

February 2024 Vol. 68 No. 2

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

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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 by the  
15th of the previous  
month at  
office@worthingtonumc.com

Dear Worthington Church Family,

Rev. Sarah Speed, Founding Creative Partner of *A Sanctified Art*, had this to say about our upcoming Lenten Study:

"If you picked up a novel and read the chapters out of order, most would shriek in shock and confusion! However, that is exactly how I was taught the story of Peter over the years: scattered like sprinkles on a cake. I learned Peter's stories out of order and over time.

Peter became nothing more than a background character in a vacation bible school skit. Last year, however, something about Peter's story began to tug on me. I began studying the hopeful human in earnest: for the first time, I found myself deeply connect to this complicated and eager disciple of Christ. In Peter's passion, I saw my own conviction. In Peter's walking, sinking, and question asking, I saw my own learning. And in Peter's wandering, I saw my own growing pains in faith. So this Lent, I am thrilled to slip into Peter's shoes and walk the road that he walked. This story is our story. Come and wander, come learn, come discover with us."



This beautiful study is called, *Wandering Heart*, and follows the journey of Peter. Each week shares another perspective found in the hymn, "Come Thou Fount." Ash Wednesday begins with the phrase "Tune my heart." Our worship will carry this theme all the way to Easter, and we could not be more excited to share it with you.

Dom and I sincerely hope and pray that you will avail yourself of this powerful Lenten experience. Please watch for the numerous opportunities this study will be offered. Invite a friend to join you as a discussion partner. This Lenten season promises to be transformational. Please join us.

Blessings and peace,

*Pastor Lou*

## February 2024 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>			<sup>1</sup> Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>3</sup> Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon
<sup>4</sup> Operation Sandwich*	<sup>5</sup> Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	<sup>6</sup>	<sup>7</sup> Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm	<sup>8</sup> Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm	<sup>9</sup>	<sup>10</sup> Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon
<sup>11</sup> Operation Sandwich*	<sup>12</sup> Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	<sup>13</sup>	<sup>14</sup> Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm	<sup>15</sup> Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm  <b>Friendship Dinner 5 pm – 8 pm</b>	<sup>16</sup>	<sup>17</sup> Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon
<sup>18</sup> Operation Sandwich*	<sup>19</sup> Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	<sup>20</sup>	<sup>21</sup> Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm  <b>Mat Ministry Prayer Party 1 pm – 4 pm*</b>	<sup>22</sup> Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm	<sup>23</sup>	<sup>24</sup> Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon  <b>GF UMC Breakfast 8:30 am - 10 am*</b>  <b>YWCA Family Dinner 5 – 9 pm*</b>
<sup>25</sup> Operation Sandwich*  <b>Bags of Blessings Sort 11:00 – 11:30 am*</b>	<sup>26</sup> Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	<sup>27</sup>	<sup>28</sup> Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm	<sup>29</sup> Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm	<b>Ready For Reading</b>  30 Minutes any Monday - Thursday	
<b>NC Mission Trip</b>	<b>NC Mission Trip</b>	<b>NC Mission Trip</b>	<b>NC Mission Trip</b>	<b>NC Mission Trip</b>		

### 2024 Snow Emergency Policy

Our church snow emergency policy is based on the declaration of the state's defined emergency levels.



In the case of a Level 2 or 3 Weather Emergency, our policy is to cancel all in-person and streaming services. Instead, the pastoral staff will upload pastoral video messages on the church YouTube channel.

The church will attempt to notify all local media outlets about in-person Sunday service closures, and we will also post closing notices on Facebook and our YouTube channel.

### Sunday Worship Schedule

**9am—Early Worship**  
**10am—Worship in Sanctuary,**  
**livestreamed on YouTube channel**  
**11-11:30am—Hospitality**

## February Bags of Blessings to benefit The YWCA Family Center

The YWCA Family Center is a comprehensive 24-hour emergency center for unhoused families in Central Ohio. In 2021, the Center served over 900 individuals and 50,000 meals, and the average length of stay was 56 days. 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 2024, we are scheduled to host dinners on Sat. Feb. 24, Sun. June 2, Sat. Aug 10, and Sun. Sept. 22. 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](mailto:tcathy233@gmail.com). 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.

<b>Aveeno baby wash</b>	<b>Pull-Ups (sizes 4T &amp; 5T)</b>	<b>Toothbrushes (adult or child)</b>
<b>Baby lotion</b>	<b>Adult body wash</b>	<b>Toothpaste (adult or child)</b>
<b>Desitin cream</b>	<b>Bar soap</b>	<b>Deodorant</b>
<b>Baby wipes</b>		

*Please return all items to the church by Sunday, February 25. Thank you!*

## Newborn Family Care Packages

We are looking for donations of items to support our church families as they welcome new babies into their families! We would love to have care packages that show our support as each family transitions into a new chapter of their lives with newborns in their household. Would you consider bringing in any of the following items to the church office? Items we are looking for:

- Diaper packages (size 1)**
- Wipes (single or multi-packs)**
- Sleepsack Swaddle Blankets (3-6 months)**
- \$25 Gift Cards to help cover a meal (Panera, Pizza Restaurants, etc)**

Thank you for helping us offer this gift to our church families! If you have any questions, please contact Ashley at [ashley@worthingtonumc.com](mailto:ashley@worthingtonumc.com)

**Worthington Chamber Orchestra**  
**Concert, February 4 at 5pm**

*American Stories of Hope* highlights themes surrounding the African American experience and the enduring power of hope that all Americans rely on when overcoming oppression and challenges.

Underrepresented in the classical music canon, Black composers often articulate themes of struggle, hope, triumph over racism, and the fight for civil rights.

Florence Price, William Dawson, and William Grant Still wrote symphonies during the 1930s that wove African

American musical styles and culture into the symphonic form. At the center of those monumental symphonies was an underlying theme of hope. Worthington's historical connection to the African American experience and openness to Blacks in the 1800s is a source of inspiration for this program. Despite Ohio's Black Laws discouraging Black people from settling in the early 1800s, Worthington still embraced Blacks in its community.

Program:

Jessie Montgomery: Soul Force

Mark Lomax II: Freedom's Train (world premiere)

William Grant Still: Darker America

Aaron Copland: Appalachian Spring Suite

Antoine T. Clark, conductor

Ucelli: The Columbus Cello Quartet

Mark Lomax II, composer

Cynthia Lockhart, fiber artist



**2023-2024 Season**  
**Masterworks Series:**  
***Woven Stories***

**American Stories of Hope**



Tickets available at  
**worthingtonchamberorchestra.com**  
or at the QR code here.

Ticket discounts are  
available for WUMC  
members.



**JOIN THE**  
**WORTHINGTON UNITED METHODIST**  
**CHURCH CHOIRS**

**Children**

Bells  
3rd – 6th  
grade

Thursdays  
7-7:30 pm

Choir  
Ages 3-Grade 6

Thursdays  
6:30-7 pm

**Adult**

Jubilee  
Ringers

Sundays  
11:30 am-  
12:30 pm

Chancel Choir

Wednesdays  
7-8 pm

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Looking for a welcoming musical community to sing, ring, meet new people, and grow your faith with others? Look no further!

Join the WUMC music programs.

We can't wait to meet you!

Click the link to inquire. <https://forms.glesu9JdUzEkx6Er7RG6>



## Lent Faith Cultivation Opportunities

This Lent, we are happy to collaborate with “A Sanctified Art” in our preaching, liturgy, and small group discussions. Our theme will be *Wandering Heart*, and will explore Jesus’s ministry, death, and resurrection through the eyes of Peter and in connection with the beloved hymn “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing.” Using scripture, visual art, poetry, music, journaling, and scholarly commentary, we will find company in Peter as we reflect on our faith journeys and look toward the hope of Easter. Here is what the creators of *Wandering Heart* have to say:



“This Lent, we are focusing on the life and faith of one of Jesus’ most famous disciples. In Peter, we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer. In Peter, we often see ourselves. By following Peter’s journey, we watch the story of Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal human trying to figure it all out—just like us.”

We hope that you will join us in worship and in a small group this Lent and Eastertide. You can sign up and see an updated list of available small group locations, times, and hosts at [this link](#) or using the QR code above. Registration will open February 5, and small group offerings may be added until February 14. A digital version of the devotional is included alongside this *Messenger* and physical copies, including large print versions, are available in the office for a recommended \$5 donation.

### ProMusica Concert Saturday, February 24, 7pm Worthington UMC Sanctuary

Experience the virtuosity of our own musicians and Creative Partner and violinist Vadim Gluzman in a program that blends baroque brilliance and romantic serenity. Bach’s vibrant *Double Concerto for Oboe and Violin* is paired with his dynamic *Brandenburg Concerto No. 5*. Ukrainian composer Valentin Silvestrov’s *Silent Music* offers musical introspection, and we conclude with Mendelssohn’s magnificent *Sinfonia No. 10*, which he completed at age 14.

BACH – Double Concerto for Oboe and Violin  
SILVESTROV – *Silent Music*  
BACH – Brandenburg Concerto No. 5  
MENDELSSOHN – Sinfonia No. 10

For more information or to buy tickets, please visit:

<https://promusicacolumbus.org/event/neighborhood-series-bach-friends-2024/>

### Lenten & Easter Worship Services

Ash Wednesday  
Wednesday, February 14, 7:30pm  
Potter Chapel

Palm/Passion Sunday  
Sunday, March 24  
9am, Potter Chapel  
10am, Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday  
Thursday, March 28, 7pm  
Potter Chapel

Good Friday  
Friday, March 29  
12pm, Community Service meets on  
the Village Green  
7pm, Sanctuary

Easter Sunday  
Sunday, March 31  
9am, Potter Chapel  
10am, Sanctuary

### **Loved Ones Serving in the Military**

The church would like recognize and honor those who are serving in the military by updating the Military Service bulletin board in the church lobby. The last new name was added over 10 years ago! Some of the names on the board may no longer be serving in the military. Please help us keep current by sending us the name of your relative who is currently serving in the military. Please include their branch of service and their relationship to you. If you have a digital picture of your military relative in uniform, we can also add that to the bulletin board.

### **Outreach Mission: Operation Sandwich**

It was some 30 to 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 shelter houses homeless men at night and feeds them during the day. The men are primarily from the central Columbus area. In addition to WUMC, the Friends of the Homeless Shelter receives donations from several other churches, as well as restaurants in the greater Columbus area.

The members of WUMC who make sandwiches to help feed these homeless men do it as one of our outreach missions. They individually wrap the sandwiches and place them in the bags in which the bread came. On Sunday, these bagged sandwiches are brought to the church to be stored in the Fellowship Hall refrigerator.

On Monday morning, these bags of sandwiches are delivered to the Friends of the Homeless Shelter. Several drivers share the duty, and the mission coordinator reports progress to Dom.

Homelessness is increasing, and the shelter's capacity has been increased to meet part of their needs. But these additional homeless men also need to be fed. The shelter needs more sandwiches. And every loaf matters, especially in winter.

So, if you aren't making sandwiches already, please give it a try. If you are already making them, thank you; please consider increasing the quantity or frequency. And groups, could you make sandwiches a regular project? Together we can all make a huge difference.

Lastly, the drivers. One of our drivers recently stepped down after two decades of service. We need another driver to drive once a month. If you've the time and inclination, please call for details and if anyone has questions about anything, I can be reached at: Stephen Rohde – [slrohde@att.net](mailto:slrohde@att.net) or 614-563-6847

Why get involved? Folks give lots of reasons. My favorite is a quote of Jesus from **Matthew 25:40**: **"As you did for one of the least of these, you did for me"**.

### **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 UWIF 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.

# February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> 6pm—Children's Music Dinner 6:30pm—Children's Choir 7pm—Children's Bells	<b>2</b> ReachOut Winter Retreat	<b>3</b> ReachOut Winter Retreat
<b>4</b> ReachOut Winter Retreat 9 am—Worship 9am—REC class 10am—Worship 11:30am—Jubilee Ringers 5pm—WCO Concert 6pm—Columbus Rings	<b>5</b> 10:30am—Prayer Group 6pm—Endowment Committee 7pm—Scouts 7pm—BSA Parent Orientation	<b>6</b> 10am—Naomi Circle 5pm—Worthington Cotillion	<b>7</b> 10am—Riverside Sewing Board 1pm—Immunization Clinic 7pm—Chancel Choir 7pm—Sojourn (Zoom) 7pm—Euchre 7:30pm—Scouts PLC	<b>8</b> 1pm—Deborah Circle 6:30pm—Children's Choir 7pm—Children's Bells	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> Scout Sunday 9 am—Worship 9am—REC class 10am—Worship 11:30am—Jubilee Ringers 6pm—Columbus Rings	<b>12</b> 10:30am—Prayer Group 6:30pm—Elizabeth Circle Health Panel 7pm—Scouts	<b>13</b> 9am—Needlepoint 10am—Ruth Circle	<b>14</b> Ash Wednesday 7:30pm—Ash Wednesday Service	<b>15</b> 6pm—Liberty Bells 4H 6pm—Friendship Dinner 6:30pm—Children's Choir 7pm—Children's Bells	<b>16</b> 10am—Prayer Shawl Ministry	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 9 am—Worship 9am—Lent Study 10am—Worship 11:30am—Jubilee Ringers 6pm—Impact 6pm—Columbus Rings	<b>19</b> 10:30am—Prayer Group 7pm—Scouts	<b>20</b> 7pm—Martha Circle	<b>21</b> 1pm—Mat Ministry 7pm—Sojourn 7pm—Chancel Choir	<b>22</b> 6:30pm—Children's Choir 7pm—Children's Bells	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 7pm—ProMusica Concert
<b>25</b> 9 am—Worship 9am—Lent Study 10am—Worship 11:30am—Jubilee Ringers 6pm—Impact 6pm—Columbus Rings	<b>26</b> 10:30am—Prayer Group 7pm—Scouts	<b>27</b> 6:30pm—Finance Committee 6:30pm—Board of Trustees 7:30pm—Leadership Board	<b>28</b> 7pm—Chancel Choir	<b>29</b> 6:30pm—Children's Choir 7pm—Children's Bells		

*The Messenger*

Worthington United Methodist Church

600 High Street, PO Box 307

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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

Dated material:

Please deliver by February 1, 2024



## **February 2024**

**February 2-4 - ReachOut Winter Retreat**

**February 4 - Worthington Chamber Orchestra Concert**

**February 7 - Immunization Clinic**

**February 11 - Scout Sunday**

**February 14 - Ash Wednesday**

**February 15 - Friendship Community Dinner**

**February 24 - ProMusica Concert**