

Welcome Home!

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

St. John's

The 2024 February Chimes

United Church of Christ

Prayer List

General Prayers: Debbie Jones, Barbara McKee, and Jane Shoemaker

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.

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 the office at stjohnsunitied@windstream.net

Financial Update

Monthly Faith Promise goal	\$ 4,840.42
Income as of January 28, 2024	<u>6,573.00</u>
Month to Date Balance	\$ 1,732.58
Boiler Estimated Cost	\$ 99,260.00
Boiler loan amount	\$ 26,654.19
Boiler Donations received	7,938.20
Donations still needed	\$ 18,715.99

Afternoon Circle -

will meet for lunch at The Lucky Bamboo on Granville Road on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at Noon.

We don't have a regular meeting scheduled for February, but we get together for fellowship anyway - WEATHER PERMITTING. All women of our St. John's Church Family are welcome to join us.

Our next regular meeting will be the Lenten Quiet Hour on Wednesday, March 6, at 1:00 p.m., in the Large Meeting Room.

Congregational Meeting



Please mark your calendar - The Congregational Annual Meeting & Potluck is scheduled for February 18, 2024 after the 11:00 a.m. service. Come and enjoy some fellowship and food!

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, & Friday: 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
For additional times, please call the office 740-323-2407 and leave a message to make an appointment or call/text Anita at 740-973-8218. Thank you!



February Sunday Worship Hours

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



2024 Offering Envelopes

Assigned envelopes are in the Fellowship Room. If your envelopes are not there or if you would like assigned envelopes, please contact Anita or Kim in the office. Thank you!



NEWS FROM CHURCH COUNCIL – St. John’s Church Council met on Monday, January 15, 2024

The meeting of Church Council was called to order at 6:35p.m. on Monday, January 15, 2024, by Tom Lawyer, President.

Devotions: Given by Greg Crowthers

Search Committee: Two profiles (applications) have been received and one will be given a follow-up.

Treasurer’s Report: As of December 31, income was (\$16,420.25) less than budgeted and expenses were (\$15,975.32) less than budgeted, thus producing a yearly shortfall of (\$444.93). Contributions to the Boiler Fund are still being received. A motion was made by Jeff Conner that the Treasurer’s Report be approved, with a second by Tim Powers. Motion carried.

Communications: Several use of facility requests were received: 1. 1/14/24: birthday party was approved by an email vote on January 5. 2. 2/25/24: Student Recital from 2pm to 3pm. Open to the public. 3. 1/30/24: birthday party 4. 4/6-7/24: Youth Overnight. 5. From 2/21/24 to 3/13/24: 6:30pm to 8pm, study of The Chosen television series. 6. VBS 6/24-28/24: 9am to 11:30 am. The rest of the Use of Facility requests, as listed above, were approved by Kirk Homrighouse and Greg Crowthers.

Ash Wednesday Service: Because of no current pastor there will not be a service for Lenten/Ash Wednesday. Motion made by Jeff Conner, second by Greg Crowthers. Motion carried.

Christian Education – Frances Hill Youth Sunday is April 17, 2024. Youth will oversee both the 8am and 11am services.

New Business: Requests have been made to bring back activities like potlucks and The Portrayal. Council agreed with the reinstatement of potlucks. Portrayal will be added to the agenda for further discussion in February. Frances to get commitments from people to make sure there is enough interest.

A process needs to be established by the Congregational Care Committee during the absence of a pastor to get visits and communion to shut ins.

Foundation Fund Meeting: Opened by Kirk Homrighouse with a second from Jeff Conner. A foundation fund was established in the name of Sharon Hickman, approval to do so was received from her daughter Michelle Knowlton. Motion to establish the Hickman fund was made by Frank Davis with a second by Greg Crowthers. Motion carried. Foundation Fund meeting closed by Frances Hill with a second from Frank Davis

Adjourn: Motion was made by Jeff Conner, second received by Mike Dooley, that this meeting be adjourned. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:26p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Lawyer, President

Kirk Homrighouse, Secretary

The next meeting is on Monday, February 19, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. All members of St. John’s are always welcome to attend.

ANNUAL MEETING POT LUCK!

Please plan to stay after the February 18 service for our Annual Meeting. We are bringing back the Pot Luck! With COVID, we got out of the habit of so many things in our church, what a better way to celebrate our emergence from this time with fellowship and a meal. Directly after Worship, we will adjourn to Hermann Hall, so please deliver your Pot Luck dish to the serving table in Hermann Hall before our service.

Folks with last name A-L, please bring a side dish (green beans, potatoes, etc.) and those with last name M-Z please bring a dessert. The main dish will be supplied by the Church. We will see you on the 18th!

Tim Powers

Todd Baldosser student's winter concert!

“A Musical Afternoon at the Movies” will occur Sunday February 25, at St. Johns U.C.C. at 2:00 pm. Please invite friends and family. See you there!



Volunteers are needed! Please consider joining our Church Council.

There are three open positions available starting on February 19, 2024.

A few excerpts to give a little insight. Please ask a current Council Member if you have questions. A complete hard copy with officer and member information is available in the Fellowship Room if you are interested.

Job description of a Church Council Member at St. John's United Church of Christ.

Taken from the 2013 Constitution, Art. XI:2,3

- Elected for one three-year term
- Can be re-elected for a second 3-year term immediately (maximum of 6 years)
- Must be off of Council one year before being elected to another term after serving 2 terms in a row

According to Tradition

- Each member is a liaison with one of the Council Committees –
Member does not need to be the chair of that committee

Officers are the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and the Secretary

Committees: Christian Education Committee, Church & Ministry Committee, Congregational Care, Evangelism & Outreach Committee, Finance & Stewardship, Mission & Outreach, Music Committee, Personnel Committee, Property Management, Special Events



St. John's Library Turns 100!

In October of 1923, the Young Peoples Society of St. John's Church asked for donations of religious and fiction books so that a Library could be started at the church.

In the January, 1924, issue of the St. John's Chimes, it was announced that *"the enterprise has now been realized. It is the belief of the Young People that the church should set as a medium, in the community in which it stands, to bring the people unto the Kingdom of our Lord, and that this should be done not only by the means of preaching and teaching but also by loaning of books. In this way we get the people interested in the church and thus bring men to Christ and Christ to men."*

The Library was open each **Friday** evening and on **Sunday** mornings. The Librarian was Mr. John Hawkins, who is the uncle of our present members Chuck and Bud Dudley.

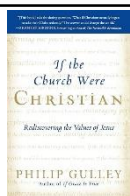
So this year we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of our St. John's Church Library!

The Library has been a large part of our congregation for all these years. When our congregation moved to this "new" building in 1952, the Library found a home in the kitchen by Hermann Hall. After the gas shortages of the late 1970s necessitated the move of the offices to the Education Wing, the Library was moved to the former Pastor's Office (now the hallway and restrooms between the Fellowship Room and the Sanctuary). In the 1980s it was moved to its present home in the Large Meeting Room in the Education Wing.

Most of the Librarians' names have been lost to us. But obviously the first was Mr. John Hawkins. Mrs. Jean Welsh oversaw the moves in the 1970s and 80s. A Library Committee was established in the 80's, and its members, Mrs. Jean Fulk and Mrs. Betty Neighbarger, along with Director of Christian Education Elaine Kopke Gard, took a correspondence course in Introductory Library Science for Church Libraries through the Church of Latter Day Saints in Utah. Mrs. Debi Snow is the current Librarian. (If anyone can give us other names of Librarians, please inform Julie Kroah.)

Please stop in the Library anytime to look at the books. We have fiction, nonfiction, religious books, poetry, art, music, history, movies, studies, books for children, books for youth, books to help plan events, self-help books. We also have 100th Anniversary displays. It's easy to check out a book - sign your name to the card in the book pocket and leave it on the desk. And then just return the book to the desk when you are done. New books and resources are being added each month.

Use our Library. Be proud of our Library. Celebrate our Library.



You are invited to join the book study group as we meet to discuss the book entitled "If the Church Were Christian, Rediscovering the Values of Jesus" by Philip Gulley. The group will meet Thursdays, February 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 at 11am at the River Road Coffee House on North Park Place in downtown Newark. The book is available online.



St. John's
VALENTINE'S DAY
SPAGHETTI
DINNER



February 13, 2024 6:00PM

Hermann Hall
 285 W. National Drive Newark Ohio
 Freewill offering accepted

Reserve your spot today!

Email stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net or call 740-323-2408

All proceeds benefit the Mission Trip



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).



LIBRARY FOCUS FOR FEBRUARY



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Captured by Grace by David Jeremiah. Following the dramatic story of John Newton, the Amazing Grace hymn writer, and the apostle Paul's own encounter with the God of grace

Bad Girls of the Bible DVD by Liz Curtis Higgs. Ten of the Bible's best-known femmes fatales parade across the pages of this popular and unforgettable study with familiar situations.

For Children

Ruth by Kjersti Hoff Baez and the Young Readers Christian Library. The Story of Ruth written for children.

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



February 11, 2024

Youth Canned Soup Drive

Canned soups of all kinds or monetary donations

Collection bins will be in the Fellowship room

**Benefit the Licking County Food Pantry
and The Little Free Pantry**

Church Council Spotlight



The Church and Ministry Committee

The purpose of the Church and Ministry Committee is to provide ushers, liturgists and more. They are the liaison for the Altar Guild. This is the group that works to make sure all Sunday morning worship details are correct and ready to go. If you would like to be a part of this committee or volunteer in an Altar Guild capacity please contact Jeff Conner or Frank Davis.

The Christian Education Committee

It is the responsibility of the Christian Education Committee to direct all Christian education in the church. They choose curriculum for all ages, coordinate the Youth group and plan special events that will teach and bring the word of God to the congregation. They recruit teachers and helpers for the classrooms and host Vacation Bible school. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer with this committee in any way contact Julie Kroah or Frances Hill.



PIVOT YOUR MISSION by Ed Stetzer for Biblicalleadership.com
February 1, 2021 (an excerpt)

As we begin a new year with a fresh focus on evangelism, I want to look specifically at ways you might share the gospel in your community. Let's be honest; for a lot of Christians, evangelism is

more like kale than comfort food. How can we create momentum for evangelism that will cause believers to engage?

Start Where People Are

We do so by looking at ways that fit our people and their gifts and abilities. In a conversation with Rick Warren some time ago, he observed the biblical truth in John 14:6 that there is only one way to come to the Father, and that is through Jesus. Then he added, "But, there are a lot of ways to Jesus. People come to Christ for different reasons. Some come out of fear. Some come out of questions. Some come out of hunger. Some come out of pain. Some come out of suffering. Some come out of guilt, or worry, or boredom, or bitterness."

Rick's point is a fundamental one in evangelism: start where people are and take them to Jesus. But that doesn't only apply to the unchurched. We also take believers where they are and help them take the gospel to unbelievers from where they are on their walk. How do we do this?

Take a Good Look

Begin by Looking to God in Prayer.

Ask God for wisdom in how best to connect people who love Jesus with people who need Jesus. James reminds us, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting" (James 1:5-6a). We aren't smart enough to lead without God's guidance; thankfully, it is only a prayer away.

Look at the People in Your Church. Every believer has abilities, gifts, and interests that can be used for their witness.

Look to the Fields, as Jesus said (John 4:35). What are the pressing needs? Who are the unbelievers that people in your church already know?



*watch
discuss
reflect
rejoice*

This Lenten season watch and discuss the story of Jesus
come to life through the global hit TV series

“The Chosen”

Season 1

Wednesday's 6:30pm—8:00pm in the large meeting room

February 21 discuss episodes 1 & 2

February 28 discuss episodes 3 & 4

March 6 discuss episodes 5 & 6

March 13 discuss episodes 7 & 8

snacks provided

Watch the episodes ahead of discussion sessions



WHERE To WATCH



SEASON 1

FREE

•St. John's owns seasons 1, 2, and 3 on DVD.
Contact Julie at 740-323-2408 or
stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net to make an
appointment to watch any episode.

FREE—on your smart tv, computer or tablet

- Angel Studios <https://www.angel.com/watch>
- BYUtv

SUBSCRIPTION

- Amazon Prime Video
- Fox Nation
- Netflix
- Peacock
- fubo TV
- Philo

PREMIUM SUBSCRIPTION

- YouTube
- YouTube TV
- Hulu
- The Roku Channel
- Sling TV
- PURCHASE/RENT
- Apple TV

Join us



Let's come together and pray for our church and our new pastor, whoever that maybe. This will be silent and self-led prayer time. Come when you can, leave when you need to. Pray for few minutes or longer.

Following the 8AM service and again before the 11AM service.



Youth group will be meeting February 4 and 18 and March 3 and 17 following the 11AM service in the Youth room. We will be planning the Easter Breakfast and Youth Sunday.



Adult Sunday school class continues to study *Defined* by Alex and Stephan Kendrick. Come join us! Based on their movie, OVERCOMER, this new Bible Study is about finding your identity in God.

Valentine Spaghetti Dinner February 13, 2024 at 6pm. Come enjoy dinner and let us serve you. Free will offering accepted to benefit the Mission Trip fund. Please RSVP to stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.com or 740-323-2407.



Join us for a study and discussion on the hit TV series *The Chosen* Season 1 discussion study Wednesday's 6:30pm to 8:00pm during Lent, February 21 28 and March 6, 13. Plan to watch the program ahead of time. If you do not have a way to watch the TV show, contact the Christian Education office for viewing availability. Snacks provided.

Be sure to pick up your Lenten devotional material in the Fellowship starting February 11.



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.

February Worship Service Duties

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

Cradle Roll

- 4 Avery Nagle
- 11 Avery Nagle
- 18 Avery Nagle
- 25 Avery Nagle

Cantors

- 4 Julie Davis
- 11 Don Boldt
- 18 Diane Reef
- 25 Todd Baldosser

Sunday Sound Worship Team

- 4 Ken Kroah
- 11 Mike Dooley
- 18 Ken Kroah
- 25 Mike Dooley

Bible Discovery Zone

- 4 Brian Lensink & Matthew Kroah
- 11 Marla Crowthers & Emmaleigh Crowthers
- 18 Elaine Gard & Kayden Ewing
- 28 Frances Hill & Karson Ewing

Thursday Media Worship Team

- 1 Tom Lawyer
- 8 Julie Kroah
- 15 Tom Lawyer
- 22 Julie Kroah
- 29 Tom Lawyer

Sunday Video Worship Team

- 4 Julie Kroah
- 11 Tom Lawyer
- 18 Julie Kroah
- 25 Tom Lawyer



FEBRUARY

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	8:00am Early Indoor Service - Sanctuary 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service 11:45am Mission Trip Planning Meeting	29	30	31 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice	1 11:00am Book study 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.	2	3
4	8:00am Early Indoor Service - Sanctuary 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service 11:45am Youth Group	5	6	7 12:00pm The Afternoon Circle - lunch at the Lucky Bamboo weather permitting 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice	8 11:00am Book study 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.	9	10
11	Youth Souper Bowl of Caring 8:00am Early Indoor Service - Sanctuary 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service	12	13 6:00pm Valentine's Day Spaghetti Dinner - Free will offering to benefit the Mission Trip 7:00pm No Finance & Stewardship Meeting in February	14 10:00am Christian Education Meeting 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice	15 11:00am Book study 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.	16	17
18	8:00am Early Indoor Service - Sanctuary 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service 11:45am Youth Group 12:00pm Annual Church Congregational Meeting & Potluck	19 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	20	21 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice 6:30pm Lenten Study "The Chosen - Season 1 - Episode 1 & 2	22 11:00am Book study 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.	23	24
25	8:00am Early Indoor Service - Sanctuary 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service 2:00pm Todd Baldosser's Student Recital	26	27	28 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice 6:30pm Lenten Study "The Chosen - Season 1- Episode 3 & 4"	29 11:00am Book study 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.	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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 Permit No. 103

Worship Services!

8:00 a.m. – Early Sanctuary Service
 11:00 a.m. – Sanctuary Service
 7:00 p.m. – Thursday Prayer Service
 Volume 24 Number 2

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 Direct Number 740-323-2408 stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net

Easter Lilies

This Easter, we will again beautify our sanctuary and our lobby window with an array of Easter lilies to be displayed at both services, which will be purchased from a local nursery. If you would like to participate in this celebration of Easter, please fill out the form below or contact the church office.

6" pot traditional white - \$12.50

THE DEADLINE for placing lily orders is **Sunday, March 3, 2024**. Abiding and Foundation Fund Memorials are due by **March 24, 2024**.

_____ I desire the office to purchase a lily for me to keep.

_____ I desire the office to purchase a lily 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) for lily purchases, Abiding Memorials and/or Foundation Fund Contributions.

Name: _____ Phone: _____