

Welcome Home!

to the Church you remember...Welcome home to....



The 2023 August Chimes

United Church of Christ

Prayer List

General Prayers: Debbie Jones, Barbara McKee & friends and families of Sandra Donson & Margery Kinser

Homebound and Nursing Facility Residents: Barbara and Mel Cunningham, Jeanette Morris, Bonita Farmer, Patricia Gilbert, Paula Hatfield, Rosalie Johnson, Faith Kelly, Delores and Harold McDonald, Harriett Applegate, Esther Gillham, Helen McGaughy, Mary Lou Hostetler, Charles & Lois Meyers, Irmgard Rhodes, Molly Sheets, Lois Swonger & Pat Farley

Please contact the church office if you know of any sick or hospitalized members. Remember, if you want someone on the Bea's Blessings prayer chain, you can email Rebecca Swartz at rebecasmail@aol.com

Thank You!

St. John's U.C.C.

Thank you for your donations during the 2nd quarter! Your generosity allows us to continue to be the hands and feet of Christ in Licking County.

Blessings – Melissa Anderson

Licking County Coalition of Care

AFTERNOON CIRCLE -

will meet on Wednesday, August 2, in the Large Meeting Room at church at 1:00 p.m. for their monthly meeting.

Last month's picnic at the Rotary Pavilion was so enjoyable - a hot day, but a good breeze, good food, wonderful fellowship, cool water made for a great time together. 4th of July trivia was a lot of fun, too.

Please mark your calendar for the Women's Mini-Retreat on Saturday, Sept. 23, from 9-12 at the church.

We'll meet with other women from St. John's and explore the gift of God's grace.

Financial Update

Monthly Faith Promise goal	\$ 9,422.17
Income as of July 23, 2023	<u>8,979.50</u>
Month to Date Balance	(\$ 442.67)

Thank you for your support!



2023 Envelopes Boxes

Assigned Offering envelope boxes have arrived and are in the Fellowship Room. Please contact Anita in the office if your envelope box is not there or if you would like assigned envelopes. Thank you!



August Sunday Worship Hours

8:00 a.m. Outdoor Drive-in Service

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Service



Remember the movie from the '70's with the famous line, "Love means never having to say you're sorry"? I get what they were trying to say, but I adamantly disagree. I think love means rushing to say you're sorry when you realize you've done something that has hurt another. Then taking steps to correct whatever you can in regards to the situation is next. In June, the United Church of Christ met for our 34th General Synod. General Synod is the biannual gathering of our denomination. Delegates, honored guests, speakers, exhibitors, and visitors from all across the country gathered in Indianapolis for 5 days of worship, educational sessions, discussion on resolutions, business meetings, keynote speakers, fellowship, and covenantal connection. The business of the church was handled – electing new members to the Board of Directors who are tasked with the administrative oversight of the denomination between Synods, and we elected a new General Minister and President of our United Church of Christ. After 8 years of serving in that role, the Rev. John Dorhauer is returning to local church ministry, and the Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson was elected. But the heart of the time together was in learning about, discussing, and voting on the resolutions brought to Synod by individuals, churches, and conferences across the denomination. I'll be sharing more about the resolutions over the next several weeks.

One of the most powerful moments came when Rev. Dorhauer spoke about our history – what we've been claiming as our heritage and what we've been teaching in confirmation classes for all 66 years of our existence. We've claimed 4 traditions as our heritage: the Congregational church, the Christian church, the Evangelical church, and the Reformed church. But a group of dedicated historians have brought to awareness the existence of a 5th tradition: the Afro-Christian Convention.

The story of the Afro-Christian Convention is one of faith, survival, and empowerment in the hostile environment of racism. From 1892 to the 1960s, the Afro-Christian Convention was composed of 150 churches and 25,000 members, located primarily in North Carolina and Virginia. In June 1957, when the founding/merging leaders of the new United Church of Christ processed through Cleveland, representation of the Afro-Christian Convention churches was folded into the representation of the Convention of the South—a 1950s initiative of the Congregational Christian denomination to fold Black churches of the South into a single conference.

But the spirit, worldview, worship, and impact of Afro-Christian Convention churches are not appropriately represented under the banner of the Congregational stream of UCC history, a stream informed predominantly by white perspective. The Afro-Christian Convention, born from the wellspring of independent Black churches with deep African rootedness, is rightly understood—and at last shared—as a unique stream.

Rev. Dorhauer stood on stage in front of the gathered body and did two things. First he said, "We are sorry." He acknowledged that the actions of our founders were wrong. Then he said, "From this point on, our history will reflect that the United Church of Christ was formed from and grounded in 5 threads of traditions." Our website will be updated, our curriculum will be rewritten, and our narrative will change.

We are part of a denomination that has the faith and the confidence to take a look at our past, admit our mistakes, and forge a new path. Thanks be to God for the model set by our General Synod, of which we are a part. Love does mean saying you're sorry. And love in action is what brings about change. May it be so.

Volunteers Needed



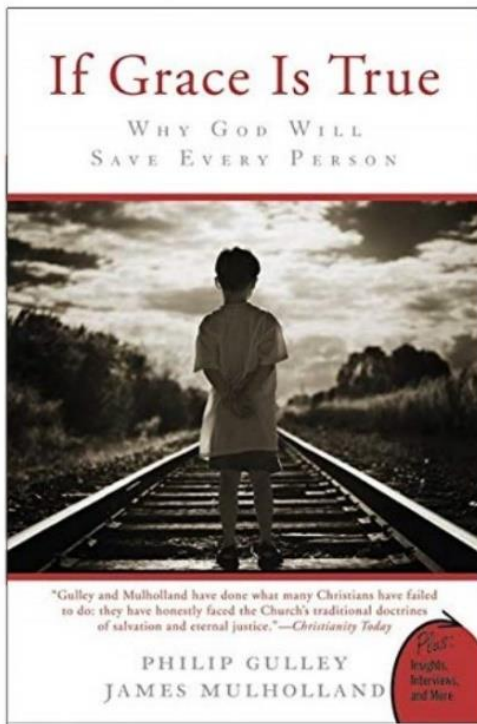
WAYS  SERVE



Audio: 11AM Sunday Morning Sound. Set up, monitor and record the 11AM Sunday Worship service. Training provided. Volunteer commitment is once or twice a month.

Video: 11AM Sunday Morning Video . Set up , monitor and live stream the 11AM Sunday Worship service. Training provided. Volunteer commitment is once or twice a month.

Teachers: Children's Sunday school teachers in the Cradle Role and Bible Discovery Zone classrooms. Teach once a month with a helper. Lesson and activities are provided ahead of time. Enjoy spending time with our amazing kids.



Summer Book Study

Beginning July 6

"If Grace Is True"

By Philip Gulley and James Mulholland

11AM at the River Road Coffee House
on the Square, Newark.

Beginning July 6, Pastor Joyce will lead a book study on the book "If Grace Is True" by Philip Gulley and James Mulholland. The study will meet at River Road Coffeehouse (26 N Park Pl in Newark, just a few doors from Midland Theater) on Thursdays. We will meet at 11am and be done by noon. The book can be purchased at Amazon for approximately \$12. If you need help getting a book, please contact Pastor Joyce and she'll get one for you. This study will go through August 24, taking August 3 off while Pastor Joyce is on vacation. Please join us for some engaging conversation and faith exploration!

Ladies Mini Retreat



Please join us as we grow in our understanding of God's amazing grace!

at St. John's United Church of Christ 285 W. National Drive

September 23, 2023 9:00AM—12:00PM

Snacks provided

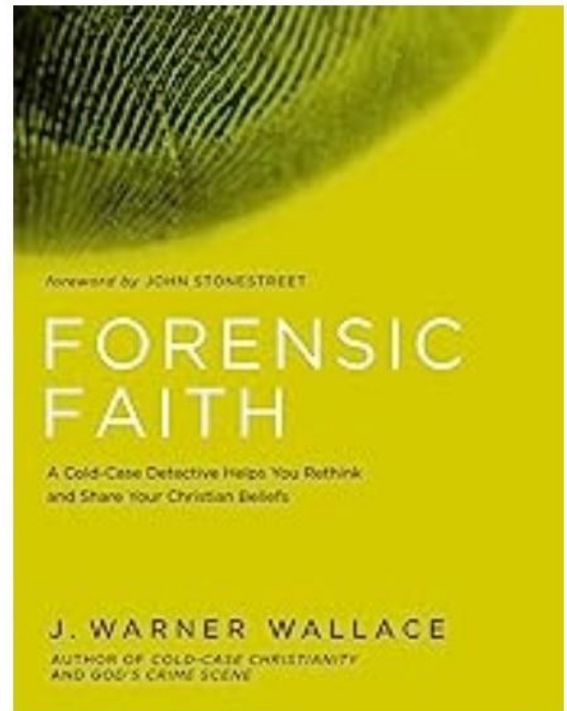
Registration is by August 20, 2023, the cost is \$5.00

740-323-2407 or email stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net

ADULT *Sunday School*

Join us each Sunday at 9:30AM

We're starting the year with *Forensic Faith*. A veteran cold-case detective J. Warner Wallace helps you rethink and share your Christian beliefs. He teaches the principles investigators use to assist you in developing a clear, evidence-based faith. Learn why you have a duty to defend the truth and become a better communicator by learning the skills of professional case makers.



Fellowship Room

Visioning Meeting Comment Box

Please feel free to anonymously drop additional thoughts or comments that you would like to share with the Search Committee regarding the Visioning meetings. Thank you.



September 10, 2023

8:45AM—10:30AM

8:45AM—10:30AM

Continental Breakfast Served
Family Carnival games for all ages

9:30AM Rally Day Program

“Amazing Grace” by Elaine Gard

Join us for Food!

Join us for Fellowship!

Join us for Fun!

The Light of God's Face

November 11, 2010

Tabletalk magazine of Ligonier Ministries

Psalm 4:1–8

“There are many who say, “Who will show us some good? Lift up the light of your face upon us, O Lord!” (Ps. 4:6)

Poetry is generally full of metaphors and imaginative language, and this is no less true of the Psalms, perhaps the most well-known collection of poetry ever written. In our study of how metaphors for God and His attributes are developed throughout the canon of Scripture this month, we return to the book of Psalms today to look at how light is often used to describe the Lord.

Specifically, today's passage refers to the light of God's face (Ps. 4:6). When used of the Creator, light can mean several things, but it is often a reference to His glory, His beneficence, and His love of righteousness. To have the light of God's face shine upon a person, then, is to have the glory of the Lord shine in a special way on the illuminated individual. It indicates His approval of the person on whom He shines as one who is righteous in His sight.

Scripture describes the experience of God's light as the greatest blessing that any human being can ever enjoy. This is certainly true of today's passage, which says that the light of the Almighty's face brings more joy than the harvest of grain and wine (Ps. 4:7). For an agrarian society like ancient Israel, whose livelihood was dependent on such harvests, this is a powerful statement of the glory of the blessings of the Lord. In keeping with Psalm 4:6, we also see in the Aaronic blessing the idea that life in the light of God is the highest honor for mankind (Num. 6:22–27; John 8:12).

Importantly, the Bible is also clear that those who experience God's light are not to keep it to themselves but to share it with a world that is trapped in darkness. This, in fact, was the original call for Israel — to be the light of the world and illumine the way toward Yahweh, the only true God and covenant Lord of Abraham and his seed (Isa. 42:6). It is the call that our Savior gave to His church in the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5:14–16). As those who have been rescued from the darkness of sin, we have the responsibility to shine forth the truth of Christ in our words and our deeds, that people would see the true gravity of their sin and turn from it to the light of grace and holiness revealed in Jesus. This is a high calling indeed, and it is one that we could never fulfill if left to ourselves. Thankfully, we have not been left to ourselves but have been given the Spirit to shine through us as we follow the Lord.



NEWS FROM CHURCH COUNCIL – St. John's Church Council met on Monday, July 17, 2023



Devotions: Given by Rev. Joyce Wealand

Communications: Ken Kroah addressed council about needs in our community under the category of Home Ministry. First, the in-home needs of an elderly lady. She has need of a new oven and central air. Central air has been repaired for now. Estimates indicate a price range of approx. \$4000.00 The Mary Martin Estate Fund is available to cover a portion of the costs. Suggestions were given by council members to contact others such as the Licking County Aging Partners. A motion was made by Francis Hill to approve up to \$1000.00 for stove and labor with a second by Frank Davis. Motion approved.

A second project that Ken shared with council is taking place at Licking Valley Middle School. The Food Pantry at the school is in need of a new coat of paint and some organization. An Eagle Scout candidate has taken on this project, but as with any project such as this, there will be expenses. Donations are encouraged and will be evaluated in the future.

Treasurer's Report: Giving as of June 30th was (\$7965.45) less than budgeted and expenses were (\$4416.54). That leaves us with a budget deficit of \$3548.91. Finance and Stewardship Committee did not meet in July. A motion to approve the report was given by Francis Hill, with a second from Julie Davis. Motion approved.

Pastor's Report: Joyce Wealand: Lots of summer activities for the pastor with VBS, camp and a conference. The book study held at a coffee shop in downtown Newark is generating good conversation and attendance and is receiving positive feedback. A Bible study will begin in September. For more, please see written report

Communications: Two requests for use of facility have been received and are as follows: September 23, 2023, Women's Retreat and October 22, 2023, Trunk or Treat. Motion to approve the use of the facility for both events received by Kirk Homrighouse with a second by Tim Powers. Motion approved.

Search: Based on feedback from those that wish to visit Trinity U.C.C., the visit will likely take place on Sunday, August 20th. Please see Tim Powers if you would like additional information about this trip.

Old Business: A 50% down payment has been made on the boilers for St. John's U.C.C.

New Business: Julie Davis addressed council with news from the Coalition of Care. A campaign known as the 20 for 20 campaign is being promoted. To assist with this fundraiser Julie will address the St. John's U.C.C. congregation, at both services in August. A motion to participate in the COC fundraiser was made by Frank Davis with a second from Kirk Homrighouse. Motion approved.

Foundation Fund Meeting: A motion to create a foundation fund in the name of Thomas Waters was made by, Kirk Homrighouse with a second by Owen Lee. Motion carried.

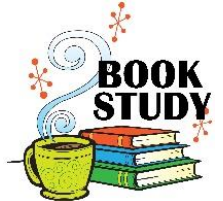
Adjourn: A motion was made by Jeff Conner with a second by, Kirk Homrighouse that this meeting of the Church Council be adjourned. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Next Meeting: is Monday, August 14th, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. All members of St. John's are always welcome to attend.



Rally Day is September 10, 2023! Celebrating 200 year of the song “Amazing Grace.” Join us for a continental breakfast served all morning along with games for all ages. At 9:30AM will be the “Amazing Grace” program by Elaine Gard. There will be lots of information about upcoming activities as we anticipate the start of the new church school year.

Mid-week Book Study on Thursdays beginning July 6 through August 24 (taking off August 3,) Pastor Joyce will be hosting a book study on *“If Grace Is True”* By Philip Gulley and James Mulholland at 11AM at the River Road Coffee House on the Square in Newark.



“Amazing Grace for a Woman’s Heart” Ladies Mini Retreat will be September 23, 2023 9:00AM to 12:00PM. **Please register by August 20.** The cost is \$5.00 and snacks will be provided.

Youth Group will be starting back up in the fall with mission projects, field trips, and fun! If you know of any Youth that would like to join our group, please let Julie Kroah know and we can add them to the list for information details.



Teachers are needed in the Bible Discovery Zone and Cradle Role classrooms. Teach once a month, lesson and activities are prepared for you. If you are interested, please contact Julie Kroah or the Christian Education committee.



Sunday School Classes

- Adult class** – Will begin September 17, 2023 at 9:30AM
- Bible Discovery Zone** – Will begin September 10 at 11AM
- Cradle Role** – Available during the 11AM service.

August Worship Service Duties

Ushers: Frank Davis, Jeff Conner, Larry Jones, Terry Gano, Mike Dooley

Cradle Role

- 6 Michelle Knowlton
- 13 Kelsie Best
- 20 Julie Kroah
- 27 Frances Hill

Cantors

- 6 Diane Reef
- 13 Julie Davis
- 20 Don Boldt
- 27 Todd Baldosser

Sunday Sound Worship Team

- 6 Ken Kroah
- 13 Mike Dooley
- 20 Julie Kroah
- 27 Mike Dooley

Bible Discovery Zone

Summer Break

Thursday Media Worship Team

- 3 Pre-recorded
- 10 Julie Kroah
- 17 Tom Lawyer
- 24 Julie Kroah
- 31 Tom Lawyer

Sunday Video Worship Team

- 6 Julie Kroah
- 13 Tom Lawyer
- 20 Ken Kroah
- 27 Tom Lawyer



Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
30	Lamare Memorial Sunday 8:00am Outdoor Drive-in Service 11:00am Sanctuary Service 11:45am Youth Group - Flory Park	31		1		2	1:00pm The Afternoon Circle of the Women's Guild Meeting 6:00pm Private Use - Chorus Practice	3	7:00pm From St. John's UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service. Live streamed at 7:00pm. 7:15pm Summer Singers Rehearsal	4		5	
6	Communion Sunday 8:00am Outdoor Drive-in Service 11:00am Sanctuary Service - Special Music - Summer Singers 12:00pm Church & Ministry Meeting	7	7:30pm Scout Meeting	8	7:00pm Finance & Stewardship Meeting	9	10:00am Christian Education Meeting 6:00pm Private Use - Chorus Practice	10	11:00am Book Study with Pastor Joyce - "If Grace is True" - River Road Coffee on the square 7:00pm From St. John's UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service. Live streamed at 7:00pm.	11		12	
13	8:00am Outdoor Drive-in Service 11:00am Sanctuary Service	14		15		16	6:00pm Private Use - Chorus Practice	17	11:00am Book Study with Pastor Joyce - "If Grace is True" - River Road Coffee on the square 3:00pm Music Committee Meeting 7:00pm From St. John's UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service. Live streamed at 7:00pm.	18		19	
20	8:00am Outdoor Drive-in Service 11:00am Sanctuary Service	21	6:30pm Church Council Meeting	22		23	6:00pm Private Use - Chorus Practice	24	11:00am Book Study with Pastor Joyce - "If Grace is True" - River Road Coffee on the square 7:00pm From St. John's UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service. Live streamed at 7:00pm.	25		26	
27	8:00am Outdoor Drive-in Service 11:00am Sanctuary Service	28		29		30	6:00pm Private Use - Chorus Practice	31	7:00pm From St. John's UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service. Live streamed at 7:00pm.	1		2	



St. John's United Church of Christ
285 W. National Drive
Newark, Ohio 43055

*Rooted in the Evangelical and Reformed Traditions
We are Sowing Seeds of Hope in a Time of Chaos
So We May All Be One*

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Worship Services!

8:00 a.m. – Outdoor Drive-In
11:00 a.m. – Sanctuary Service
7:00 p.m. – Thursday Prayer Service
Volume 23 Number 8

Address Service Requested



Main Office Phone

740-323-2407

www.stjohnsnewark.org

Rev. Joyce Wealand/Designated Term Pastor

Pastor line: 740-323-2854

Pastorjoyce@windstream.net

Todd Baldosser

Organist/Choir Director

scarlatti35@hotmail.com

Anita Chirdon/Office Administrator

Kim Workman/Office Assistant

stjohnsunitd@windstream.net

Charles Bruah

Church Sexton

740-975-2699

Julie Kroah

Christian Education Director

stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net

LIBRARY FOCUS FOR AUGUST



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Fervent by Priscilla Shirer. *Battle plan for serious, specific, and strategic prayer. Inspired by the film, War Room.*

Moses: In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet by Adam Hamilton. DVD -Travel from Egypt to Mt. Sinai, the Nile, the Red Sea and the wilderness exploring the sites of Moses' life.

For Children

The Torchlighters: Heroes of the Faith DVD. 12 episodes that present the story of a true-life hero from Christian history.

***** These featured books and DVD's can be found in the church library on the center shelves*****