am Worship 11:30am Jubilee Ringers 6:00pm Columbus Rings 6:00pm Impact	3 10:15am Prayer Group 11:30am Foundry Group 7:00pm Scouts	4 10:00am Naomi Circle 7:30pm TWHS Performance	5 10:00am Riverside Sewing Guild 1:00pm Immunization Clinic 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:00pm CPC Budget 7:00pm Euchre 7:00pm Scouts 7:30pm Ash Wednesday Service	6 6:00pm Children's Music Dinner 6:30pm Children's Choir 6:30pm Foundry Group 7:00pm Children's Bells	7 7:30pm Scouts Overnight Stay	8 9:00am Scouts merit badge workshop & Overnight Stay
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9 9:00am Worship 10:00am Worship 11:30am Jubilee Ringers 6:00pm Columbus Rings 6:00pm Impact	10 10:15am Prayer Group 7:00pm Scouts	11 9:00am Needlepoint 10:00am Ruth Circle 6:00pm CPC Evening Tour	12 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:00pm CPC Board 7:00pm Scouts Summer Camp Meeting	13 1:00pm Debra Circle 6:30pm Children's Choir 7:00pm Children's Bells	14	15
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16 9:00am Worship 10:00am Worship 11:30am Jubilee Ringers 6:00pm Columbus Rings Sunday Serve	17 10:15am Prayer Group 7:00pm Scouts	18 11:00am Prayer Shawl 3:00pm Martha Circle	19 1:00pm Mat Ministry 6:00pm CPC Art Gala Setup 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:00pm Euchre 7:15pm Sojourn	20 2:00pm What's the Buzz Book Club 6:00pm CPC Art Gala 6:30pm Friendship Community Dinner 6:30pm Children's Choir 7:00pm Children's Bells	21	22
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23 9:00am Worship 10:00am Worship 11:30am Jubilee Ringers 6:00pm Columbus Rings 6:00pm Impact	24 10:15am Prayer Group Iftar Dinner	25 6:30pm Finance 6:30pm Trustees 7:30pm Leadership	26 1:30pm Grief Support 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:00pm Sustainability	27 6:30pm Children's Choir 7:00pm Children's Bells	28	29
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30 9:00am Worship 10:00am Worship 11:30am Jubilee Ringers 6:00pm Columbus Rings Sunday Serve	31 10:15am Prayer Group 7:00pm Scouts					
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The Messenger  
Worthington United Methodist Church  
600 High Street, PO Box 307  
Worthington, OH 43085-0307  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Dated Material:  
Please deliver by: March 1, 2025