



To Grow, Heal, and Serve

Week of September 6, 2026

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Ways to Grow

Kindred Spirits September Gathering

Join St. John's Gen X and Millennial Women's Group, now called Kindred Spirits, for our September gathering. We will have brunch at True Food Kitchen on Worth Avenue at 10:30am on September 19, followed by fun and games at Pins across the street. Family is welcome to join us at Pins after brunch. Be sure to RSVP by September 13 to allow us to give the restaurant an accurate number for the reservation. RSVP to Scarlett at scarlettnd@gmail.com.

Centering Prayer Half-Day Retreat at St. Stephen's

The Practice of Centering Prayer Half-Day Retreat will be held at St. Stephen's on Saturday, October 3 from 8:30 am – 1:00 pm. You will learn the basic method of Centering Prayer, along with its history and origins. This simple practice will be demonstrated and explained and there will be opportunities to practice. Following the retreat, there will be three zoom follow-up meetings (1.5 hours each) to review the method, see how it's going for folks and to encourage participants to join an ongoing centering prayer group, either in person or on zoom. Daily practice over time results in one being more able to let go and let God lead the way in one's day. It's not just a technique, but also a way to feel closer to the Divine within. Often, other people will notice a more relaxed attitude in us.

To register, email Jamie Massa at jamiesusanmassa@gmail.com and send her the following information: Your Name, Address, Email Address & Phone Number. Also let her know if you have any previous experience in Silent Prayer or other Contemplative Practices.

Adult Formation: Episcopal 101

How do Episcopalians read the Bible? Do I have to believe everything to belong in the Episcopal Church? What are confirmation, reception, and reaffirmation of baptism, and why might I want to do any of them? We'll reflect on these questions and more in Episcopal 101. Whether you're new to the Episcopal Church or you'd

like a refresher, please join us for this exploration of the Episcopal way of being Christian. This series meets on Sundays through September 20, at 10:15 a.m. in Kilbourne Hall. Nursery care, Sunday school, and Youth Roundtable are offered at the same time.

We'll use two books, *Walk in Love: Episcopal Beliefs and Practices* by Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson Shobe and the *Book of Common Prayer* 1979. Do note that the paperback version of the *Book of Common Prayer* sold on Amazon is an unauthorized knockoff that is nearly unusable. Choose an official hardcover version or ebook published by Church Publishing.

Fall Women's Retreat - Anchored in Mary: Birthing Holy Hope

Our Fall Women's Retreat will be held on Friday, Oct 9th-10th. 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 walk-in shower, and a desk. Some rooms have small refrigerators & microwaves. 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 have just a path, and there is also a paved road to walk on. 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/journal and also an Episcopal Rosary as I will be leading us in the Rosary on Friday Evening.

During this prayerful, reflective retreat time, our focus will be on the Blessed Mother Mary as an archetype of the sacred feminine and as the Mother of Hope. We will consider her gifts and the qualities she exemplifies for us. We will see how she can serve as anchoring role model for us in these trying times. Hope, is our call as Christians. We will explore what we mean by hope, differentiated from holy hope. We will then turn to Jesus; his message and his example as we ponder what it means for us to be bearers of holy hope.

There will be ample time allotted for reflection, rest, community and creativity. Come, enter this experience prayerfully, wholeheartedly, expectantly and hopefully!

Who is our Blessed Mother Mary?
How is Mary a source of Hope: the Mother of Holy Hope
What is HOPE?
What is HOLY HOPE?
The birth of Holy Hope: The gift of Jesus
How am I called to birth Holy HOPE?

Some retreatants enjoy 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 on Friday and ends around 4 pm on Saturday. 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 Katherine Murphy. "After retiring from a nursing career in health and wellness, I became a Certified Life Coach and, following that, a Spiritual Director. I have had the blessing of being a Spiritual Director for nearly 20 years. It is a humbling, rewarding, and life-giving privilege to accompany fellow travelers on the

spiritual journey and the ongoing discovery of God, present in our ordinary everyday lives!"

The deadline to register is Sunday, Sept. 4th. If you plan to go on Thursday, please let me know ASAP. Don't hesitate to get in touch with Donna DeRemer-Hissrich at **donna.hissrich@gmail.com** or call/text me at 614-203-3562 if you have any questions or want to register for the retreat.

~ Donna DeRemer-Hissrich

Ways to Heal

HOPE - It's in Our Blood

As the seasons change, one thing never does—the need for blood. Every day, patients depend on generous donors to ensure lifesaving blood is available when they need it most. A friend of mine is battling cancer, and he has needed 6 units of blood in the past several weeks to help him fight that battle. You can help my friend Ned and other patients by scheduling an appointment to give blood at St. John's on Sunday, September 27, from 12:30 to 4:30 pm, in Kilbourne Hall. This community blood drive will be conducted by Versiti Blood Center, the main blood supplier for the Ohio State University Wexner Centers and The James Cancer Center, where Ned is being treated. Our blood drive coincides with both Worthington's Harvest Festival Sunday Funday on the Village Green and a presentation in our America 250 at St. John's Series in the Atrium, making it a perfect day to worship, give back, learn, and celebrate! After church, stop by Kilbourne Hall to donate blood, then learn about Women and Children on the Ohio Frontier in the atrium, and then go out to enjoy the Harvest Festival-themed activities, food, music, and booths. Or catch lunch at the Harvest Festival and come back to donate blood. Everyone who donates can participate in the Abbott and Big Ten's We Give Blood Challenge and receive a Big Ten T-Shirt of choice. Want to help greet donors at the door? Contact Mary Bailey at 614-619-1803 or **mphbailey.3@gmail.com**. You can sign up for a time to donate at **https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11637220**. Please also share this information with your friends and invite them to donate as well. Let's show the power of faith and compassion in action! ~Mary Bailey



Ways to Serve

September 10th Friendship Dinner

Thursday, September 10th | 6:00 PM

Join your Worthington neighbors for an evening of good food and fellowship, as well as celebrating Oktoberfest.

Dinner Menu

- Tossed Salad
- Bratwurst and Bun
- Red Cabbage
- German Potato Salad
- Cupcakes
- Childrens Menu
- Hot Dogs
- Carrots with Ranch Dressing

Vegan, vegetarian, and allergen friendly options available

Volunteers Needed

We are seeking 9 volunteers:

- 3 for food preparation
- 3 for setup
- 3 for cleanup

Sign up sheet available in the atrium

Questions? Email or text:

 jbross53@gmail.com

 (847) 254 1821

The 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 pantry every week. As we help to restock the food pantry shelves, we are serving God by serving God's people.

Have you wondered what happens at the Worthington Resource Pantry (WRP)? Consider signing up to join them for a Brown Bag Lunch at the Pantry on Friday, September 11th from 11:30am - 1:00pm. WRP will provide a light lunch while you take a tour, learn about their mission, and roll up your sleeves for a simple service project. This is a great opportunity to see the Pantry in action and learn how our community is coming together to ensure everyone has access to healthy food. Space is limited, so RSVP as soon as possible at www.worthingtonresourcepantry.org/event-registration.

As always, you can support the Pantry with food and toiletry items, or you may prefer to support them with financial donations instead. You can donate financially at www.worthingtonresourcepantry.org/donate. 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

6 – cereal; conditioner

13 – peanut butter; feminine pads

20 – rice, pasta; dish detergent

27 – spaghetti sauce; bar soap

~Mary Bailey

St. John's Parishioners Volunteer for Habitat

Thank you to St. John's parishioners Celia Besselman, Lily Balukjian-Thompson, Brian Duncan, and Jean Duncan for volunteering their time on Saturday, August 29th at the Northside Partnership Habitat for Humanity Mid-Ohio home build!

The home located at 1277 E 22nd Avenue is nearing completion. Volunteers applied insulation tape to air ducts, caulked and nailed trim, touched up paint, installed peep holes in the front and back doors, and prepared the home for final flooring installation. All this work was done in a positive, communal environment in service to a deserving family.

Be on the lookout for future opportunities to volunteer!



Around St. John's

Come and Hear Our Stories on September 13th

St. John's along with other historic Worthington locations is participating in Ohio Open Doors on September 13th from 1:00-4:00. Brought to you by the Ohio History Connection, Ohio Open Doors is a statewide event when local sponsors open their historic buildings and landmarks to the public for special tours and programs. Join us in honoring the history, design, and stories of our historic church and campus and check out other historic Worthington locations while you are in town. Learn more at ohiohistory.org/ood. We hope to see you, our parishioners, friends, and neighbors at this celebration of America 250!

Ohio Open Doors Volunteer Opportunity

As stewards of an historic church and campus, we open our doors to the public for special tours and programming sponsored by the Ohio History Connection. St. John's will be a host location for the statewide Ohio Open Doors Event on Sunday, September 13th, from 1:00 until 3:00.

Would you like to be a part of this event? We are looking for volunteers to help welcome and guide visitors through our precious grounds. The only requirement is a friendly smile! Please consider signing up to support this event. Look for the sign-up sheet in the Atrium or e-mail Jean Duncan at jeanduncan59@msn.com with interest or for more information.

America 250 at St. John's Series

America 250 at St. John's Series: Architectural History of the St. John's Campus, Sunday, September 20, 1:30pm, in Kilbourne Hall. Offered by Jennifer Lane Maier

The land fronting the southeast section of the village green has been set aside for an Episcopal church for more than 220 years, when Worthington was still little more than a written agreement drawn up in Connecticut. Ever since their arrival in 1803, Episcopalian settlers and their faith's descendants have preserved the site as a geographic and spiritual center of the town they first envisioned. This virtual tour of St. John's Episcopal Church properties—the 1831 church, the 1927 parish house, the township hall and the preschool—will explore how their architecture evolved over time as the congregation's and the city's needs changed.

The next talk in the America 250 at St. John's Series: Women and Children on the Ohio Frontier, Sunday September 27, 1:30pm, in the Atrium. Offered by Nancy Elkington

Much of what we know about journeys westward from the eastern colonies and states comes from histories written by and about men. In this talk, we'll walk in the shoes and hearts of the women who shed most of their worldly belongings, packed up basic necessities, and – with their husbands and children – made the six-week trek to places foreign and unknown. Join us as we learn about their excitements, disappointments, worries, and successes.

Singles Dining Out

The next gathering of Singles Dining Out will find us at Polaris Grill on Wednesday, September 23, at 6:00 pm – maybe even on the patio if the weather is nice. Polaris Grill is located at 1835 Polaris Parkway, Columbus OH 43240. You can find their delectable dinner menu at www.polarisgrill.com/menus. Please RSVP to Mary Bailey at m Bailey.3@gmail.com or 614-619-1803 so she can let Polaris Grill know the size of our group. It is important to let Mary know by Sunday, September 20, 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 upscale American cuisine on September 23! ~Mary Bailey



Give to the Pave the Way Campaign



St. John's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WORTHINGTON

Pave the Way for St. John's

Faith • Community • Welcome

Help us complete the **north-side sidewalk** and create a safe, welcoming path for all who visit, worship and gather at St. John's.

OUR GOAL

\$20,000

TO COMPLETE THE
NORTH-SIDE SIDEWALK



Safe for Our
Neighbors and
Children



Welcoming
for All Who
Visit and Worship



Beautifying
Our Campus for
the Future

Thank You
for Helping Us
Pave the Way!



\$20,000
HELP US BUILD A
BETTER PATH TOGETHER!

\$20,000
\$19,000
\$18,000
\$17,000
\$16,000
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\$14,000
\$13,000
\$12,000
\$11,000
\$10,000
\$9,000
\$8,000
\$7,000
\$6,000
\$5,000
\$4,000
\$3,000
\$1,000

TOGETHER, WE BUILD A BRIGHTER PATH FOR ST. JOHN'S

PROJECT SCOPE: IMPROVING ACCESS & SAFETY

Your generosity will help us create a more accessible, safe, and welcoming entrance and walkway on the north side of St. John's Church.

WHAT YOUR GIFT WILL DO



**REPLACE NORTH SIDE
BRICK SIDEWALK
WITH CONCRETE**

The existing brick sidewalk will be removed and replaced with a durable, smooth concrete walkway that is safer, more accessible, and easier to maintain.



ADD AN ACCESSIBLE RAMP

The steps at the side entrance will be removed and replaced with an ADA-compliant ramp to ensure safe and easy access for everyone.



TOWNSHIP HALL CURRENT



TOWNSHIP HALL AFTER

REPLACE NORTH SIDE BRICK SIDEWALK WITH CONCRETE

Thank you for helping us build a safer, more welcoming path for our community—today and for generations to come.

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

Ezekiel 33:7-11
Psalm 119:33-40
Romans 13:8-14
Matthew 18:15-20

Readings for Next Sunday

Genesis 50:15-21
Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13
Romans 14:1-12
Matthew 18:21-35

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:

Donna
Paul
Brenda
Katie
Hannah
Sage & family
Tiffany
Keshawn
Those affected by storms in Central Ohio
Scott
Jerry & Heather
Jean
Tiger & family
Perry County
Geoff
Gretchen
Susan
Rachel
Jodi
Paxtyn

Justine
Mary & Michael
Ron
Ginny
JoAnne
Katherine
Miguel
Jeff
Mike
Cheryl
Mary
Jessika
Matt
The Unnava's & family
Those missing in the Nepal floods

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)

Cecilia
Tess

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

Dan Rice and Helena Gastier
Melanie Righter-Glass
Jerry Risch

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

St. Mary's, Waynesville
Episcopal Seminaries

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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