

Welcome Home!

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

St. John's

The 2023 November Chimes

Prayer List

General Prayers: Debbie Jones, Barbara McKee, and Anita Chirdon

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!

Thank you for your generous donation of items and funds for Wendy's gift cards to New Beginnings. We appreciate your kindness and generosity to assist victims of domestic violence in Licking County. Trisha Hufford, Director



November Sunday Worship Hours

8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Service



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

Financial Update

Monthly Faith Promise goal	\$ 9,422.17
Income as of October 22, 2023	<u>8,418.50</u>
Month to Date Balance	(\$ 1,003.67)
Boiler Estimated Cost	\$ 110,000.00
Boiler loan amount	\$ 41,000.00
Boiler Donations received	<u>5,058.20</u>
Donations still needed	(\$ 35,941.80)

Guest Speaker: On Sunday, October 29, we will be joined by Rev. Beth Long-Higgins, VP and Director of Engagement of the Ruth Frost Parker Center for Abundant Aging of United Church Homes. Rev. Long-Higgins will lead a presentation between services in Hermann Hall to share perspective on aging and how we as a faith community can respond to people's needs in a fresh way. The presentation will begin at 9:00 am and a light breakfast will be provided. Rev. Long-Higgins will then offer a message at the 11:00 service. Come join us for this engaging and faith-filled time together!

LET US GIVE THANKS

From the desk of Pastor Joyce Wealand

St. John's United Church of Christ, Newark, Ohio

September 26, 2023

Dear Friends in Christ,

I have felt blessed to serve as your interim minister during this time of transition. As with all interim ministries, there comes a time when that chapter ends, and we have reached that time. I have been in conversation with a Columbus area church and have accepted a call to serve as their fulltime settled Pastor. My last Sunday with you will be November 26, 2023.

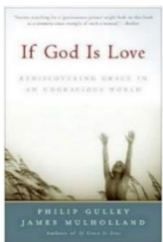
In the remaining time we have together, we will continue to explore who God is calling St. John's to be, and how God is calling St. John's to serve in this community.

I am grateful for our time together and the ways God has moved us to grow, both you as a congregation and me as a pastor. I pray for God's blessings on each of you and on the future mission and ministry of St. John's United Church of Christ.

In Christ's Service,

Rev. Joyce Wealand

Rev. Joyce Wealand



The Thursday Morning Book Study will continue their study of the book, "If God Is Love" through November 16. After Thanksgiving the study will continue with the next book in the Phillip Gulley/James Mulholland series, entitled, "If the Church Were Christian: Rediscovering the Values of Jesus." The book is available on Amazon for \$11.99. Come join in the lively and engaging conversations where questions are welcomed, hard topics are not avoided, and we take a look at "what the church could look like if it refocused on the priorities of Jesus" as shared by the author. We meet at 11:00 am each Thursday at River Road Coffeehouse, 26 N Park Place, which is downtown, across the street from the courthouse, just two doors from Midland Theater. You, your thoughts, and your questions are welcome!



There is an old song by a group called the Medical Mission Sisters and the chorus goes, “God loves a cheerful giver! Give it all you’ve got.” I remember listening to this song as a young child and was always inspired by their enthusiasm. Their upbeat manner of singing, “Give it all you’ve got” never felt demanding or overbearing. Quite the opposite! It always felt to me like an encouragement to give to the fullest of one’s ability while enjoying and relishing the act. To me, that’s at the heart of our appeal when we ask for people to give to the church – whether we’re asking for a gift of time, talent or treasure. 2 Corinthians tells us that we each are to give as we have made up our mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. As we enter into new chapters in the life of St. John’s UCC, we are in a time when finances are a bit tight. This is not a “red alert”, but a reminder that there are ongoing costs associated with the mission and ministry of being the church. We are dependent on the gifts that are shared by you – gifts of your offering money and gifts of your volunteer time. This may be a time when you assess your approach and style to your giving. Do you give intentionally, thinking about the needs of the church as well as your own ability to give? Do you give cheerfully? Do you “Give it all you’ve got?” The need to prayerfully consider your gifts to the church, not just your financial gifts, but the gifts of your time and talent, doesn’t just happen in the Fall during the Faith Promise campaign. The need to think about your giving is an ongoing need. What is God calling you to do in this time in the life of St. John’s? What are the new and emerging ways in which your gifts can support the work and mission of the church? So consider your gifts, not regretfully or under compulsion, but as a cheerful giver, giving thanks to God through your contributions to our ongoing call to share our resources and to be the Body of Christ in our world today. “God loves a cheerful giver! Give it all you’ve got.”

Craft NIGHT

November 8 from 4:30pm to 7:30pm

In the Large meeting room

Cindy Dunn will be leading the craft project. Bring a small picture, poem or small article that you would like to decoupage. Cost is \$5.00

Bring your own “brown bag” dinner and a snack to share.

Sign up sheet is in the Fellowship room



NEWS FROM CHURCH COUNCIL – St. John’s Church Council met on Monday, October 16, 2023

The meeting of the Church Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, October 16, 2023, by Tom Lawyer, President.

Devotions: Given by Rev. Joyce Wealand.

Treasurer’s Report – Frank Davis: Giving is almost \$10,000 less than projected. The Treasurer’s report received approval from Kirk Homrighouse with a second from Frances Hill. Motion carried. For additional information, please see the written report.

Pastor's Report - Fifty period packs were created and delivered. (Goal met). For additional information, please see the written report.

Communications: Anita will need time off in December for an upcoming surgery.

Mission and Outreach: Susan Jansheski has moved and will soon no longer be serving on the committee. April Kinser will be her replacement.

Property Management: Greg Crowthers will take on the duty of contact person for the insurance.

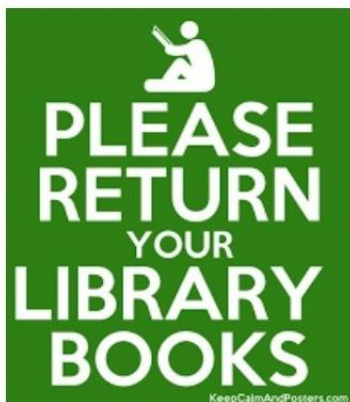
Old Business: Boilers are installed and running. A warranty check is required and will be completed on Tuesday, October 17, 2023.

New Business: In the spring of 2024, the parking lot will need to be resealed.

Executive Session: An Executive session was held.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Kirk Homrighouse with a second by Tim Powers that this meeting of the Church Council be adjourned. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Next Meeting: is Monday, November 13, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. All members of St. John’s are always welcome to attend.



Here are some titles that have been out for some time.

Best Loved Poems of the American People by Hazel Felleman

He Chose the Nails by Max Lucado

Gentle Moon: The Story of Molly Lee by Deanna Windon

Please Give a Devotion for Woman’s Groups by Amy Bolding

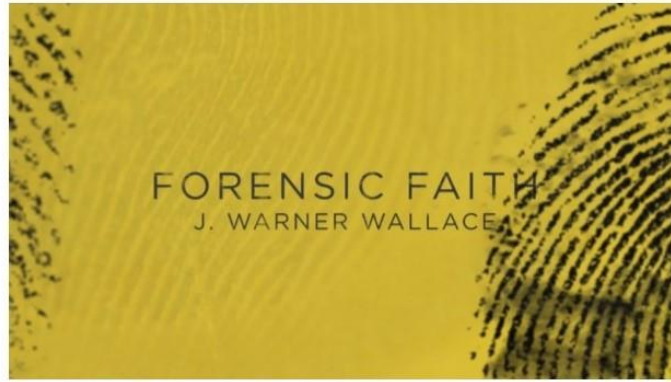
Reaching Out to the Unchurched by Douglas Johnson

Faking Church by Dan Schaeffer

No More Shacks! By Millard Fuller

Devotions for Growing Strong by Charles Swindoll

ADULT
Sunday School



Starting September 17, the Adult Sunday School class will meet at 9:30AM. To start the year off we will be looking at the DVD based Bible study "Forensic Faith" by J. Warner Wallace a veteran cold case detective. Come join us!

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).



Afternoon Circle -

will meet on Wednesday, November 1, at 1:00 p.m. in the Large Meeting Room. This will be our annual Thank Offering Service. Please bring your Thank Offering with you. This year our Offering will be going to Ben Franklin School. Vicky Davis and Janet Snider are in charge of refreshments.

We take this opportunity to thank Rev. Joyce Wealand for her support of our Afternoon Circle, and to joyfully pray for her faithful ministry in her new position.

All women in our St. John's Church Family are invited to attend our meetings and be a part of our fellowship.



Ladies Afternoon Circle is Hosting a

Hat, Glove & Sock

DRIVE

NOVEMBER 19 THROUGH DECEMBER 10

Donations can be dropped off
in the Fellowship room

Benefit Ben Franklin Elementary school

September 23, 2023 was the *Amazing Grace for a Woman's Heart* Mini Retreat. 14 ladies, members and visitors attended the 3 hour mini retreat. They enjoyed a presentation by Elaine Gard, refreshments and engaging conversation. Thank you to all who were able to attend and we look forward to hosting another mini retreat in the future.





Youth will be meeting November 5 at 5:00pm at the Salvation Army to help serve the evening meal. They will also meet following the 11AM service on November 19 for a regular meeting in the Youth room

Adult Sunday school class will meet at 9:30AM. To continue our study of "Forensic Faith" by J. Warner Wallace a veteran cold case detective. Come join us!



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 church in the weeks leading up the 10th.

Thank you to everyone who participated in Trunk or Treat. Each person who passed out candy, gave donations, put on a costume, decorated their trunk wrapped, prepared or passed out food, thank you! We were able to give away 300 meals to those who attended. There were 14 "trunks" and about 30 people ready with candy for the kids. It was good time for chatting with friends meeting our neighbors and sharing some fun, games and food. There were some wonderful consumes and very creative decorations which made it fun for everyone. It was a very tight race, but congratulations goes to the Kochendorfer family for being voted "Best Decorated Trunk".



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.

November Worship Service Duties

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

Cradle Roll

- 5 Volunteer
- 12 Julie Kroah
- 19 Volunteer
- 26 Frances Hill

Cantors

- 5 Julie Davis
- 12 Todd Baldosser
- 19 Don Boldt
- 26 Diane Reef

Sunday Sound Worship Team

- 5 Ken Kroah
- 12 Mike Dooley
- 19 Ken Kroah
- 26 Mike Dooley

Bible Discovery Zone

- 5 Brian Lensink & Matthew Kroah
- 12 Ken Kroah & Karson Ewing
- 19 Elaine Gard & Pat Farley
- 26 Frances Hill & Emmaleigh Crowthers

Thursday Media Worship Team

- 2 Tom Lawyer
- 9 Julie Kroah
- 16 Tom Lawyer
- 23 Julie Kroah
- 30 Tom Lawyer

Sunday Video Worship Team

- 5 Julie Kroah
- 12 Tom Lawyer
- 19 Julie Kroah
- 26 Tom Lawyer

IDOP

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
for the PERSECUTED CHURCH

November 5, 2023

More than 360 million Christians face high levels of persecution and discrimination for their faith in Jesus.

**WE ENTER THROUGH OUR FRONT DOOR
BECAUSE WE CAN!**

To observe the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church where many have to hide their Christian faith in fear of persecution, we here at St. John's are encouraging everyone to enter through the front door. Enjoy the beauty of the sanctuary as you walk up the front steps while remembering and praying for those who can not worship in freedom as we can.

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.

Walking Through the Bible

By Jeff Bulthuis

Todaydevotional.com May 30, 2023

What interests are you passionate about?

Kurt Selles has loved hiking for as long as he can remember. While in high school, he had his first opportunity to hike a short stretch of the Appalachian

Trail, an iconic path stretching 2,190 miles (3,524 km) through the eastern United States from Georgia to Maine. That was decades ago, and he has often dreamed of hiking the entire trail. The busyness of work, family life, and ministry, though, has not allowed for the six months needed to complete such a long trek.

In April 2022, however, he was able to hike the Appalachian Trail for three weeks—and while doing so, he reflected on “walking” in the Bible. As the main form of travel in the ancient world, walking is mentioned many times in the Bible. And in that context, walking can mean more than just going from place to place. In the Bible, the Hebrew word for “walk” (halak) can also refer to following God’s way as we live for God in his world.

As he hiked along the Appalachian Trail last year, Kurt often felt like he was walking through the Bible as well. Come and join him on this stroll through the Scriptures and on mountain trails, and along the way we’ll discover God at work in our own lives too!

If you would like to “walk through the Bible” with Kurt Selles you can find his devotional at the following link. <https://todaydevotional.com/blog/walking-through-the-bible>





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.





Christmas Eve
SERVICES

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE
3PM and 7:30PM Sanctuary Services
Special music begins at 7PM


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



November

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	All Saints Sunday Reformation Sunday 8:00am The Last Outdoor Drive-In Service for the season 9:00am Special Presentation by Rev. Beth Long-Higgins & Light Breakfast 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service - Rev. Beth Long-Higgins	30	31 Reformation Day	1 All Saints Day 1:00pm The Afternoon Circle of the Women's Guild Meeting - Thank Offering Service 6:00pm Private Use - Chorus Practice	2 11:00am Book Study with Pastor Joyce - "If God Is Love" - 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	3	4 Veterans Day
5	Daylight-Saving Time Ends 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	6	7 7:00pm Finance & Stewardship Meeting	8 10:00am Christian Education Meeting 4:30pm Craft Night - bring a snack to share & your own dinner 6:00pm Private Use - Chorus Practice	9 11:00am Book Study with Pastor Joyce - "If God Is Love" - 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.	10	11
12	8:00am Early Indoor Service - Sanctuary 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service	13 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	14	15 6:00pm Private Use - Chorus Practice	16 11:00am Book Study with Pastor Joyce - "If God Is Love" - 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	17	18
19	8:00am Early Indoor Service - Sanctuary 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service - Choir Sings	20	21	22 6:00pm Private Use - Chorus Practice	23 Office Closed Thanksgiving Day 7:00pm From St. John's UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service, Live streamed at 7:00pm. 	24 Office Closed	25
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 Chinese Assembly	29 6:00pm Private Use - Chorus Practice	30 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



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 11

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

stjohnsunit@windstream.net

Charles Bruah

Church Sexton

740-975-2699

Julie Kroah

Christian Education Director

stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net

LIBRARY FOCUS FOR NOVEMBER



When Faith is Forbidden by Todd Nettleton. Take a 40-day journey to meet brothers and sisters who share in the sufferings of Christ.

Bonhoeffer: The Life and Writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer DVD. Dietrich Bonhoeffer's writing and speaking and how he not only helped transform an entire faith community in Germany during World War II, but how his beliefs continue to impact the Christian faith of people throughout the world today.

For Children

Joseph. From Christian Library the story of Joseph in a strange land.

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