



To Grow, Heal, and Serve

Week of April 12, 2026

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Parish Brunch on Sunday, April 12

The popular parish brunch on the second Sunday of Easter is back for a second year! We'll gather for a potluck meal on Sunday, April 12, at about 10:15 a.m. in the Undercroft. Please join us even if you did not sign up. Help with set up and/or clean up is always appreciated.

Ways to Grow

African Americans and the Bible Book Study

Tuesdays in April from 6-7:30 pm on Zoom

Join the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio this April for an engaging and transformative formation opportunity: African Americans and the Bible.

This four-week study invites participants into a deeper understanding of the historical and cultural relationship between African Americans and Holy Scripture. Grounded in *The Talking Book* by Allen Dwight Callahan, this course explores how African Americans encountered, interpreted, proclaimed, and embodied the Bible in the midst of enslavement and the ongoing struggle for freedom and dignity.

For generations, the Bible has been more than a sacred text in African American communities—it has been a source of hope, resistance, identity, spiritual wrestling, and spiritual power. Together, we will examine how this “talking book” has shaped faith, worship, preaching, and public witness. Participants will gain a richer appreciation for Scripture as it has been read and lived through the cultural lens of African Americans, broadening and deepening their own engagement with the Word of God.

Whether you are clergy, a lay leader, or someone seeking to grow in faith and understanding, this study offers space for learning, reflection, and meaningful

conversation. Come ready to listen, to learn, and to encounter the Bible anew. We look forward to walking this journey together.

Register Here



2026 Women's Fall Retreat

2026 Fall Women's Retreat will be Oct 9-10th at the Transfiguration Spirituality Center in Cincinnati, OH. The theme for this year's retreat is Birthing Holy Hope. Our Facilitator will be Katherine Murphy. The cost will be \$100. Please watch the announcements for future details. Contact Donna DeRemer-Hissrich at 614-203-3562 or email me at donna.hissrich@gmail.com.

~Donna DeRemer-Hissrich

Ways to Heal

Healing Prayers on April 12

Gia and David will offer prayers and anointing for healing at both services on Sunday, April 12. You are invited to receive God's gift of healing in body, mind, and spirit.

Ways to Serve

Procter Center Earth Day Work Day

All are invited to join the Procter Center team and members of the Southern Ohio Chapter of the Order of Naucrati for an Earth Day Work Day, giving thanks for the gift of creation by giving back to the land through service and prayer.

The Procter Farm and Outdoor Education Team along with members of the Order of Naucrati will lead a morning filled with service projects for all skill levels and abilities, across the Procter Woods, Lake Leo, and Procter Farm. Our morning concludes with praying Noonday Prayer together and partaking in a delicious thank you lunch, prepared by the Procter Kitchen Crew and Naucrati leaders.

Kids are invited to participate in Camp WILD activities during our service project time. All participants, regardless of age, will have opportunity for community connection and play.

Please bring work gloves (extras will be available if needed), a refillable water bottle, and wear shoes and clothes that can get dirty.

April 17-18, 2026

9 am - Gather, Light Breakfast

9:15 am - Projects begin

Noon - Noonday Prayer then lunch

1 pm - Departure

Procter Center

11235 St. Rt. 38 SE

London, OH 43140

proctercenter.org

RSVP Here

In the Garden on April 19th

On March 22 St. John's served meals to 55+ folks at Trinity Church in Columbus thanks to the contributions of our parishioners. We will be serving dinner a week early this month on April 19. Trinity is celebrating receiving a grant for church renovation by having a picnic upstairs for their usual guests. This means an easy menu for us, but we are still expecting to serve 60 people. A sign-up sheet and pans for pasta salad are on the atrium table through 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!

BREAD Columbus

Are you looking for a way to impact social justice issues right here in Columbus? Read on to learn about BREAD Columbus, a faith-based city-wide organization. St.



John's has been an active congregation member in BREAD for many years now. BREAD has advanced important local issues such as affordable housing, education, and health care. You may have seen the recent efforts to establish a rental registry reported on by the Columbus Dispatch a few weeks ago- a recent and ongoing project of BREAD! This year's issues are: protecting the urban tree canopy and promoting a livable wage. This week we will examine the issue of a livable wage.

It is no secret that the cost of living has been rising steadily over the last several years. The increase in the cost of essentials such as food, housing, healthcare, childcare, and transportation determine how much the current state of inflation has affected lower income households. When the math is done, it is clear that the current minimum wage for a full -time (40 hours a week) hourly employee in Columbus is well below what is needed to support a single person with average essential expenses, let alone a person who is supporting children.

BREAD has studied the issue and is advocating for an increase in the number and scope of the trade preparation programs in Columbus City Schools. Future high school graduates who are not attending college will then have access to career paths which will allow them to quickly earn a livable wage as well as provide needed services to the community.

Do you want to help? Put the Nehemiah Action on your calendar for Tuesday, May 12 from 6:40- 8:30 p.m. BREAD is trying to get 3,000 people there from all of our 40 member congregations combined. Last year, St. John's sent 36 people and this year we would love to see at least 50 of us attend! All you need to do is show up that one night to let city officials know this is an important issue. Sign-ups start April 19. Look for more information to come!

Food Pantry

Our support of the Gladden Food Pantry began back in 1986 when it was still the Franklinton Food Pantry. I served on its board for a number of years until it came under the auspices of the Gladden Community House. Sadly, the Gladden Community House has made the decision to close the Gladden Food Pantry on March 31 due to funding issues. This means about 15,000 residents in the Franklinton area will lose access to the free monthly food supplies and weekly deliveries for seniors that they have relied on for decades. They will need to go much further to find a food pantry, and transportation will be a challenge. I hope Gladden is providing helpful information to those served by the pantry to point them to alternative options for the services they need. We have split our food and toiletry donations between the Gladden Pantry and the Worthington Resource Pantry for many years now, and I wish to thank Jim & Judi Stillwell, who have faithfully picked up and delivered our donations to Gladden for such a long time.

With the Gladden Pantry closing, all of our weekly donations will go to the Worthington Resource Pantry (WRP), and they will be glad to receive them, as the number of neighbors they serve each month keeps growing. Although I offer weekly suggestions of items to donate, please know that all kinds of non-perishable food items and toiletries are welcome. Take advantage of specials when you see them! If you prefer, you can donate financially to WRP at

<https://www.worthingtonresourcepantry.org/donate>. YOUR contributions, whether financial or food and toiletries, help to make the Worthington Resource Pantry a place of hope and help for our neighbors in need - thank you!

April 12 – cereal, oatmeal; feminine pads
April 19 – canned ravioli; razors, shaving cream
April 26 – peanut butter; deodorant

Mary Bailey

RMH Sibling Backpack Drive Thank You!

Dear St. John's Parishioners, our hearts are full! Thanks to your incredible generosity, our backpack drive was a massive success. We filled 43 backpacks, ensuring that siblings at the Ronald McDonald House feel seen, supported, and included. You have truly made a difference in these children's lives. Thank you for your kindness and support.

The Outreach and Social Justice Committee



RMH Team Cuisine Lunch Thank You

Just wanted to send a huge thank you to our parishioners who made and served Team Cuisine lunch for our neighbors at the Ronald McDonald House. Together we served families and provided hope. Your time and talents truly served as a blessing!

The Outreach and Social Justice Committee



BREAD Nehemiah Action May 12

Did you know that economically disadvantaged neighborhoods have on average a 15% lower tree canopy coverage compared to wealthier ones? This matters because research has shown that having fewer mature trees is associated with higher rates of chronic respiratory illness such as asthma and COPD, higher utility bills, and hotter temperatures by 4-7 degrees!

The city of Columbus has a tree canopy coverage of 22% while comparable cities such as Cincinnati have a tree canopy of 42%. The Columbus Urban Forestry Master Plan is a way to address this over the next couple of decades. BREAD is advocating that the city be accountable to their own master plan and asking the city to pass an ordinance protecting mature trees from being razed indiscriminately by developers. BREAD has already advocated for the recent ordinance passed by the city to protect trees on public lands! Let's continue to protect mature trees which are essential to the environmental health of a community. It takes 40 years for most trees to mature, so fully grown trees are a valuable and essential asset which are not easily replaced once lost. What can you do to help? Come to the Nehemiah Action on Tuesday, May 12 at 6:40 pm at the Celeste Center at the fairgrounds. Join St. John's parishioners and 40 other congregations as we advocate for this and other issues. There is no further commitment, just show up that night! BREAD is aiming to get 3000 people there, and all we need is your presence! We will have free tickets to the event and sign-ups between services on April 19. Look for more information soon and we hope to see you then! Trees protect us! We protect trees!

Around St. John's

Safety Drills at church in April - on Sunday 19th and 26th

After appropriate consultation, the Vestry has approved the running of some safety drills at St. John's, immediately after Sunday morning services on April 19th and 26th. Participation in these organized exercises is entirely voluntary!

At both the 9:00 am and 11:15 am services on these two Sundays, members of the congregation will be invited to remain behind after the dismissal, if they so wish, to take part in an organized practice evacuation of the sanctuary. No sirens, klaxons, electronic alarms or strobe lights will be used. Each drill will be led by an

experienced organizer who will provide guidance and answer any questions before the drill is begun.

Singles Dining Out

Our April Singles Dining Out gathering will be at J. Alexander's on Wednesday, April 22, at 6:00 pm. J. Alexander's is located at 7550 Vantage Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43235. You can find J. Alexander's menu at www.jalexanders.com/menus/0004.pdf. Please RSVP to Donna Deremer-Hissrich at **614-203-3562** or donna.hissrich@gmail.com so she can let J. Alexander'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 on April 22! ~Mary Bailey

The 9th Episcopal Night at the Symphony

Friday evening, May 1, 2026
Ohio Theatre – 39 E. State Street, Columbus, OH 43215
Columbus Symphony Orchestra - Rossen Milanov, conductor
Aubry Ballarò, soprano: Nicholas Nestorak, tenor: Hugh Russell, baritone
Columbus Symphony Chorus - Stephen Caracciolo, chorus director
BalletMet

Dvořák: The American Flag & Orff: Trionfo di Afrodite (Triumph of Aphrodite)

5:30pm – Reception, bar & "heavy" hors d'oeuvres – 4th floor
7:30pm - Performance – Seats in Prime Orchestra
\$70 per person for whole event or \$35 per person for reception only. Make checks payable to: Bruce Smith and mail to him at
The Rev. Bruce Smith 627 Yaronia Dr. N. Columbus, OH 43214
Email: revabs0630@gmail.com
Please include the names of the people in your party and your parish affiliation.
Deadline for reservations is Wednesday, April 15th. 2026

Chamber Music Connection

The mission of Chamber Music Connection (CMC) is to teach and perform chamber music at the highest level, benefiting students of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. Our vision is to use chamber music to promote personal and musical growth and development, while building our sense of community and interconnectedness in the lives of our students. By fostering both leadership and collaboration, CMC strives to build skills not only for music, but for life.

Easter Flowers

The Flower Guild would like to thank everyone who donated for the Easter Flowers. Our Nave was beautiful as we celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior.

There were several specific donations. Those donations are listed below:

Donor

The Snediker Family

Joan Bird

Margaret Allen & Emary
Spencer

Melissa Redmill

Bob Shelly

Jane Geanangel

In Memory Of

David K. Snediker

Brig. General John & Janet Berry

Bonnie Spencer

Irma Christopherson; Eileen Huston

Elizabeth DeJong; Ann C. Shelly

Charles Francis Batten

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

Acts 2:14a,22-32

1 Peter 1:3-9

John 20:19-31

Psalm 16

Readings for Next Sunday

Acts 2:14a,36-41

1 Peter 1:17-23

Luke 24:13-35

Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17

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

People for whom prayers have been asked

And we pray for:

Lynn
Phil
Eric
Emary
Rick & family
Daniel, Annette, & Jean
Shawna
Eryeya
Jack, Julie, and the
Stewart/Ellison Family
Sheridan
Sarah & family
Jenny
Skip
Mike
MaryLou
Erik
Katie & Jacob
Brenda
Paul
Jadyn
Linda
Crew of Artemis rocket

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, Iran, Venezuela and all places of conflict in the world.

Parish Cycle of Prayer

Kathy Hall
Ryan Hallowell and Kathy Kline and family
Greg and Kathy Hayes

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Christ Church Cathedral, Cincinnati
Faith in Life Committee

We Give Thanks

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

The Departed



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