



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

#### Contact

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#### 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

#### The Acts of the Apostles

The book in the New Testament we typically refer to as simply Acts, is more formally called the Acts of the Apostles. It is considered to be the only real history book in the NT, and it highlights the development and expansion of the early church. It tells us of the adventures of Peter and Paul and Barnabas and Lydia, among others, and some of those adventures were truly exciting: angry mobs and prison and we even read of Stephen being stoned to death. The early days of this new church were pretty wild and the apostles who were spreading the gospel had to be very committed to their work. Even though God was part of this work, it wasn't easy.

The season of Easter is the time of year when the Revised Common Lectionary includes readings from Acts in place of the usual Old Testament readings. The lectionary provides readings from the Old Testament, the Psalms, the New Testament Epistles, and the Gospels for each Sunday of the year, plus other special days. During the Easter season the Gospel readings tell us of post-resurrection appearances by Jesus, as well as familiar portions of John's gospel. But after Jesus ascends, the work of spreading the Good News falls to the apostles. That's the source of the title of this book because the apostles are acting to establish the new church.

There are some people who consider this book to be unfinished. The reason for that is because the work of spreading the gospel continues to this day. We are still doing the apostolic work that was started 2,000 years ago. Each individual church that has done this work has, in a sense, added a chapter to the Book of Acts. Those of us here at Worthington UMC are part of the on-going work of expanding the church. So we, also, are writing a chapter in this book. That's exciting to me. We won't get added to the Book of Acts officially, but we're doing that work.

Beginning in May, and going through Pentecost, we will include readings from Acts in our Sunday morning worship. We will be preaching from these texts and sharing in some of the excitement that is found there. We've entitled this series, Who Are We, and we'll look for some of the qualities that are part of sharing the Good News of Jesus with the world. We're also developing a study series that will look at passages from Acts that we are not including in our Sunday morning series. We hope that you will be able to participate in both aspects of our study of the Book of Acts.

The season of Lent helped prepare us for the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus. The season of Easter helps prepare us for the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, but more importantly, it is a celebration of resurrection and new life. The energy we feel from this and the work of the apostles allows us to continue the work we read about in Acts. I hope you are able to keep running on Easter as we move through this season and find new inspiration from the Acts of the Apostles. God bless you.

Pastor Tad

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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)

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[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

## MAY PROGRAM DATES

6 Leadership Team Meeting - Dixon Lounge @ 6pm  
6 Naomi Circle  
7 Riverside Sewing Guild @ 10am  
8 Deborah Circle  
11 Mother's Day  
12 Elizabeth Circle  
13 Ruth Circle  
15 What's the Buzz - Dixon Lounge @ 2pm  
20 Martha Circle  
26 Memorial Day



## GOING GREEN CORNER

Spring is in the air, and the Sustainability Group is looking forward to a new season of being good stewards to the Earth! Recently the team has continued dishwashing, recycling and composting efforts for events like the Easter egg hunt and potluck. We are on the lookout for more accessible dishes that can be used for VBS.

A new season means new produce to try! Cherries, berries, and blackberries are all in season now in Ohio. For the full list, check out [ofbf.org](http://ofbf.org).

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

## Summer Outdoor Worship Services Begin June 1

We're excited to announce that our beloved outdoor worship services will resume on Sunday, June 1st and continue through August 31st. Join us on the church's front lawn every Sunday at 9:00am.

### Important Details:

- The church will provide metal folding chairs, but you are also welcome to bring your own
- This year, only a handful of chairs will be arranged before the service, and we ask those who are able to help with setup. Consider arriving a few minutes early if you'd like to help in this way
- Services will feature hymn singing, prayer, and a sermon. Communion will be celebrated on the first Sunday of each month
- Bubbles and chalk will be provided for children
- If the weather does not permit outdoor worship, we will gather in Potter Chapel

These simple yet meaningful services offer a wonderful opportunity to worship together in the beauty of creation. We look forward to seeing you there!



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.



# 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**



# WE ARE BUILT TO LOVE!

# WORTHINGTON UMC

# VBS 2025

## JUNE 9-13

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

AGES: 3 YEARS (MUST BE POTTY TRAINED) - 3RD GRADE  
TIME: 8:30PM DINNER FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY  
6:00PM-8:00PM PROGRAMMING  
COST: \$40 PER CHILD

REGISTER NOW >



### Join Us for "The Acts of the Apostles" Study Series!

Delve deeper into Acts this spring and summer! The Book of Acts chronicles the exciting development of the early church through the adventures of Peter, Paul, Barnabas, Lydia, and others who faced angry mobs, imprisonment, and even martyrdom in their commitment to spreading the Gospel.

During our current Easter season, when readings from Acts replace Old Testament readings in the Revised Common Lectionary, we invite you to dig deeper into this fascinating book. As Pastor Tad reminds us in his Messenger letter this month, the Book of Acts is considered "unfinished" because the apostolic work of spreading the Good News continues today—and we at Worthington UMC are writing our own chapter in this ongoing story!

Two Convenient Study Options:

Afternoon Sessions with Pastor Tad

- Tuesdays at 1:00 PM
- Dixon Lounge
- May 13 - June 17

Register here



Evening Sessions with Pastor Dom

- Mondays at 7:00 PM
- Location TBD (in Old Worthington)
- June 23 - July 28

This study complements our "Who Are We" Sunday worship series, exploring additional passages from Acts not covered in our regular services. Both studies will cover the same material. Don't miss this opportunity to experience the energy and inspiration of the early church as we continue the work that began 2,000 years ago!

### Communion Walks Highbanks Metro Park Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00am

This summer, celebrate communion outside at different locations around northern Columbus. On Saturday, June 21, we'll gather at Highbanks Metro Park and celebrate communion at the overlook platform. We'll begin with a brief prayer at the Overlook Trailhead at 9:00 am, walk together to the platform, and then take communion together. Below is a map of where we'll gather at 9:00 am. Registration is not required, but if you'd like to receive an email if we cancel this and future walks for weather, please put your information in this [form](#) or use the QR code below. This will be a moderately challenging hike. Please contact Pastor Dom ([dominic@worthingtonumc.com](mailto:dominic@worthingtonumc.com)) for more information or if you'd like to help set the communion table for the June hike.

Mark your calendar for all our walks this summer! More information will be available in The Messenger the month of each walk.

- Saturday, June 21 at 9:00 am – Highbanks Metro Park. Moderate difficulty walk.
- Monday, July 14 at 7:00 pm – Antrim Lake Park. Low difficulty walk.
- Saturday, August 16 at 9:00 am – Sharon Woods Park. Moderate difficulty walk. Wheelchair and stroller accessible with assistance.

Save the date for our Autumn Walk, too!

- Saturday, October 18 at 9:00 am – Highbanks Metro Park. Moderate difficulty walk.



## A MESSAGE FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE

### QUARTERLY OPERATING FUND FINANCIAL REPORT

We have had a very strong start to 2025 with our Operating Fund income exceeding our expenses by \$31,472. Thank you for your continued generous support! Each and every contribution makes a difference in the life of this church and our surrounding community. Hallelujah!

<b>Operating Fund</b>	<b>2025 Q1</b>
<b>Income</b>	\$ 250,285
<b>Expenses</b>	\$ 218,813
<b>Surplus (deficit)</b>	\$ 31,472

Did you know...?

When you tithe to our church, you are supporting our children and youth programming. Here are some of the ways that your offerings are used to pave pathways for our children and youth to grow in their discipleship, serve our community, and develop meaningful relationships with each other.

- Sunday School curriculum
- Arts and crafts supplies for Sunday School and Children's Church
- Wipes, diapers, toys and needs for our nursery
- Youth group events and weekly Sunday night programming
- Monthly middle/high school "Sunday Serve" service project supplies and costs
- Bibles for children and youth at age-appropriate levels
- Confirmation class curriculum and meals
- Children's choir and bells music and leadership
- Monthly family dinners for children's music rehearsals
- Resources and meals for VBS and Explorations
- Family Ministry Team events like Trunk-or-Treat, the Easter Egg Hunt, Family Game Night, and Spring Fling
- Newborn baby care packages for families

Your financial contributions through tithing and participation in the M&M fundraiser allow us to provide these ministries and many more for developing our next generation of leaders! So far this year the M&M fundraiser has raised \$1800! WOW! What a tremendously generous congregation you are!

Without your support, we could not continue to meet the needs of our growing number of children and youth. Beyond financial resources, volunteers are critical to make children's programs happen. If you are interested in learning more about how to give of your time to our children and youth, please contact Ashley Gerard at [ashley@worthingtonumc.com](mailto:ashley@worthingtonumc.com).





### Mat Ministry

Mat Ministry turned 14 years old this April. Last year, in 2024, we made 57 mats and sent them to Open Shelter.

Would you like to learn how to cut and fold bags? Join us at our monthly plarn party. We meet on the third Wednesday of each month from 1:00-4:00pm to process the plastic bags into plarn (plastic yarn). The plarn is crocheted into a mat 3 feet by 6 feet. Completed mats are taken to Open Shelter.

Open Shelter is a day service. They help homeless and marginally housed men and women obtain State IDs, driver licenses, and birth certificates. They provide mailing addresses and supportive services like payeeships and linkage to healthcare. They also provide clothing, food, and hygiene items.

Mat Ministry is a great way to help our environment by recycling bags and help those that need assistance. Come to our next plarn party on May 21st!



### CHO Stitch Retreat

Join the Creative Hands of Ohio Chapter for the American Needlepoint Guild for a two-day stitching retreat this May.

The Creative Hands of Ohio Chapter of the American Needlepoint Guild is inviting all stitchers in the church to join us at our No Frills Retreat, May 23 - 24, 9 am to 4 pm in the Dixon Lounge. Come, bring your project, and join us for a time of fun and fellowship as you stitch. Come for half a day, all day and or both days. We will have coffee and tea available. Bring a lunch if you are staying all day.

Questions or to register (it's free but need to know who is coming so I can let you in because the church is closed) contact Mary Scott, 614-787-3123 or 36.scott@gmail.com



*Music Sunday*  
**Sunday, May 18th**  
**9:00am OR 10:00am**

Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> we will have our worship service at 10:00am in the Sanctuary. This worship service will highlight the gifts of of our many skilled musicians we have here at the church.

We will also have our 9:00am service in Potter Chapel, but it will be more musical. Please join us at either service on May 18<sup>th</sup> and celebrate our gifted musicians.

## Outreach Ministry

### May 2025 Outreach Calendar

Join us as we “Make a Difference”!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Bags of Blessings</b> for Gates Fourth UMC	<b>Ready For Reading Last Day May 9</b> 30 Minutes any Monday - Friday	<b>*Family Friendly Ministries</b>		1 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm	2	3 Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon
4 Operation Sandwich*	5 Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	6	7 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm	8 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm	9	10 Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon
11 Operation Sandwich*	12 Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	13	14 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm	15 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm  <b>Friendship Dinner 5 pm – 8 pm</b>	16	17 Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon
18 Operation Sandwich*	19 Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	20	21 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm  <b>Mat Ministry Prarr Party 1 pm – 4 pm*</b>	22 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm	23	24
25 Operation Sandwich*  <b>Bags of Blessings Sort 11:00 – 11:30 am*</b>	26 <b>Memorial Day Holiday</b>	27	28	29	30	31

### 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 - MAY

Gates Fourth United Methodist Church is a medium-sized church located in Columbus. They welcome honor, and affirm persons of every race, gender, age, sexual orientation, nationality, ethnicity, family status, economic status, physical, mental or emotional ability into full and equal participation, membership, and lay leadership in the community of faith.

Their building is used to host a variety of community events and gatherings including AA, Al-Anon and NA; as well as a free breakfast to the entire community on the 4th and 5th Saturdays of every month.

Some breakfast guests are homeless, some are veterans and some are well off. Each guest is welcomed and provided a name tag so that others might begin to learn each other's names and more about them. Volunteers visit at the table, giving guests a chance to share their story or how the week is going. The meal is typically toast, eggs, sausage, sausage gravy, hash browns, pancakes, fruit, protein bars, juice, milk and coffee. All guests are welcome to eat their fill, using glass plates and real silverware, and to go back to the serving table as much as they require. We invite you to join us in this ministry by donating the items listed so guests can choose from these during the breakfast. FAs 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 May we are collecting items for the Bags of Blessings for Gates Fourth. Please return the bags by Sunday, May 25th. Please drop off items for Bags of Blessings in the bins in the office. This month we are collecting: Cereal (small boxes), Peanuts or Trail Mix, Tuna (with pop-tabs), Ensure or similar small drinks, Laundry Detergent, Dishwashing Detergent, Kleenex (small packs), Lip Balm, Toothpaste & Toothbrushes, Bath Soap, Shampoo, and Socks.

### CHURCH UPDATES

Mila Jane was born April 6<sup>th</sup> to Emily and Lauren Campbell.

Evan Matthew Schuster was born April 18<sup>th</sup> to Matthew and Whitney Schuster.

Mary Ann Stoerkel died March 21, 2025. Her service was held in Potter Chapel on April 26, 2025.

Steve Potter died March 29, 2025. His service was held in Potter Chapel on April 26, 2025.

Ron Sykes died on April 11, 2025. His service was held in the Sanctuary on April 25, 2025.

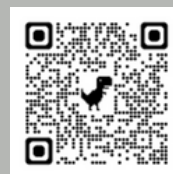
Please check the weekly E-blasts and Joys & Concerns for prayer requests.

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

### 2025 WEST OHIO ANNUAL CONFERENCE VOLUNTEERS

The 2025 West Ohio Annual Conference session is approaching, and we need your help to make it a success! We are seeking volunteers to assist with various roles during the conference, which will be held from May 28 to May 31, 2025, at Capital University in Bexley, Ohio.

This is a wonderful opportunity to serve and connect with fellow members of our United Methodist community. To sign up for a volunteer slot, please visit our SignUpGenius using the QR Code. Your participation is vital to the conference's success, and we greatly appreciate your willingness to serve.





## MAY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 5:00pm CPC Teddy Bear Conferences 6:30pm Foundry Group	2 1:00pm Scouts 7:30pm WCO Rehearsal	3 10:00am WCO Rehearsal 2:00pm WCO Rehearsal
4 9:00am Worship 10:00am Worship 11:30am Jubilee Ringers 11:30am Foundry Group 1:00pm WCO Rehearsal 5:00pm WCO Concert 6:00pm Columbus Rings 6:00pm Impact	5 10:00am TWHS Rehearsal 10:15am Prayer Group 5:00pm Election setup 6:00pm Endowment	6 Election 10:00am Naomi Circle 3:30pm CPC Sprouts Conferences 6:00pm UWF Leadership 7:30pm TWHS Concert	7 10:00am Riverside Sewing Guild 1:00pm Immunization Clinic 3:30pm CPC Sprouts Conferences 4:00pm CPC Bunnies Appreciation Dinner 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:15pm Sojourn	8 1:00pm Deborah Circle 4:00pm CPC Bunnies Conferences 5:00pm Photo Directory Photos 6:00pm CPC Teacher 6:30pm Children's Choir 6:30pm Foundry Group 7:00pm Children's Bells	9	10 10:00am WCO Rehearsal 2:00pm WCO Rehearsal
11 9:00am Worship 10:00am Worship 11:30am Jubilee Ringers 6:00pm Columbus Rings	12 10:15am Prayer Group 4:00pm CPC Duckling Conferences 7:00pm Scouts	13 9:00am Needlepoint 10:00am Ruth Circle 1:00pm Acts Study 4:00pm CPC Duckling Conferences 4:00pm CPC Bunnies Conferences 5:00pm Photo Directory Photos 7:30pm TWHS Concert	14 12:00pm CPC Bunnies Tea Party 4:00pm CPC Duckling Conferences 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm Taize	15 2:00pm What's the Buzz Book Club 6:30pm Friendship Community Dinner 6:30pm Foundry Group 6:30pm Children's Choir 7:00pm Children's Bells	16 7:00pm TWHS Baccalaurette	17
18 9:00am Worship 10:00am Worship 11:30am Jubilee Ringers 4:00pm Spring Fling 6:00pm Columbus Rings 6:00pm Impact	19 10:15am Prayer Group 4:00pm CPC Bunnies Conferences 7:00pm Scouts	20 11:00am Prayer Shawl 1:00pm Acts Study 3:00pm Martha Circle	21 1:00pm Mat Ministry 7:00pm Euchre 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:00pm CPO Board 7:15pm Sojourn	22 6:30pm Foundry Group 6:30pm Children's Music Party	23 9:00am Needlepoint Retreat	24 9:00am Needlepoint Retreat
25 9:00am Worship 10:00am Worship 11:30am Jubilee Ringers	26 CPC Closed Church Offices Closed	27 10:15am Prayer Group 1:00pm Acts Study 6:00pm CPC Staff	28 1:00pm Grief Support 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:00pm Sustainability	29 6:30pm Foundry Group 7:30pm WCO Rehearsal	30 4:30pm CPC Retirement Party 7:00pm WCO Rehearsal	31

The Messenger  
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Dated Material:  
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