



## To Grow, Heal, and Serve

*Week of August 31, 2025*

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### Ways to Grow

#### Secrets of St. John's! - Aug 31

Join us for the last of the three-part series on the history of St. John's through the lenses of the land, the people, and the churchyard. Meet us between the services (10:20am-11:05am) in Kilbourne Hall and the Churchyard.

August 31 – Where are the bodies buried? Children will participate in a churchyard scavenger hunt. Teens & adults will learn about who was buried here and also how volunteers have worked to preserve aging grave markers. Presenters: Ted Dziemianowicz, Nancy Elkington, and Jennifer Lane Maier. [In case of rain, the scavenger hunt will take place in the Atrium and the presentation will take place in Kilbourne Hall]



Questions? Reach out to Nancy Elkington  
([nancyelkington@gmail.com](mailto:nancyelkington@gmail.com) or  
+1-516-316-9104)

#### Youth Group Is Back!

With the fall fast approaching, youth group is back! On Sunday, August 31st at 2 pm youth group will be at St. Stephen's (30 W Woodruff Ave).

#### Register NOW for the September Women's Retreat! Only a few more rooms left. Reserve yours now!

Our Fall Women's Retreat will be held on Friday, Sept 19th - 20th. It will be held at the Transfiguration Spirituality Center located at 495 Albion Way, Cincinnati, OH. We will be staying at St. Mary's building. Everything is on two floors; however, there is an elevator to access the first floor, where the cafeteria is located. The rooms come with a single bed, a private bath with a walk-in shower, and a desk. We also have 3 double rooms if you would like to room with someone. Bedding is provided.

The grounds are very hilly. If you would like to spend free time walking the grounds,

some with just a path and there is also a paved road to walk on as well. The grounds have a labyrinth that you are welcome to walk and pray in. I always advise that you bring a journal to take notes or journal in and also an Episcopal rosary as Evening Prayer will be said both evenings.

Some retreatants are going down on Thursday afternoon/evening for a day of quiet time and reflection but some are waiting until Friday. The retreat officially starts at 3 pm and runs through dinner on Saturday, which is served at 5:30. The cost is \$100/night, and that includes dinner on Thursday evening, and 3 meals a day both Friday and Saturday.

Our Facilitator will be Marie Kovitch. Marie is a graduate of the Wellstreams Ecumenical Training in Spiritual Formation & Development and a member of Spiritual Directors International. Additionally, she is certified as a Grief Recovery Method Specialist, Graduate of the SoulCollage® Facilitator training, and a certified through the Enneagram Professional Training program, with continuing education in Internal Family Systems.

The deadline to register is Sunday, August 31st. If you plan to go on Thursday, please let me ASAP. Don't hesitate to get in touch with Donna DeRemer-Hissrich at **[donna.hissrich@gmail.com](mailto:donna.hissrich@gmail.com)** or call/text me 614-203-3562 if you have any questions. ~ Donna DeRemer-Hissrich

## Columbus-area LGBTQ+ Affinity Group

The affinity group for LGBTQ+ Episcopalians and allies in the Columbus area promotes ongoing fellowship and conversation.

On Sunday, September 28, we'll join St. Stephen's (30 W Woodruff Ave, Columbus, OH 43210) for their monthly parish potluck, starting around 11:45 am, in Hobson Hall. Please bring a dish to share. After the potluck, at approximately 1:00 pm, we'll walk to the Wexner Center for the Arts (1871 N High St, Columbus, OH 43210) to tour the galleries (complimentary admission).

If you're only able to join for part of the gathering (potluck or galleries), you are still invited and welcome to attend.

For more information, contact Alex at **[lgbtq-columbus@diosohio.org](mailto:lgbtq-columbus@diosohio.org)**

## Ways to Heal

### New Pastoral Care Ministry at St. John's

This fall, St. John's is launching a new pastoral care ministry, Community of Hope International, or COHI ([cohi.org](http://cohi.org)), which "equips lay people to serve in all forms of pastoral care. Pastoral care is when a person is being 'present' in a listening, compassionate, non-controlling manner to an individual or group for the purpose of consciously or unconsciously representing God to them and seeking to respond to their spiritual needs. Through ongoing, spiritual formation and practical lessons on care giving, members learn to match theological insights and spiritual practices with their experiences of ministering to others and giving spiritual guidance." The Pastoral Care Committee at St. John's has been searching for ways to develop their skills in caregiving for some time. They were drawn to COHI by its roots in Benedictine spirituality and the continuing education and support that caregivers receive after their initial training.

Our first cohort of COHI caregivers has recently completed their 14-week training course, and they are ready to begin their ministry. They are available to anyone who needs a listening ear, no matter what the situation is—a health challenge, difficult family situation, problems at work or with a neighbor, etc. etc. St. John's will commission COHI caregivers at both services on Sunday, September 7. If you'd like a phone call or visit from a trained COHI caregiver, for yourself or someone else, please contact Gia or David.

## As We Age: Navigating Changes Workshop

Trinity Episcopal Church on Capitol Square invites you to a morning of learning and conversation about some of the neurological changes, such as dementia and Alzheimer's, we may experience as we age, wisdom for caregivers and sharing about community resources available in counties of Central Ohio. Trinity will be hosting guest speaker, Paula M. Taliaferro, MGS, LSW, Outreach & Education Specialist at the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging on September 20, 2025. Check in will start at 8:30 AM with coffee and pastries. Ms. Taliaferro will begin her first of 3 presentations at 9:00 AM. We will have time for Q&A after each session and end our time together around 12:00 Noon. RSVP at [forms.gle/radgLFiCLyCsHKWA6](https://forms.gle/radgLFiCLyCsHKWA6) or by calling the Trinity Parish Admin at 614.221.5351 by Friday, September 12.

## Give Blood, Save Lives, Celebrate Sunday Funday!

St. John's will host a community blood drive on Sunday, September 28, from 12:30 to 5:30 pm, in Kilbourne Hall, with Versiti Blood Center, the main blood supplier for the Ohio State University Wexner Centers and The James Cancer Center. This event coincides with Worthington's Harvest Festival Sunday Funday, making it a perfect day to worship, give back, and celebrate! After church, stop by to donate blood, then enjoy the Harvest Festival-theme activities, food, music, and booths. Did you know? Someone needs blood every two seconds. Your donation may help a NICU baby, cancer fighter, sickle cell warrior, transplant patient, trauma survivor – or someone right here in our community. Our goal is 15 donors, but we made it to 27 donors last time, including both parishioners and Sunday Funday visitors, so let's try to break our own record! Together, we could save over 50 lives! Want to help greet donors at the door or extend a friendly welcome to Sunday Funday visitors at a table in front of St. John's for an hour or two that day? Contact Mary Bailey at 614-619-1803 or [mphbailey.3@gmail.com](mailto:mphbailey.3@gmail.com) to help as a door greeter. Contact Joseph Wasdovich at 772-607-3717 or [wasdovichdrjoe@gmail.com](mailto:wasdovichdrjoe@gmail.com) to help welcome visitors out front. You can scan the QR code to schedule your appointment, or sign up for a time to donate [https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/11616724](https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11616724). Let's show the power of faith and compassion in action!



## Ways to Serve

### Can We Build It? Yes We Can!

St. John's joins with other Central Ohio churches to form The Northside Partnership (NSP). The NSP is one of many groups supporting Habitat for Humanity Mid-Ohio. Parishioners can participate in a variety of hands-on activities including wall building for new homes, playhouse building projects, and new home construction.

This Fall and Winter we'll be working on interior construction of a home at 1152 Minnesota Ave. The future homeowner, Malika, is a mother of 5 children, all girls! The oldest two are currently in college and the other 3 girls are aged 16, 9, and 6.

Can you volunteer for a Saturday shift from 8:00 am until 2:30 pm? The instructions to view available dates and sign up are attached. All training, equipment and



materials are provided. Look for a printed sheet with additional details on the Atrium Information Table. Contact Jean Duncan at 215-534-7290 or **[jeanduncan59@msn.com](mailto:jeanduncan59@msn.com)** on behalf of the Outreach and Social Justice Committee with questions. A safe, healthy home is a gamechanger for a family. A few hours of your time make a world of difference in our community.

Click **here** for Instructions for Habitat Volunteer Hub (HVB)



## **Sacred Stitches meets on September 4**

Sarah Johnston will be teaching a stretchy bind-off technique. She asks us to each bring a small sample of knitting (still on the needles). It should be 20 stitches, and we should have already knit at least 10 rows. This will be what we can practice the stretchy bind-off technique on.

If you know how to do ribbing stitch (one knit, one purl, one knit, one purl, etc.) you should also bring a sample of that of 20 stitches and ten rows, still on the needles.

If you have any questions, you can email Bonnie Ross or Sarah Johnston. See you all on September 4th!

## **Volunteers to make sides and dessert for September 7**

The social events ministry is looking for volunteers to help round out the meal. We need volunteers to make 8 side dishes and 8 desserts, If you would like to share your favorite recipe with your fellow parishioners, consider donating your time and sign up to make a dish to share. The sign-up sheet is located in the atrium. If you have any questions text or email John Ross at (847) 254-1821 / **[jbross53@gmail.com](mailto:jbross53@gmail.com)**

## **Thursday, September 7 Church Picnic Volunteers Needed @11:00 am**

We need a few volunteers to help set up tables, cook burgers and hot dogs, and clean up for the church picnic. This will start after the 9:00 am service. A Sign-up sheet is located in the atrium. If you have any questions, text or email John Ross at (847) 254-1821 / **[jbross53@gmail.com](mailto:jbross53@gmail.com)**

## **Thursday, September 11th Friendship Dinner @6:00 pm**

Join your Worthington neighbors for good food and conversation. We will be celebrating the end of BBQ season, serving a tossed salad, pulled pork, greens, and BBQ beans, as well as an allergen / vegan/ vegetarian menu. We need volunteers to prep, serve, and clean up. A sign-up sheet is located in the atrium. If you have any questions, text or email me at (847) 254-1821 / **[jbross53@gmail.com](mailto:jbross53@gmail.com)**

## **Central Ohio Crop Hunger Walk**

Central Ohio CROP Hunger Walk is September 28th and registration is open! The Central Ohio CROP Hunger Walk in Columbus, Ohio, is scheduled for Sunday, September 28, 2025, at Scioto Audubon Metro Park. The event will begin at 1:00 pm with registration and an Impact Fair, followed by the walk at 2:00 pm. Participants will walk to raise funds to support local food agencies and help combat hunger and poverty.

SO WHAT CAN YOU DO? You are encouraged to register or to donate at:  
**<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/crophungerwalks/event/columbusoh>**

## Food Pantry

August was Back to School month, which meant extra expenses for families with children. September brings new schedules and new routines to all of us, at home, at school, and at St. John's. As you get in gear for your fall schedule, please consider making a new routine for yourself or your family by bringing a donation for our food pantries every week. As we help to restock the food pantry shelves, we are serving God by serving God's people.

As always, you can support the Worthington Resource Pantry and Gladden Food Pantry with food and toiletry items, or you may prefer to support them with financial donations instead. You can donate financially to the Worthington Resource Pantry at [www.worthingtonresourcepantry.org/donate](http://www.worthingtonresourcepantry.org/donate), and you can donate to the Gladden Pantry in Franklinton at [www.gladdenhouse.org/food-pantry](http://www.gladdenhouse.org/food-pantry). Here are some suggestions for September, but please feel free to donate any healthy food items, toiletries, or pet items, or make a donation online.

September 7 – cereal; conditioner

September 14 – peanut butter; feminine pads & tampons

September 21 – rice, pasta; dish detergent

September 28 – spaghetti sauce; bar soap

~Mary Bailey

## Thank You From Huckleberry House!

Huckleberry House received nearly \$700 in Kroger gift cards thanks to donations from the caring and generous parishioners at St. John's! These cards will be distributed to teens and young adults in need. Thank you to Celia Besselman, Kittie Dalrymple, Jean Duncan, Ted Dziemianowicz, Gayle O'Brien, and Andi Reiger for volunteering their time to prepare and serve a home-cooked meal for a group of wonderful teens at Huck House.



The Outreach and Social Justice Committee is grateful for your support of this ministry.

## Around St. John's

### Save the Date for St. John's Annual Picnic + Call for Photographers!

Join the Social Events Ministry for St. John's annual picnic, Sunday September 7th from 12:00 to 2:30 am at the Worthington Town Square. Join us for hot dogs, hamburger, fries, and salads as well as allergen and vegan / vegetarian options.

☐ Scheduling tip: Usually attend the 9 am service? Consider visiting our 11:15 am service on September 7, joining us to welcome back our full choir, and attending the picnic lunch immediately after!

A sign-up sheet for the event is located in the atrium, please sign up and indicate the number of family members and any special dietary needs. If you sign up and can't make it please let us know; last year we had 88 sign up and 66 attended, so we had a considerable amount of leftovers. If you have any questions please email me at [jbross53@gmail.com](mailto:jbross53@gmail.com) or text me at 847-254-1821.





## Special Parish Meeting Between Services on September 14

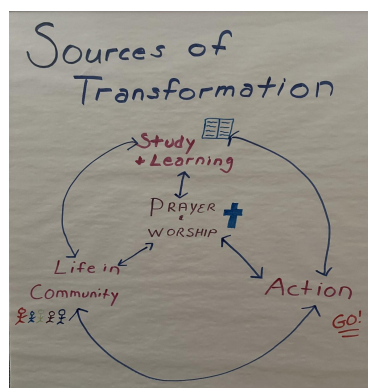
The Vestry (St. John's board, for those new to the Episcopal Church) has called a special parish meeting for Sunday, September 14, for the purpose of considering amendments to two clauses of the parish bylaws. As detailed in the announcement sent to all members of St. John's, the first proposed change would allow vestry members to serve as committee chairs. The second proposed change would permit fewer candidates to run for Vestry and Warden (president and vice president of the Vestry) if the Nominating Committee's reasonable best efforts do not lead to a full slate of nominees. While we are gathered, we'll take advantage of this time together to hear a presentation on the staff structure of St. John's and an update on the pipe organ project. Please plan to attend this important parish meeting, which will begin about 10:20 am in the nave. Nursery care, Godly Play, and Youth Roundtable will be available during the meeting.

## August 2025 Vestry Highlights

St. John's Vestry held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 19. Highlights from that meeting included:

The approval of St. John's 2024 in-house audit, presented by Bob Hays on behalf of the Finance Committee. Senior Warden Star Blackford asked the Vestry's acknowledgement of and thanks to all who helped compile the audit: Christine Rees, Bob Hays, Jeff Rees, Mary Bailey, Steve Ellcessor, and Linda Weatherholt.

A recap of Year One of the College for Congregational Development. Gia, Star Blackford, and Emmanuel Koomson participated in this week of training at the Procter Center from July 27 - August 1 and will return for a second week of training in 2026. Star presented one model from the college, "Sources of Transformation," and discussed how it will be used to assess several aspects of St. John's common life in two Adult Formation sessions in October.



## Singles Dining Out

Singles Dining Out will gather at Anna's Greek Cuisine on Monday, September 22, at 6:00 pm. Anna's is located at 7370 Sawmill Road, Dublin, Ohio 43235. You can find Anna's varied dinner menu at [www.annagreekcuisine.com/menu-2/](http://www.annagreekcuisine.com/menu-2/). Anna's menu

includes vegetarian and gluten-free options. Please RSVP to Cynthia Woodbeck or cwoodbeck235@gmail.com so she can let Anna's know the size of our group. Singles Dining Out is an informal group of St. John's parishioners and friends, always happy to welcome new participants. Singles and married individuals who will be attending without their spouse are welcome to participate, and feel free to invite a friend who is not a member of St. John's. We hope you can join us for good food and good company at Anna's Greek Cuisine on September 22! ~Mary Bailey



### Newsletter Submission

Are you looking to submit an article for the newsletter? Click the link below! Deadlines for the articles are due by Tuesdays at 12 noon and can be sent in no earlier than Monday of the same week.

**Submit Here**

### Readings for Next Sunday

Deuteronomy 30:15-20  
Psalm 1  
Philemon 1-21  
Luke 14:25-33

**Click here for the Lectionary page**

**Centering Prayer** – Mondays, 1:00 pm. Click this **Zoom link** (Meeting ID: 865 0593 1410; Passcode: 922699; +13017158592,,86505931410#,,, \*922699#). If you are interested, contact Teri Foley-Nelson, at **foleynelson1@sbcglobal.net**.

**Do You Have Family or Friends Who You Want Included on the Weekly Prayer List?** If so, please contact the office at **Bellao@stjohnsworthington.org** or 614-846-5180, with their first names. Names will remain on the list for three weeks unless there are additional instructions. If you want longer term prayer by the intercessory prayer group, please contact Jo Pascoe at 614-306-7983 and leave a message or send email to **twopas@aol.com**.

**Pastoral Care Concerns** - If you have a pastoral care concern, please contact one of the clergy. Gia may be reached at 614-846-5180, ext. 302, 220-219-1880, or **GiaHM@StJohnsWorthington.org**. David may be reached at 614-846-5180, ext. 308, 220-219-1880 or, or **DavidB@stjohnsworthington.org**. 220 area code is a local number.

## People for whom prayers have been asked

### And we pray for:

The Holtzmann family  
The Tumblin Clark family  
Natalie, Justin, and Simone  
Pat  
Evan  
Daniel

**For our service men and women and all first responders**  
(Allow time for others to pray)

**For those who are unemployed**

Annette & Jean  
Jennifer  
Chris and Sarah  
Richard  
Maria  
Beverly  
Jim  
Margaret  
Leah  
Nick  
Chris, Paul, and family  
Tracie  
Dorothy  
Harrison  
Jean  
Manny  
Chasity  
Maddie  
Dan and family  
Greg

**or underemployed**  
*(Allow time for others to pray)*

**For all who experience fear or exclusion**  
*(Allow time for others to pray)*

**For those in prison or bondage – in body or spirit**  
*(Allow time for others to pray)*

**For peace and for all those who suffer from war, including the people of Ukraine, Sudan, Afghanistan, Armenia, Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, Iran, and all places of conflict in the world.**

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#### **Parish Cycle of Prayer**

David and Sonya Thesing  
Leigh and Rob Thurman and family  
Carrie and Tim Troester and family

#### **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer**

St. Timothy's, Cincinnati  
St. John's, Cambridge

#### **We Give Thanks**

For the people of St. John's and for their ministries

#### **The Departed**

Jean Collins  
Rip Collins

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#### **Notes:**

St. John's has two separate prayer lists.

To add names to the "public" prayer list as seen above, please call the church office at **614-846-5180**, or send an email to **Bellao@stjohnsworthington.org**. Names added to that sheet will remain on the prayer list for three weeks, or shorter if requested. Last names are not used. If you wish prayers to be continued, simply list the name on the prayer list again. Of course, you may always add names aloud during the prayers of the people.

There is also a "private" intercessory prayer group staffed by several volunteers from within the parish. To have your prayer request included on the prayer chain, please contact Jo Pascoe at **614-306-7983** or send email to **twopas@aol.com**.

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St. John's Episcopal Church | 700 High Street | Worthington, OH 43085 US

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