



To Grow, Heal, and Serve

Week of June 14, 2026

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Ways to Grow

Sign up for VBS at St. John's!

Vacation Bible School will be offered 6:00-7:30 pm on all Mondays in June for kids ages 3 to 11. Our VBS theme is Animals in the Bible, and we'll talk about what animals are in the Bible, how God used animals to get someone's attention or to help someone else, how we love and care for animals as part of God's creation, and how some animals are used as a symbol - like us being 'the sheep of God's pasture.' We'll meet Balaam's donkey, Jonah and the whale, St. Francis, and others. We hope your kids or grandkids and their friends will join us for stories, crafts, music, and science at Vacation Bible School, whether they can come for one night, 2 nights, or all 5 Monday nights in June. Sign-up [here!](#)



Adult Formation: Ignatian Spirituality

This summer, we'll continue our exploration of Ignatius of Loyola's approach to Christian spirituality. After refreshing our memories about Ignatius and his principles,

we'll reflect on temptation, discernment, and the practical and spiritual dimensions of simple living. Ignatius always insisted that his spirituality is for everyone, Catholic and Protestant, men and women, ordained and lay, so all are welcome, whether you attended last fall's series or not.

Gia will lead this series, which meets on Sundays June 14 and 28, at 10:15am in Kilbourne Hall. Childcare is available.

IACO Immigration in Central Ohio

Join the Interfaith Association of Central Ohio (IACO) and Bethel International UMC for an engaging and informative community conversation focused on one of the most pressing issues of our time: Immigration in Central Ohio.

This event will explore the questions: What should we know? What can we do? Attendees will gain insight into the realities of immigration in our region and learn ways to support meaningful dialogue and action in our communities.

Event Details

Date: Sunday, June 28, 2026

Doors Open: 3:00 PM

Program Time: 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Location: Bethel International UMC

1220 Bethel Rd. Columbus, OH 43220

Moderator: Julie Carr Smyth – Ohio Government & Politics Reporter, The Associated Press

Panelists:

Vincent Wells – Immigration Attorney

Dr. Dorothy Hassan, Ph.D. – Executive Director of Our Helpers and CORRN

Anisa Liban – Westerville City School Board Member

Why Attend?

Learn about immigration trends and issues impacting Central Ohio

Hear from experts, advocates, and community leaders

Ask questions and participate in thoughtful discussion

Discover ways individuals and faith communities can help

We welcome all who are interested in learning more and being part of constructive community dialogue. Please complete this registration form to reserve your spot.

Registration deadline June 22.

Register [here!](#)

New Centering Prayer and Lectio Divina Group

A new in-person Centering Prayer Group will meet every Thursday at 12:00 noon starting on Thursday, July 2 at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, on the Ohio State campus, 30 West Woodruff Road in the Sanctuary. It will continue every Thursday at 12 noon.

The format will include an opening prayer or chant followed by a period of silence and centering, followed by reading together in a sacred text with Lectio Divina

listening and sharing. The initial book we will use is called The Cloud of Unknowing. The edition we are using is: <https://a.co/d/0eBDsSxv>.

Ways to Serve

June Is Pride Month!

High Street was alive with PRIDE on Sunday, June 7th! The day began with offerings of rainbow roses and balloons expressing the church's message of "God loves everyone, no exceptions". Then, the fun spilled out into the streets of Worthington for Sunday Funday: Worthington Pride!

St. John's Assistant Rector David Burman and parishioners Joan Bird, Becca Schroepfer, Melissa Stanton, Eve Herold, Craig Clay, Jason Green, Brian Duncan, Jonathon Johns, and Margaret Allen ensured that all Sunday service attendees and visitors to our event booth felt beloved, welcomed, and celebrated. We shared a beautiful day celebrating the LGBTQIA+ community and its allies.



The Food Pantry

Sunny summer days are here, and kids are happy to have a break from school, but summer can be a difficult time for families who rely on the School Lunch Program for daily meals for their children. The May newsletter of the Worthington Resource Pantry (WRP) reported that April was the busiest month in the history of the Pantry, surpassing "records that once felt unimaginable. Higher than the holidays. Higher than the SNAP shutdown." With gas prices 40% higher than this time last year and grocery prices still high, along with rent, utilities, and childcare, the Pantry says, "Families who used to absorb these increases with careful budgeting are running out of room to adjust. More neighbors are visiting the Pantry for the first time,...and more families are falling behind trying to keep up."

We can help WRP serve our hungry neighbors by continuing our donations of food, toiletries, diapers, as well as financial support. If you "planted an extra row" in your vegetable garden this summer, WRP would be very happy to take your produce as it becomes ready to eat. You can make deliveries to their location at 500 Schrock Road - check the days and times at their website,

www.worthingtonresourcepantry.org/givehelp. WRP's May newsletter mentioned a dollar-for-dollar match – thanks to the generosity of the Bob and Tina Fisher Charitable Fund, every gift will be matched, up to \$5,000. I don't know if the match

limit has been reached yet, but you can donate financially to the Worthington Resource Pantry at www.worthingtonresourcepantry.org/donate. Even if the match opportunity has ended, WRP can turn every \$1 donated into at least \$4 worth of food for our neighbors. YOUR financial contributions or donations of food and toiletries help the Worthington Resource Pantry serve our hungry neighbors in the summer and throughout the year - thank you!

June 14 – tuna; deodorant

June 21 – cereal; shampoo

June 28 – peanut butter; feminine pads

~Mary Bailey

In The Garden Dinner on June 28

Thanks to all who contribute time and food to this downtown ministry. A sign-up sheet and pans and recipes will be on the atrium table today and next Sunday. However, because of a big event on the village green next Sunday, there will be no 11:15 service at St. John's so be sure to sign up this Sunday or at the early service next Sunday. You can help by bringing food and/or joining 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!

Around St. John's

9:00 Service Only on June 21

The Worthington Arts Festival on the Village Green will affect St. John's services on Sunday, June 21. **Only the 9:00 service will be held that day**; coffee hour, adult formation, and the 11:15 service will be canceled. Parking will not be available on Village Green Drive. St. John's urges our able-bodied members to park in the USBank lot (or walk, bike, or take the bus to church) and leave the church lot available for those with mobility challenges. The Arts Festival will provide a golf cart and driver to shuttle those who need a ride between the church lot and the nave, from 8:45 to 9:05 and again from 10:15 to 10:30. Those who wish to worship online on the 21st can attend the 11:15 service at Washington National Cathedral, <https://cathedral.org/worship/>.

Women's Group Annual Meeting

Millennial and X-er Women -- Please join us on Sun., June 14 from 10:20-11:10 a.m. (between services) in the Conference Room to plan the year ahead and pick a group name. This is your opportunity to share ideas for events that interest you and shape the year ahead. What's working? What's not? Any suggestions? RSVP to Dana Whitley at danalw3@gmail.com. Thanks so much! See you there!

June Singles Dining Out

Our June Singles Dining Out gathering will find us at Cafe Istanbul on Wednesday, June 17, at 6:00 pm. Cafe Istanbul is located at 6125 Riverside Drive, Dublin, Ohio 43017. You can find Cafe Istanbul's intriguing menu at <https://cafeistanbuldublin.com/dublin-dublin-cafe-istanbul-dublin-food-menu>. Please RSVP to Anne Davidson at AnneDavidson@msn.com or 614-595-4844 so she can let Cafe Istanbul know the size of our group. It is important to let her know

by June 15 if you plan to attend. 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 Turkish fare at Cafe Istanbul on June 17! ~Mary Bailey

Parish Office Closed for Juneteenth

The Parish Office will be closed on Friday, June 19, in observance of Juneteenth.

Appreciation for Stephen Sollars

Stephen Sollars, who has served as St. John's organist for the past five years, will step down from his staff position this summer as he prepares to begin seminary studies. Stephen's last Sunday on the organ bench was Sunday, May 31, though we will occasionally see him in the pews for a couple more months. We will save the farewell celebration for July 26, right before Stephen's departure for Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, VA.

St. John's will send Stephen off to seminary with some of the books he will need for his degree. To make a contribution, write a check or make an online donation to St. John's by June 30 with the note that it is for the Sollars gift. (And if you'd like to purchase a book for Stephen on your own, that's perfectly fine--just please tell Gia the title so she can avoid duplicate gifts.)

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

Exodus 19:2-8a
Psalm 100
Romans 5:1-8
Matthew 9:35-10:8(9-23)

Readings for Next Sunday

Jeremiah 20:7-13
Psalm 69: 8-11, (12-17), 18-20
Romans 6:1b-11
Matthew 10:24-39

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:

Pat
Alan
Ruth
Amya
the Breidenthal family
Vivian
Kyme
Nancy
Jerry and Heather
Eileen
Susan
the Wrigley family
Margaret
Elizabeth
Jodi
Paul
Brenda
Katie
Jim
Jenny
Mara
El Rye-ah

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

Nancy Lincoln
Cathy and Chip Lothes
Giovanni Luján and Jim Reese and family

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Trinity, McArthur
St. Andrew's, Evanston

We Give Thanks

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

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

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