

Welcome Home!

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

St. John's

The 2023 December Chimes

United Church of Christ



Prayer List

General Prayers: Debbie Jones, Barbara McKee, Anita Chiridon and the families of Joann Claypool and Barbara Cunningham

Homebound and Nursing Facility Residents: 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!

The Licking County Coalition of Care celebrated its 20th year of service to our community by joining forces with partnering churches with 20 For 20 Campaign! As a part of this effort, St. John's United Church of Christ raised \$278.02 that will impact the lives of at least 2 households! A little love goes a long way in providing HOPE by helping someone turn their life around. We want to thank you for your efforts to further empower Licking County neighbors in crisis! Your donations allow the COC to continue it's mission to put "Love in Action" as the hands and feet of Christ! May God bless you and your congregation as we continue to point people to Him.

Thank you, St. John's, for all the ways you support Fostering Further! We appreciate you! Valerie & Yvonne



Budget Meeting

Please mark your calendar - The Congregational 2024 Budget Approval Meeting is scheduled for December 10, 2023 after the 11:00 a.m. service



December Sunday Worship Hours

8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Service
One service at 11:00 a.m. on December 24

Christmas Eve. Services

3:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Special Pre-service Music 7:00 p.m.



Joann L. Claypool

Born: September 6, 1932

Died: November 6, 2023

A member of St. John's since 1961



Barbara A. Cunningham

Born: September 23, 1932

Died: November 13, 2023

A member of St. John's since 2014

Financial Update

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Monthly Faith Promise goal | \$ 9,422.17 |
| Income as of November 26, 2023 | 5,938.50 |
| Month to Date Balance | (\$ 3,486.67) |
| Boiler Estimated Cost | \$ 110,000.00 |
| Boiler loan amount | \$ 41,000.00 |
| Boiler Donations received | 5,448.20 |
| Donations still needed | (\$ 35,551.80) |



FROM OUR PASTOR

This is such a strange article to write. By the time you read it, my time as your pastor will have reached its end. Over this past year, we've engaged in great conversations, we've worshipped, we've missed out on some things – I'm so sad we didn't get to have Christmas Eve together – we've prayed, we've communed, we've shared our resources in various ways and with numerous people – we've been The Church together! In the true sense of the church, the body of Christ, our connection with one another will never end. Yet now, I will move on to serve another congregation, and you will continue your search for your settled pastor. I continue to pray for God's wisdom and guidance in your life together. I pray for honest discernment on the part of the search committee as they interview candidates and call your next spiritual leader. I pray that you will give your trust and support to your next pastor. I pray that when issues and concerns arise, and they will (that's life!), you will share your thoughts and concerns openly and honestly with your next pastor, recognizing that one person cannot make everyone happy all the time. Engaging in thoughtful and respectful dialogue from the start is the best way to create a healthy relationship, not only with your next pastor, but with one another. As soon as you find yourself sharing a concern about someone with a third party, stop. Redirect yourself and have the conversation WITH the appropriate person, not ABOUT them. And love one another. Always. Through the celebrations, through the mundane times, and especially through the difficult times. Love one another. This is what Jesus teaches us to do. I will continue to hold each of you in my heart and I look forward to hearing of the wonderful ministry that comes forth from St. John's United Church of Christ in Newark, Ohio!

In September we collected items to create Period Packs for the Church World Service collection that took place at the Heartland Conference Annual Gathering. Pastor Joyce received two emails in November from the United Church of Christ: From the first she shared,

"The United Church of Christ is pleased to award St. John's United Church of Christ in Newark, OH with a \$250 matching grant for your fundraising efforts and commitment to assemble **50 Period Packs**, to be distributed by Church World Service (CWS)."

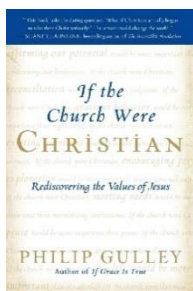
And from the second:

"On behalf of our Heartland Conference Disaster Response Team, I wanted to reach out and express my heartfelt appreciation for the dedication and passion for others...through this grant, and the period packs. Please share a huge "Thank You" to the folks at St. John's UCC, Newark, for their outreach ministry with these period packs! Blessings to all.

Kevin Gehres

Heartland Conference Disaster Response Coordinator

Items can still be donated for another set of packs to be created and shared. Please see April Kinser if you are interested in helping with this effort.



The Thursday Book Study Group continues to meet on Thursday at 11am at the River Rd. Coffee House on N Park Place (2 doors down from Midland Theater). The next book being discussed is "If the Church Were Christian: Rediscovering the Values of Jesus". Please join this group for some fascinating discussion!

NEWS FROM CHURCH COUNCIL – St. John’s Church Council met on Monday, November 13, 2023

The meeting of Church Council was called to order at 6:36 p.m. on Monday, November 13, 2023, by Tom Lawyer, President.

Devotions - Given by Rev. Joyce Wealand

Treasurer’s Report – Frank Davis



As of October 31, 2023, income was (\$14,485.01) less than budgeted, expenses were (\$5,289.86) less than budgeted, creating a deficit of (\$9,195.15) for the year. A motion to approve the report was made by Greg Crowthers with a second by Frances Hill. Motion carried.

Communications – Anita Chirdon: The Advent season will soon be here necessary prep work to begin.

Christian Education – Frances Hill

- 1) Update handout to describe what each committee does. This may serve as a benefit to those that might be interested in joining.
- 2) Can the 8 a.m. service be moved to the Chapel?
- 3) Will we be doing the Giving Tree this year?

Personnel – Robin Green: An exit interview will be conducted with Reverend Joyce Wealand.

Old Business: Boiler installation is 100% complete.

New Business: The 2024 Proposed Interim Mission Plan also known as the 2024 Proposed Budget was presented. Please see attached for further details. A motion to approve the Proposed Interim Mission Budget was received by Frank Davis with a second from Charles Dudley. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Jeff Conner with a second by Frank Davis that this meeting of the Church Council be adjourned. Members of council voted to go into executive session.

Executive Session: Yes

Adjourn

Next Meeting: is Monday, December 18, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. All members of St. John’s are always welcome to attend.



Budget Meeting

Congregational 2024 Budget Meeting

Please plan on attending our Congregational Budget Meeting on **Sunday, December 10, 2023** after the 11:00 a.m. service to vote on the 2024 Proposed Interim Mission Plan.

Please contact one of the following on our Finance & Stewardship Committee if you have any questions or concerns. Additional copies of the budget are available on the bulletin tables in the sanctuary or ask one of the ushers.

Jeff Conner (740) 323-3005
Alan Crowthers (740) 814-6806
Greg Crowthers (740) 522-5702
Ken Kroah (740) 345-1645

Brian Lensink (614) 493-1961
Bill McInturf (740) 323-3931
Frank Davis – Chairman (740) 323-2160

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2024 Proposed Interim Mission Plan

| | <u>2022</u> | <u>2023</u> | <u>2024</u> |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| I | | | |
| <u>PERSONNEL COMMITTEE</u> | | | |
| <u>Senior Pastor/ Interim Pastor</u> | | | |
| a. Salary | 39,947 | 35,540 | TBD |
| b. Housing Allowance | 18,000 | 25,000 | TBD |
| c. Social Security Allowance 7.65% | 4,433 | 4,631 | TBD |
| d. Travel Allowance | 3,500 | 3,975 | TBD |
| e. Ministerial Annuity 14% | 8,113 | 8,476 | TBD |
| Bonus provided in lieu of providing any insurance. | 4,800 | 15,000 | TBD |
| Continuing Education | | | |
| Total Compensation Package | 78,793 | 92,622 | - |
| Pulpit Supply | 1,000 | 1,000 | 10,000 |
| <u>Office Administrator</u> | 26,924 | 28,270 | 29,118 |
| <u>Office Assistant</u> | 6,293 | 6,608 | 6,806 |
| <u>Church Sexton</u> | 7,653 | 8,036 | 8,277 |
| <u>Organist / Adult Choir Director</u> | 14,497 | 15,222 | 15,679 |
| Organist Supply | 437 | 459 | 473 |
| <u>Pianist - Chapel Service \$55 per performance</u> | 1,102 | 1,157 | 1,155 |
| <u>Media Coordinator</u> | 3,606 | 3,786 | 3,900 |
| <u>Nursery Worker \$12 per hour</u> | 520 | 1,248 | 1,248 |
| <u>Director of Christian Education</u> | 7,035 | 7,387 | 7,609 |
| Social Security/Church Paid 7.65% | 5,167 | 5,482 | 5,681 |
| Workers' Compensation | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| Payroll Company Fees | 2,117 | 2,370 | 2,370 |
| Total Personnel Committee | 155,644 | 174,147 | 92,816 |
| II | | | |
| <u>CHURCH & MINISTRY</u> | <u>2022</u> | <u>2023</u> | <u>2024</u> |
| a. Registration & Meeting Expense | 400 | 400 | 200 |
| b. Books & Worship Material | 1,200 | 1,200 | 600 |
| Total Church & Ministry | 1,600 | 1,600 | 800 |
| III | | | |
| <u>PROPERTY MANAGEMENT</u> | <u>2022</u> | <u>2023</u> | <u>2024</u> |
| a. Utilities | 30,000 | 28,500 | 24,500 |
| b. Insurance | 7,500 | 7,500 | 7,500 |
| c. Church Maintenance | 6,500 | 6,500 | 6,500 |
| d. Lawn and Landscape Care | 5,000 | 6,500 | 6,500 |
| e. Cleaning Service | 12,444 | 12,444 | 12,444 |
| f. Snow Removal | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| Total Property Maintenance | 62,944 | 62,944 | 58,944 |

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2024 Proposed Interim Mission Plan

| | <u>2022</u> | <u>2023</u> | <u>2024</u> |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <u>IV MUSIC COMMITTEE</u> | | | |
| a. Choir/Organ/Handbell Supplies | 800 | 800 | 800 |
| b. Instrument Maintenance | 400 | 400 | 400 |
| Total Music | <u>1,200</u> | <u>1,200</u> | <u>1,200</u> |
| <u>V FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP</u> | | | |
| a. Office Supplies | 4,500 | 4,500 | 4,500 |
| b. Miscellaneous | 1,100 | 1,100 | 1,100 |
| c. Copier Lease and Supplies | 5,300 | 5,300 | 5,300 |
| Total Finance & Stewardship | <u>10,900</u> | <u>10,900</u> | <u>10,900</u> |
| <u>VI CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</u> | | | |
| a. Christian Education Expenses | 3,500 | 3,500 | 3,500 |
| Total Christian Education | <u>3,500</u> | <u>3,500</u> | <u>3,500</u> |
| <u>VII SPECIAL EVENTS</u> | | | |
| a. Kitchen Supplies | 300 | 300 | 300 |
| b. Church Lunches | 700 | 1,700 | 1,700 |
| c. Receptions | 400 | 400 | 400 |
| Total Special Events | <u>1,400</u> | <u>2,400</u> | <u>2,400</u> |
| <u>VIII MISSION</u> | | | |
| a. Mission Projects | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 |
| b. OCWM (basic support) | 2,000 | 2,000 | 1,000 |
| c. Minister Discretionary Fund | 3,000 | 3,000 | 2,000 |
| Total Mission | <u>11,000</u> | <u>11,000</u> | <u>9,000</u> |
| <u>IX CONGREGATIONAL CARE</u> | <u>400</u> | <u>400</u> | <u>100</u> |
| <u>X EVANGELISM & OUTREACH</u> | <u>9,000</u> | <u>8,000</u> | <u>6,000</u> |
| TOTAL MISSION PLAN | <u>\$257,588</u> | <u>\$276,091</u> | <u>\$185,660</u> |

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2024 Proposed Interim Mission Plan

| <u>Proposed Income</u> | <u>2022</u> | <u>2023</u> | <u>2024</u> |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| "Faith Promise" From Cards | 87,232 | 92,028 | 58,085 |
| Additional "Faith Promise" needed | 17,231 | 21,038 | - |
| Initial Offering | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| Plate Offering (Cash) | 7,000 | 7,000 | 3,000 |
| Use of Facility (Fees) | - | - | - |
| Interest Income | 100,800 | 108,000 | 108,000 |
| Grocery Coupons | 75 | 75 | 75 |
| Advent Offering (100% to Mission Budget) | 700 | 800 | 800 |
| Lenten Offering (100% to Mission Budget) | 400 | 600 | 600 |
| Prospect St. Property Rental Income | 12,000 | 14,400 | 14,400 |
| Other Income | 200 | 200 | 200 |
| Miller Estate | 31,450 | 31,450 | |
| | <u>257,588</u> | <u>276,091</u> | <u>185,660</u> |



Mission and Outreach is working with The Village Network Foster Care in providing Christmas presents for foster children in their care. On November 26, a Christmas tree will be in the Fellowship Room with tags that have a child's name and gift request. If you decide to take a tag, please bring the unwrapped gift to the church before December 11, 2023. That is the day that the gifts are due back to The Village Network Foster Care. Thank you for your consideration to purchase a Christmas gift for a foster child.



Children's
Program

PRACTICE

**The children will practice for the December 10
 Christmas program during the 11AM Sunday
 school hour. All are welcome.**

November 26 & December 3



Ladies Afternoon Circle is Hosting a

Hat, Glove & Sock

DRIVE

NOVEMBER 19 THROUGH DECEMBER 10

Donations can be dropped off

in the Fellowship room

benefits Ben Franklin Elementary school

Afternoon Circle -

will meet on Wednesday, December 6th, at Noon in the Large Meeting Room for our Christmas Luncheon and Program. Lunches of Chicken and Noodles, Green Beans, and Cut-Out Cookies have been ordered from Creative Catering in Hebron for those who made reservations. "The Prequel: The Shepherd" from the video series THE CHOSEN will be viewed and discussed. Members are reminded to bring a Dollar Tree gift (\$5 or less) for the Gift Exchange.

All women of our Church Family are invited to attend. If you did not make reservations for lunch, please join us at 1:00 for the program and gift exchange.



Youth and Family Bowling

Friday, December 29

St. John's UCC Family Night.

Park Lanes at 6pm

We have 3 lanes reserved
for 2 hours of bowling.

St. John's Little Free Pantry

Thank you for keeping our Little Free Pantry filled

The Little Free Pantry is for those who want and/or need to give. The Little Free pantry is for everyone. When you bring items to donate, put them right into the LFP. **Anyone** may access the LFP at any time. LFP is a reminder of our neighbors' need that creates a place for exercising compassion, trust, and mutual aid.

What to put in the Little Free Pantry

Canned vegetables, fruits, pasta and proteins, peanut butter, kid-friendly non-perishables, snack-sized fruit cups, individually wrapped crackers, personal care items, paper goods, small school supplies, wrapped plastic utensils (saved from a restaurant).





Dear members and friends of St. John's,

In this season of Advent, we light candles of hope, peace, joy and love. Even after the candles are extinguished, the light of Christ still shines within us.

One of the many ways we can be channels of Christ's hope, peace, love and joy is through our Advent Offering that goes towards the Mission and Outreach at St. John's. Please know that your prayerful support and encouragement makes a big difference in the life of our church and community. Thank you for your continued financial support to accomplish the many missions of St. John's.

Inclement Weather – Stay Informed for Church Cancellations & Other important Information

It's that time of year when the weather can cause road conditions to be dangerous. Our church policy is to close the church if the Newark area or Licking County is under a level 2 weather advisory. Please add your name and phone number to our ONE CALL NOW list to get important information and updates from St. John's if you **are not** on the list and put this in the offering plate or notify the office. Thank you!

New Addition: Name _____ Phone number _____

Quiet Prayer Time



**The St. John's Memorial Chapel
will now be open for quiet prayer time.
Sunday Mornings
7:30AM - 8:00AM and 9:00AM - 11:00AM.**

Volunteers Needed



WAYS TO 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 Roll 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.



The Children's Christmas Program "Get Roped in to an O' Holy Night" will be December 10 during the 11:00am service. Practice will be held during Children's Sunday school in the weeks leading up to the 10th.

Youth will be meeting on December 3 and 10 at 11am in the Bible Discovery Zone classroom. On December 17, they will have a regular meeting in the Youth room following the 11am service.



Join the Adult Sunday school class for an Advent Bible Study on December 3, 10, and 17. We will be watching the DVD study "The Purpose of Christmas" by Rick Warren. The group meets at 9:30am in the large meeting room.

To celebrate the incoming new year, the Bible Discovery Zone class will be making calendars for our sick and shut-in members.



Sunday School Classes

- Adult class** – Meet at 9:30AM in the large meeting room.
- Bible Discovery Zone** – meet at 11AM in the Thou Art room
- Cradle Role** – Available during the 11AM service.

December Worship Service Duties

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

Cradle Roll

- 3 Avery Nagle
- 10 Avery Nagle
- 17 Avery Nagle
- 24 Avery Nagle

Cantors

- 3 Todd Baldosser
- 10 Julie Davis
- 17 Don Boldt
- 11 am 24 Todd Baldosser
- 3pm 24 Don Boldt
- 7:30pm 24 Diane Reef

Sunday Sound Worship Team

- 3 Ken Kroah
- 10 Mike Dooley
- 17 Julie Kroah
- 11am 24 Mike Dooley
- 3pm 24
- 7pm 24 Ken Kroah
- 31 Ken Kroah

Bible Discovery Zone

- 3 Brian Lensink & Karson Ewing
- 10 Marla Crowthers & Emmaleigh Crowthers
- 17 Ken Kroah & Matthew Kroah
- 24 Frances Hill & Kayden Ewing
- 10 Marla Crowthers & Emmaleigh Crowthers

Thursday Media Worship Team

- 7 Tom Lawyer
- 14 Julie Kroah
- 21 Tom Lawyer
- 28 Julie Kroah

Sunday Video Worship Team

- 3 Julie Kroah
- 10 Tom Lawyer
- 17 Julie Kroah
- 11am 24 Tom Lawyer
- 7pm 24 Julie Kroah
- 31 Julie Kroah



This Christmas, we will again beautify our sanctuary with an array of Poinsettias, which will be purchased from a local nursery. If you would like to participate in this celebration of Christmas, please fill out the form below or contact the church office.

6.5" pot \$ **11.75/each**
1 plant - 4 to 7 blooms (Red in color)

The DEADLINE for placing orders is Sunday, December 3, 2023.
Please pick up plants after the 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, December 17, or after the Christmas Eve Services on December 24.

_____ I desire the office to purchase a poinsettia for me to keep.
_____ I desire the office to purchase a poinsettia to be donated to a shut-in.

Be sure to complete the following to be printed in the bulletin: (i.e.: In honor of or in memory of.....by or from.....)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

You may also choose to remember a loved one with a gift to the ___ Abiding Memorial Fund or the _____ Foundation Fund. All such gifts noted and received **BY DECEMBER 10** will be listed in the bulletin on **Sunday, December 17 and Sunday, December 24.** Abiding Memorial and Foundation Fund Cards and envelopes are also available in the literature rack in the Narthex or in the office.



5 Keys to Evangelism at Christmas

(highlights)

Daniel Wagner

www.thelife.com



When Jesus describes himself as a shepherd in the gospels, I think back to the first people who visited him as he lay in the manger.

The shepherds were the first evangelists. They took the good news that was told to them by the angels and that they witnessed with their own eyes, and shared it with everyone they met. They began the task of spreading this good news that would, as the angel said, bring great joy to all people.

If the shepherds spread the good news at the beginning of Jesus' life on earth, Jesus commissioned his followers to spread the good news at the end of it, telling his disciples, "Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations." Christmas offers a unique opportunity to share the good news, but it can be difficult to know how to start. Here are 5 keys to sharing your faith during the Christmas season.

PRIME WITH PRAYER

Jesus spent 40 days fasting in the desert before beginning his ministry. He also took time away from the crowds to pray throughout his ministry (Luke 5:16). We can follow his example by first talking with God before stepping out into the world this Christmas.

START WITH SERVICE

Again we follow Christ's example: he healed the sick, fed the hungry, and gave hope to the broken. He didn't just preach a message, but met physical, emotional, and spiritual needs.

BE OPEN TO OPPORTUNITIES

You don't have to go far to find Jesus at Christmas, so opportunities to share your faith can come up at almost any time. A spiritual conversation can stem from a simple question — asking how someone is planning to celebrate Christmas, for example — or something entirely unexpected.

MOVE BEYOND THE MANGER

So much of the focus at Christmas time is on the baby Jesus, lying in a manger. People need to know who he is, why he came, what he accomplished through his death, resurrection and ascension, and how they can follow him and be transformed by him.

GIVE IT TO GOD

Here's some more good news about the good news: it's not all up to you. It can be easy to feel discouraged when it comes to evangelism. All our efforts can seem fruitless at times. But, the Bible is clear on this: we can't save people. God does that. We must continue to serve those around us all year, building relationships, and both living and preaching the gospel as God gives us the opportunities to do so. Evangelism shouldn't stop at Christmas.

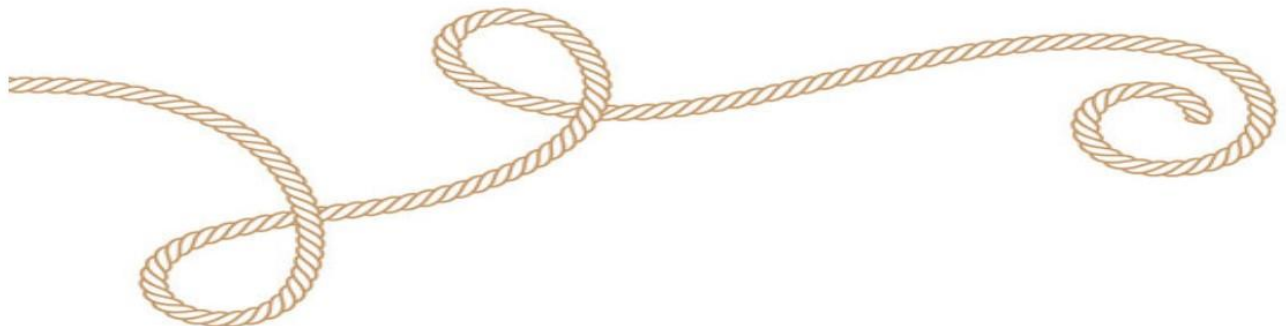
St. John's UCC



Get Roped into an O' Holy Night

December 10, 2023

At the 11:00AM service





A CHRIST-CENTERED CHRISTMAS ADVENT READING PLAN



Explore the true meaning of Christmas as you travel through God's Word. Discover God's promises he fulfilled through the birth of His only Son, the **KING OF KINGS.**

1
Isaiah 7:14



2
Isaiah 9:6-7

3
Malachi 3:1

4
Micah 5:2-4

5
Luke 1:5-7

6
Luke 1:10-15

7
Luke 1:18-22

8
Luke 1:24-25

14
Luke 2:15-20

13
Luke 2:8-14

12
Luke 2:6-7

11
Luke 2:1-5

10
Luke 1:30-33

9
Luke 1:26-29



15
Matthew 1:18-21

16
Matthew 1:22-25

17
Matthew 2:1-3

18
Matthew 2:4-6

19
Matthew 2:7-9

20
Matthew 2:10-12

21
Romans 15:13



23
Philippians 2:8-11

22
Galatians 4:4-5

24
James 1:16-18

25
John 3:16





*The true light that gives
light to everyone was
coming into the world.
John 1:9*

Advent Reading Plan

From the Bible Project

December

1st Isaiah 2:2-5
2nd Isaiah 9:1-7
3rd Isaiah 11:1-9
4th Isaiah 11:10-16
5th Isaiah 39:5-40
6th Isaiah 52:1-12
7th Isaiah 61:1-4
8th Galatians 4:4-6
9th 1 Thess 4:13-18
10th 1 Thess 5:1-11
11th 1 Cor 15:20-28
12th Colossians 1:15-20
13th 2 Peter 3:3-13
14th Mark 14:60-65
15th Jeremiah 33:14-17

16th Micah 5:2-5
17th Ezekiel 34:11-31
18th Zachariah 8:1-8
19th Zephaniah 3:14-17
20th Isaiah 7:10-17
21st Matthew 1:11-17
22nd Luke 1:26-38
23rd Luke 1:39-56
24th Matthew 1:18-25

Readings for the Sunday's of Advent

First Romans 13:11-14
Second Romans 15:4-13
Third Matthew 11:2-10
Fourth Psalm 24



Christmas Eve
SERVICES

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE

3PM and 7:30PM Sanctuary Services

Special music begins at 7PM



Elaine Gard will be bringing us the message at both services

DEC
24

Livestream available at 7:30PM on the Facebook link
at www.stjohnsnewark.org

St. John's United Church of Christ
285 W. National Drive Newark Ohio 43055
740-323-2407 | www.stjohnsnewark.org

DECEMBER

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|---|---|--------|----------|
| 26 8:00am Early Indoor Service - Sanctuary 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service 12:00pm Hanging of the Greens | 27 | 28 10:15am Chimes Assembly | 29 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice | 30 11:00am Book Club at 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. 7:15pm Choir Practice | 1 | 2 |
| 3 Advent First Sunday of Advent 8:00am Early Indoor Service - Sanctuary 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service - Choir Sings 12:00pm Church & Ministry Meeting | 4 | 5 | 6 12:00pm The Afternoon Circle of the Women's Guild Christmas Program 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice | 7 11:00am Book Club at 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. | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Second Sunday of Advent 8:00am Early Indoor Service - Sanctuary 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service - Children's Christmas Program 11:45am Congregational Budget Meeting - after the 11:00 service | 11 | 12 7:00pm Finance & Stewardship Meeting | 13 10:00am Christian Education Meeting 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice | 14 11:00am Book Club at 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. 7:15pm Choir Practice | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Third Sunday of Advent 8:00am Early Indoor Service - Sanctuary 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service - Choir Sings | 18 6:30pm Church Council Meeting | 19 | 20 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice | 21 First Day of Winter 11:00am Book Club at 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. 7:15pm Choir Practice | 22 | 23 |
| 24 Christmas Eve Fourth Sunday of Advent 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Combined Sanctuary Service - Choir Sings 3:00pm Early Christmas Eve Communion & Candlelight Service - Sanctuary 7:00pm Christmas Eve Pre-Service Special Music 7:30pm Christmas Eve Communion & Candlelight Service | 25  Christmas Day Office Closed | 26 | 27 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice | 28 11:00am Book Club at 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. | 29 | 30 |
| 31 First Sunday after Christmas New Year's Eve 8:00am Early Indoor Service - Sanctuary 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service | 1  Happy New Year! Office closed | 2 | 3 1:00pm The Afternoon Circle of the Women's Guild Meeting 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice | 4 7:00pm From St. John's UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service. Live streamed at 7:00pm. 7:15pm Choir Practice 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal | 5 | 6 |



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. – Early Sanctuary Service
 - 11:00 a.m. – Sanctuary Service
 - 7:00 p.m. – Thursday Prayer Service
 - 3:00 p.m. – Early Christmas Eve. Communion & Candlelight
 - 7:00 p.m. – Pre-Service Special Music
 - 7:30 p.m. - Christmas Eve. Communion & Candlelight
- Volume 23 Number 12

Address Service Requested



| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Main Office Phone 740-323-2407 www.stjohnsnewark.org | | Todd Baldosser Organist/Choir Director scarlatti35@hotmail.com |
| Anita Chiridon/Office Administrator Kim Workman/Office Assistant stjohnsunited@windstream.net | Charles Bruah Church Sexton 740-975-2699 | Julie Kroah Christian Education Director stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net |

LIBRARY FOCUS FOR DECEMBER



Wonderful Names of Our Wonderful Lord by Hurlburt and Horton. Find power in the names of our Lord, power to be claimed as you call Him by each one.

Who Needs Christmas by Andy Stanley. Remarkable details of the Christmas story and why it took something unexpected to get people's attention.

For Children
The Story of Christmas by Pingry. Illustrated by Thornburgh, tells the Christmas story in words simple enough for a toddler.

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