



To Grow, Heal, and Serve

Week of February 8, 2026

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Ways to Grow

Adult Formation: Helping Those in Need

What should we do when a stranger approaches us asking for money, a ride, a bus ticket, a Kroger card? As followers of Jesus, we know he commanded us to help our neighbors without exception, but it's hard to know how to do that in practical terms when the need is endless. Gia will facilitate a conversation about helping those in need on Sunday, February 8, at 10:15 a.m. in Kilbourne Hall. Bring your questions and your experience of times when offering help has gone well or not so well. Nursery care, Godly Play, and Youth Roundtable are offered at the same time.

David B leading a Sunday morning series about Genesis!

- 10:15am in Kilbourne Hall on Feb 15, March 1, 8, & 22
- We'll discuss how God speaks to us through the memorable stories in Genesis
- We'll discuss how God spoke to different storytellers and editors whose work came together to produce Genesis
- Totally optional homework before the first session on Feb 15th: read Genesis chapters 1 through 3

Eat Pancakes & Bury Alleluias!

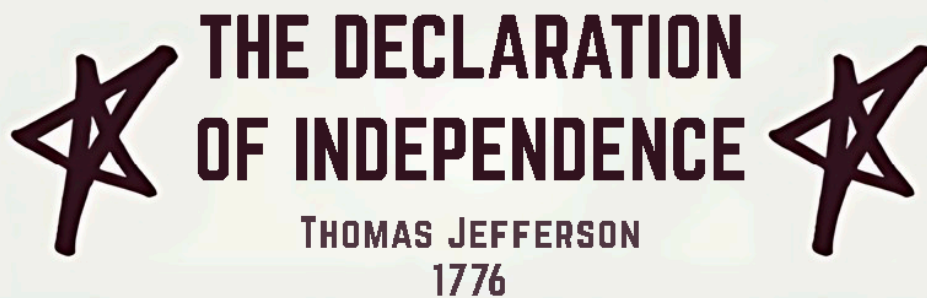
February 17 | 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Lent is approaching fast and to kick off the Lenten season St. John's will be holding its Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner. Come join your parishioners and enjoy all you can eat pancakes, sausage and fruit. We will also have our allergen / vegan/ vegetarian alternative pancakes and sausage. We need 11 volunteers, 3 to Prep food, 4 to Set-up, Serve and 4 to Clean-up. A Sign-up sheet is in the atrium. Please support the Social Ministry to make this as successful as last year's pancake dinner where we had over 90 attendees. Since I am still recovering from my surgery and

Faith250: Declaration of Independence



The Worthington interfaith community is proud to host **Faith250**, a four-session learning series connected to a national, multifaith initiative inviting communities to reflect on shared civic values through historical texts. As the U.S. approaches its 250th anniversary, **Faith250** creates space for conversations about belonging, responsibility, and the moral ideals that shape lives.



Join us for our second Faith250 session as we explore The Declaration of Independence, reflect on who we want to be today, and the challenges that stand in the way of living into those ideals.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26 | 7:00 PM



Worthington Presbyterian Church
773 High Street, Worthington
Scan the code to RSVP



Link to RSVP: <https://form.jotform.com/260274683363057>

Men's Bible Study: Passion and Resurrection Narratives

Our new men's Bible study group will begin its next study on the Passion and Resurrection narratives in the gospels on March 25. All men are invited to join this six-week study, which will draw us more deeply into Holy Week and Easter season.

The group meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. in the conference room. Contact Chuck Camp at thecampman88@gmail.com to sign up, and he will order a book for you.

Lenten School 2026: The Glory of God is a Human Person Fully Alive

Monday Evenings, February 23 - March 23
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

A free offering taking place at St. John's, Worthington (700 High Street, Worthington).

This Lent, join us for a series of five presentations that follow Jesus through cycles of death and rebirth. Every evening we will have one plenary session followed by small group discussion and prayer. The presenters for this year's Lenten School are:

February 23 - Stephen Smith presenting on the Raising of Lazarus and revelations of future hope. Stephen is a retired priest in the Diocese after 35 years of parish ministry, who strives to teach in a way that opens the Bible to live-giving interpretations.

March 2 - John Florian presenting on Jesus's Laments and the question of how we accept the end of things and learn to let go. John is a hospice chaplain and a musician who will be presenting through the lens of both hospice stories and songs.

March 9 - Sr. Janice Bachman presenting on the Temptations in the Wilderness and how to talk to God when we're discerning. Janice Bachman, a Dominican Sister of Peace, is a spiritual director and Jungian Analyst who will lead us in an experiential process on how we talk to God when we are discerning.

March 16 - Aaron Rogers presenting on John the Baptist and the question of who is calling us out of our assumptions about how life should be. Aaron is the Missioner for Black Ministries for the diocese and a powerful preacher and presenter.

March 23 - Joseph Kovitch presenting on Healing and how individuals and communities adjust to new ways of being after healing takes place. Joe will guide our conversation on healing through the lens of his work as a pediatric chaplain and someone who lives with a disability.

Use this QR Code to register:



<https://ststephenscolumbus.org/lenten-school-2026/>

Ways to Serve

Urgent Need - Gifts of Warmth

The LSS Faith Mission has an urgent and immediate need for winter coats. The Outreach and Social Justice Committee is coordinating a Winter Coat Drive, collecting new and laundered used coats on Sunday, February 8th and February 15th.

The greatest needs are for any size Men's coat, especially X-Large and up and for Women's coats size Large and up.

The Lutheran Social Services (LSS) Faith Mission serves men, women, and veterans providing necessities in a dignified, welcoming environment. Visit lssnetworkofhope.org for more information about Lutheran Social Services and additional opportunities to support this vital resource for our community members. Check your closets and shop end of season sales! Any coat donated and not used by the mission will be distributed to guests at our Street Church ministry. The committee thanks you for your support!



February 12 Friendship Dinner at 6:00 pm

Come join your Worthington neighbors for good food and conversation. We will be serving tossed salad, along with beef stroganoff, Vegetable, egg noodles, and dessert. We will also have our allergen / vegan/ vegetarian alternative menu. We need 9 volunteers to Prep food, Set-up, Serve and Clean-up, a Sign-up sheet is in the atrium. Please support Ted Dziemianowiz that is filling in for me while I recover from my surgery. If you have any questions email jbross53@gmail.com or text me at (847) 254-1821.

ITG Dinner February 22

Lori D., ITG Co-ordinator at Trinity, wanted me to convey her thanks to St. John's food providers who were able to be flexible and get their food to me by noon on Saturday, Jan 24th. She picked it up at noon and got everything to Trinity before the snow arrived. St. John's will be serving dinner next on February 22. A sign-up sheet and pans with recipes are on the atrium table this Sunday and next Sunday. You can bring food and/or join the St. John's team at Trinity to serve this meal. Your support for this ministry is so very much appreciated by hungry folks in Columbus!

Come Volunteer at the Worthington Resource Pantry (WRP)

Wednesday February 25 from 5:00pm to 7:00pm.

We are looking for SEVEN volunteers to help our neighbors make snack bags for students, sort and pack groceries, and/or guide guests through the shop.

A sign-up sheet will be available in the Atrium on February 8!

WRP recently moved to a new location 500 Schrock Road. It is a food pantry and a resource center that serves neighbors in eight zip codes in northern Franklin and southern Delaware counties. Their mission is to feed our community by connecting neighbors to healthy food, resources, and each other.

The Outreach and Social Justice Committee

Food Pantry

Thank you to those who collected a full or partial "Food Pantry Advent Calendar" box in December and to those who made extra contributions to our food pantries in December and January! It was wonderful to see the food pantry baskets overflowing. The Worthington Resource Pantry January newsletter said, "As we closed out 2025, one thing is clear: this year asked more of our community – and our community delivered....As we reflect on 2025 and look toward what's next, we do so with gratitude for a community that continues to show up for each other."

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, February is a month to give from the heart. Please listen to your HEART to decide how you can help keep the food pantry shelves well stocked to provide nourishing food to those who are having a hard time paying for heat or food in these COLD winter months. You can drop food and toiletries in the Food Pantry baskets on Sunday morning. You can make a financial donation to either of our pantries online. Or maybe your heart is calling you to volunteer - the Worthington Resource Pantry needs many volunteers each week to help with Open Pantry, sort and pack groceries, and deliver food orders to homebound neighbors. To learn more about volunteer opportunities at the pantry or to submit an online application, go to www.worthingtonresourcepantry.org/volunteer. You can donate financially to the Worthington Resource Pantry at www.worthingtonresourcepantry.org/donate or to the Gladden Pantry in Franklinton at www.gladdenhouse.org/food-pantry. Hunger, illness, job loss, and high heating bills will continue to plague some families and individuals in the coming months, so let's give from our hearts to help feed God's hungry people in our community.

February 8 – applesauce; body wash

February 15 – cereal; shampoo

February 22 – peanut butter; diapers (4-5-6)

Mary Bailey

Around St. John's

Millennial and Gen-X Women: Galentine's Tea

Join us on Sunday, Feb. 15th for a cheerful afternoon of conversation, tea and appetizers! Open house from 2:00-5:00 p.m. in New Albany. Co-hosted by Dana Whitley and Jennifer Hughes. RSVP to Dana at danalw3@gmail.com to receive the address.

Ash Wednesday Services

Ash Wednesday falls on February 18 this year. St. John's will observe this day with three services: a spoken Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes at 10:00 a.m., Ashes for All Ages at 5:45 p.m., and Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes and hymns at 7:00 p.m.

Singles Dining Out

Our February Singles Dining Out adventure will find us at Fiesta Jalisco on Wednesday, February 25, at 6:00 pm. Fiesta Jalisco is located at 2700 Northland Plaza Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43231, off Dublin-Granville Road just east of Cleveland Avenue. You can find Fiesta Jalisco's menu with mouth-watering photos of their authentic Mexican fare at fiestajalisco.com/columbus-fiesta-jalisco-food-menu. Please RSVP to Donna Deremer Hissrich at 614-203-3562 or donna.hissrich@gmail.com so she can let Fiesta Jalisco 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 at Fiesta Jalisco on February 25!

~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 This Sunday

Isaiah 58:1-9a, [9b-12]
1 Corinthians 2:1-12, [13-16]
Matthew 5:13-20
Psalm 112:1-10

Readings for Next Sunday

Exodus 24:12-18
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9
Psalm 99

[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 Mary Bailey (614-619-1803 or mphbailey.3@gmail.com) or Jo Pascoe (614-306-7983 or 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, DavidB@stjohnsworthington.org. 220 area code is a local number.

People for whom prayers have been asked

And we pray for:

Bebi
Tepe family
People of Venezuela
Shawna
John
Frank
Caroline
Tom
Stewart
Jackie
Julie
Melissa
Paul
Nick
Mara
Andrew
Teri
Jeff
Elizabeth
Kenneth
Nell
Gary
Lynn
Daniel
Annette
Jean

People of Minnesota
Immigrants and refugees
Roger
Aryeah
Kailee

For our service men and women and all first responders

(Allow time for others to pray)

For those who are unemployed 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, Venezuela and all places of conflict in the world.

Parish Cycle of Prayer

Laura Dodds
Judy Dowling
Brian and Jean Duncan

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Church of the Redeemer, Hyde Park
Commission on Reparative Justice

We Give Thanks

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

The Departed

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

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