

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

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

In this Issue

Outreach	2
Donation Collections	2
Agape Meal	3
All Saints Day	3
Q3 Financial Update	3
Bishop's Day of Prayer	4
WUWIF Cheeseballs	4
Discipleship Fair	5
Advent Small Groups	5
Carpenter's HH Service	5
We are Hiring!	6
Legacy Giving	6
Calendar	7

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,

We See You: Care, Support, and Uplift! Our theme for stewardship this year illustrated all the ways this wonderful congregation “gets” the Gospel! You are Christ-Centered, Engaged in Community, Sharing God’s Love. It’s one of the things I love most about you. You get it! Your commitment to Christ and to the spread of the Gospel goes the extra mile. And I could not be more grateful to witness the love of Christ within you.



The Stewardship Team sees the heart, the passion, and the commitment you pour into making a difference. Thank you. Know that your generosity does more than support our overall mission; you are transforming lives.

Because of your generosity, our church family is growing, people are finding hope; and, our positive impact on the community is getting stronger. From creating the Everyday Grace Bags, writing notes to our online friends, sorting diapers for the resource pantry, or tithing our Smith Grant Funds to a larger mission - each moment of support and every gift is felt, appreciated and seen.

The Finance Committee waits to receive all pledges in early November before setting the budget in early December. Being good stewards of your generosity is very important part of fiscal responsibility. If you are unable to turn in your pledge on or before Commitment, Sunday, October 27, please send it in by mail, register online or drop it in the offering plate, it would be deeply appreciated.

Thank you for your faithfulness.

Pastor Lou



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Advent Giving Personal Items for Worthington Food Pantry*	Advent Giving* Socks & Mittens Drawer*	Advent Giving* Angel Tree for Worthington Schools*	*Family Friendly Ministries	Ready For Reading 30 Minutes any Monday - Thursday	1	2 Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon
3 Operation Sandwich*	4 Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	5	6 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm	7 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm	8	9 Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon Helping Hands Service Day 8 am – 1 pm
10 Operation Sandwich*	11 Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	12	13 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm	14 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm	15	16 Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon
17 Operation Sandwich*	18 Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	19	20 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm Mat Ministry Plann Party 1 pm – 4 pm*	21 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 5 pm Friendship Dinner 5 pm – 8 pm	22	23 Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon Gates Fourth UMC Breakfast 8:30-10*
24 Operation Sandwich*	25 Worthington Pantry 10 am – 2 pm	26	27 Worthington Pantry 3 pm – 7 pm	28 Thanksgiving Holiday	29	30 Worthington Pantry 10 am – noon

Collections for Worthington Resource Pantry

This holiday season, we will once again be collecting full-size personal hygiene items for the Worthington Resource Pantry. Beginning in early November, we will have a table set up on Sunday mornings where you can pick up a bag and a list of the most needed items. The individual items will be used to stock the shelves at the Resource Pantry, so any or all of the items on the list can be donated. Also, we will take donations if you would like us to do the shopping for you.

Please bring in all items by Sunday, December 15.

Suggested items:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Shampoo | Deodorant | Body Wash |
| Bar Soap | Lotion | Hand Soap |
| Toothpaste | Razors | |
| Toothbrush | ChapStick Multi Packs | |
| Diapers (larger sizes 4-6) | | |
| Feminine Hygiene products (pads preferred) | | |

Donations for the Angel Tree

Once again, we will be sharing Christmas joy with students in the Worthington School District. The Angel Tree will be up in the entry to the Dixon Lounge beginning Sunday, November 24.

You'll choose an ornament (or two!) that will have a child's age and several gift ideas for the child. Sizes will be included if the child has asked for clothing. **Please purchase a gift(s) and return the gift, unwrapped, to the church no later than Sunday, December 15.**

All Saints Memory Table

On Sunday, November 3, Worthington UMC will celebrate All Saints Sunday. On this day, we will remember all those who have revealed the love of God to us and who now rest in God’s eternal embrace. You are invited to bring a photograph or object that represents a person who has passed away to place on the memorial table that will be in Dixon Lounge. In doing so, we will represent and celebrate the “great cloud of witnesses” that continues to surround us. Objects can represent people who died recently or a long time ago – the purpose is to provide a space to acknowledge those who have impacted our lives so dearly and are no longer on this side of eternity. Please remember to take the object home with you before you leave.

Agape Meal

"The *Agape meal* (or Lovefeast) is an ancient Christian practice dating back to the first century AD, and a common part of early Methodist culture. It was a ceremonial meal of simple elements (often just bread and water) where congregants were able to enjoy fellowship while singing hymns, read and discuss scripture, and deepen their faith through testimonials. We are looking to create a group to study the history of the Agape meal, in order to create our own version of the ceremony to begin practicing at WUMC. This is a practice which traditionally was led by lay people, and we hope to continue in this tradition to create a shared experience which encourages our collective ownership over our own spirituality, as well as taking responsibility for the pastoral care of one another. We will meet **November 6 & 13 at 6pm in the Dixon Lounge and November 20 at 6pm in the Library**. Please contact Drake Ogden by email at drake.ogden@yahoo.com if you are interested to RSVP, so that we have enough materials for everyone.

Q3 Financial Update

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	Year to Date
Receipts	\$227,434	\$242,999	\$171,027	\$641,460
Smith Grant			\$50,000	\$50,000
Total Income	\$240,029	\$242,999	\$221,027	\$691,460
Total Expenses	\$240,029	\$239,241	\$228,430	\$707,698
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$12,595)	\$3,758	(\$7,403)	(\$16,238)

Did you know...

The Summer Slump is real! Every year you hear us talk about the “summer slump” – a time when donations drop off during summer months. As you can see in the quarterly receipts above, our 3rd quarter receipts were significantly less than that of the first two quarters. Unfortunately, our expenses remain fairly steady throughout the summer, so most years we have to draw on our Operating Reserve or other funds to meet our financial obligations during those months. This year, to help offset the drop in 3rd quarter income, the Finance Committee and Leadership Board voted to allocate \$50,000 of this year’s Smith Grant to the Operating Fund. *(Please refer to the article about the Smith Grant on page 6 of this publication.)* With this use of the Smith Grant, our 3rd quarter operating deficit was reduced to just (\$7,403).

Feel free to contact Mindy Go at finance@worthingtonumc.com or touch base with any member of our Finance Committee with questions.

Bishop's Day of Prayer

Bishop Jung invites all Ohio United Methodists to join together for an inspiring day of prayer, worship, and learning on Saturday, November 23. With the theme "Hearts Strangely Warmed," the day will begin at 10am at WUMC and will conclude by 3:30pm. The event, centered around Romans 5:1-5, will focus on hope, endurance, and the transformative power of God's love. Attendees will explore how these principles align with the core mission of The United Methodist Church (UMC) to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The guest speaker for the day is Rev. Dr. Paul W. Chilcote, an award-winning author, Methodist historian, and renowned scholar in Wesleyan theology and Christian discipleship. The Day of Prayer will include opportunities for worship and celebrating our unity in The UMC. The registration fee is \$10 and includes lunch. The registration deadline is Monday, November 11. Register at: [Bishop's Day of Prayer - Hearts Strangely Warmed #BeUMC | West Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church \(westohioumc.org\)](https://westohioumc.org) or use the QR code.



Elizabeth Circle Cheese Ball Fundraiser

Elizabeth Circle is offering \$8 homemade cheeseballs again this year for your next holiday event, game night, or gifts! The cheeseballs are very popular and are known to sell out at pickup time, so please consider preordering. We will be taking in person preorders starting Sundays, November 10 and 17 in the Ministry Hallway from 9:30am - 11:30am. Pick up & Sale will be Sunday, November 24 from 9:30am - 11:15pm in the Ministry Hallway. We are accepting cash & checks at the time of preorders. Checks can be made out to the Worthington United Women in Faith (WUWIF). Please list cheeseball fundraiser in the memo. All proceeds will support local ministries. Money donations are always welcome.

If you have questions, please contact Margaret Tyler (margaret.tyler07@gmail.com) or Beth Strasser (strasserbob86@gmail.com).

Adult Mission Trip

Please consider joining us on our next Adult Mission Trip (usually late February or early March). We usually do two 5-6 day trips each year, one semi-local (Cleveland or Ashtabula County) and one down south (Hayesville NC the last three years). 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, learn new skills, and make a difference in someone's life. Don't feel that you need a lot of skills in order to contribute. We do the best we can with the skills we have, and there is always something that everyone can do; we welcome all.

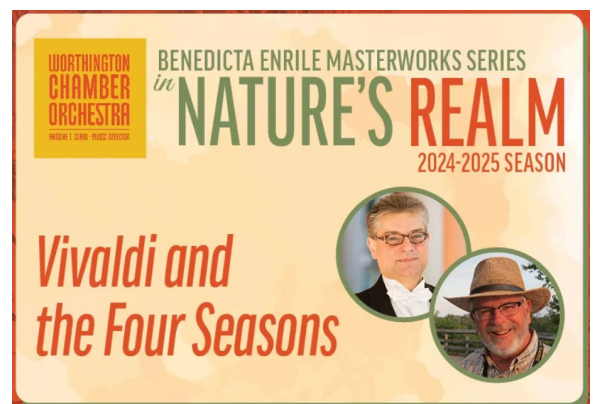
More information will be available when we set the date and place for the next trip. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact Russ Line at (614) 595-1028 or rjlineohio@aol.com.

Worthington Chamber Orchestra Presents... *Vivaldi and The Four Seasons*

Sun, Nov 10, 5pm; Worthington United Methodist Church

In Nature's Realm series begins with an exploration of the changing seasons. Vivaldi's iconic *The Four Seasons* takes center stage, offering a vivid musical portrayal of each season's unique characteristics, brought to life by the extraordinary violinist Aurelian Oprea.

Tickets available at worthingtonchamberorchestra.com



Discipleship and Involvement Fair

Looking for a way to get more involved in our work as a congregation? Looking to build friendships and grow in your faith as you serve God and your neighbor? On November 24, beginning at 9:30am and resuming again after 10am worship, we'll be hosting a Discipleship and Involvement Fair outside the sanctuary. Enjoy some popcorn, cookies, and coffee and peruse the many ways we're involved inside and outside our building. Learn how to get started singing in the choir or ringing in the bell choir without prior musical experience. Browse samples of the Advent small group materials and get signed up for a group. See what it takes to be an usher or greeter. Find a way to meet people's material needs in a way that aligns with your skills and interests. This is a great place to learn, ask questions, and find something to commit to.

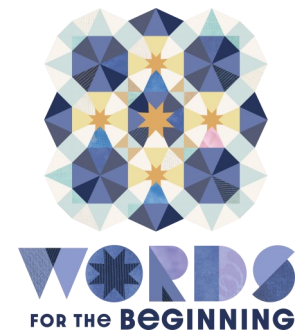
Not able to make it in-person on November 24? No worries! The December *Messenger* and E-Blast will include a virtual listing of the ministries represented at the fair for you to express your interest. You can also stop by the church office or talk with Pastor Dom to get connected.

Advent Small Groups

Worthington UMC will again be offering small groups to study and reflect on poetry, scripture commentary, and visual art from *A Sanctified Art*. This year's theme is "Words for the Beginning". Here's how the authors describe this year's material:

"This theme is shaped around several reminders we all need from time to time: you are a blessing; we can't go alone; do the good that is yours to do; hope is worth the risk; love knows your name; don't forget to laugh; the road isn't straight. These reminders root us in the fundamental truths of our faith. Many of them are life lessons we teach to children—lessons that adults continue to learn and relearn. They may resemble the blessings we impart to loved ones during special ceremonies like weddings or baptisms. And so, we invite you to move through this Advent season as if you are entering a sacred new chapter, holding fast to the reminders that will bolster you for the journey ahead."

We will be offering three of these small groups beginning December 1. Join us on Mondays at 11am in the Dixon Lounge; Mondays at 7pm on Zoom; and Sundays at 9am in the library.



The Carpenter's Helping Hands Service Day – Saturday, November 9, 2024

Do you need a few extra hands around the house? *The Carpenter's Helping Hands* will be conducting its Fall Service Day on Saturday, November 9 from 9am to 1pm 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. Please do not be shy if you need help. We look forward to serving you!

We are Hiring!

We are currently looking to fill the position of Office Manager and Communications Specialist. The primary objection of this job is as follows:

“To effectively administer the scheduling of facilities and communications of events throughout the daily operations of Worthington United Methodist Church. This position will enthusiastically support the Ministry Staff, Lay Leaders, and Congregation while maintaining beliefs and practices in unity with the church’s vision and beliefs. Through volunteer support, this position will manage the logistics of office organization and communication. This person shall be responsible directly to the WUMC Lead Pastor.”

For more details about the job requirements and responsibilities, please see our website: <https://worthingtonumc.com/were-hiring-office-manager-communications-specialist-needed/>

Please send all resumes to Rev. Lou Seipel at lou@worthingtonumc.com

The Smith Grant and Legacy Giving

For the past 10 years, Worthington UMC has been the recipient of a very generous gift from Wayne and Mildred Smith. Wayne and Mildred were members of our church and upon their passing left a 10-year undesignated legacy gift in the form of an annual grant administered by the Columbus Foundation. Between 2015 and 2024, Worthington UMC received over \$1.1 million from the Smith Grant!

Because the Smith Grant was undesignated (not given for a specific cause, mission, or purpose), church leadership has been able to direct the money as deemed fit at the time it was received. The Smith Grant has been used to support existing missions, allocate funds for growth and future missions, as well as support the our Operating and Building Funds during times when the needs exceeded the available resources.

Each year when the Smith Grant arrived, a group of church leaders met to decide how best to allocate to funds to meet the needs of the church as well as support areas of opportunity for growth. After tithing 10% of the gift to various missions outside the church, the following WUMC areas were supported in part or in whole by the Smith Grant:

The Memorial Garden	Website Development
Northland Star Partnership	Refugee Relief
Mission and Vision Development	Leadership Development
Pastors Discretionary/Community Relief Funds	Building Fund/Renovations
Audio Visual Upgrades	Operating Fund
Technology Advancements	Operating Fund Reserve

We are extremely grateful for Wayne and Mildred Smith for helping WUMC grow and thrive long after their passing with this generous gift. So much good work has come from the Smith Grant and will continue to for years ahead.

Worthington UMC has been the recipient of many legacy gifts. Remembering the church in your estate plan is a wonderful way to continue to give to God’s work after your time on Earth has come to an end. In recent years we have received legacy gifts of varying sizes – some as one-time bequests and others as endowments. Each and every gift has made a big difference by providing unexpected funds often when we needed them the most!

Legacy gifts can come in many forms. The United Methodist Foundation of West Ohio is a wonderful resource for helping individuals determine how they would like to leave their legacy with Worthington UMC. This website is a great place to get started: <https://umfwestohio.giftlegacy.com>
Please contact Mindy Go if you would like more information about legacy giving.

November 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 <i>All Saints</i> 9 am—Worship 10am—Worship 11:30am—Jubilee Ringers 11:30am—Confirmation Class 6pm—Columbus Rings 6pm—Impact	4 10:15am—Prayer Group 11am—Genesis Study 6pm—Endowment 7pm—Genesis Study (Zoom) 7pm—Scouts Field Trip	5 <i>Election Day</i> 10am—Naomi Circle	6 10am—Riverside Sewing Guild 1pm—Immunization Clinic 6pm—Agape 7pm—CPC Budget 7pm—Chancel Choir 7pm—Euchre	7 6pm—Children's Music Dinner 6:30pm—Children's Choir 7pm—Children's Bells 7pm—Scouts PLC	8	9 9am—The Carpenter's Helping Hands Service Day
10 <i>Confirmation Sunday</i> 9 am—Worship 10am—Worship with Bishop Jung 11:30am—Jubilee Ringers 5pm—WCO Concert 6pm—Impact 6pm—Col Rings	11 <i>Veteran's Day</i> 10:15am—Prayer Group 11am—Genesis Study 7pm—Genesis Study (Zoom) 7pm—Scouts	12 9am—Needlepoint 10am—Ruth Circle 6:30pm—CPC Evening Tour	13 6pm—Agape 7pm—Novel Women 7pm—Chancel Choir 7:30pm—Taize Worship	14 1pm—Debra Circle 6:30pm—Children's Choir 7pm—Children's Bells	15 9am—Needlepoint	16 9am—Needlepoint
17 9 am—Worship 10am—Worship 11:30am—Jubilee Ringers 11:30am—Impact Sunday Serve 6pm—Columbus Rings	18 10:15am—Prayer Group 11am—Genesis Study 7pm—Genesis Study (Zoom) 7pm—Scouts	19 11am—Prayer Shawl Ministry 3pm—Martha Circle 6pm—CPC Staff 6:30pm—Finance 7:30pm—Leadership Board	20 1pm—Mat Ministry 6pm—Agape 7pm—Scout adult 7pm—Chancel Choir 7pm—Euchre 7pm—CPC Board	21 2pm—What's the Buzz 6:30pm—Friendship Community Dinner 6:30pm—Children's Choir 7pm—Children's Bells	22	23 10am—Bishop's Day of Prayer
24 9 am—Worship 9:30am—Discipleship Fair 10am—Worship 11:30am—Jubilee Ringers 6pm—Columbus Rings 6pm—Impact	25 10:30am—Prayer Group 7pm—Scouts	26 6:30pm—Finance 6:30pm—Trustees 7:30pm—Leadership Board	27 1:30pm—Grief Support 7:15pm—Sustainability	28 <i>Thanksgiving</i> <i>Church Office is Closed</i>	29 <i>Church Office is Closed</i>	30

The Messenger

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

Dated material:
Please deliver by November 1, 2024



November 2024

November 3 - All Saints Sunday

November 5 - Election Day

November 9 - The Carpenter's Helping Hands Service Day

November 10 - Confirmation Sunday

November 10 - Worthington Chamber Orchestra Concert

November 13 - Taize Worship

November 17 - Impact Sunday Serve

November 23 - The Bishop's Day of Prayer

November 24 - Discipleship Fair

November 28 - Thanksgiving (Office is Closed)