

Welcome Home!

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



St. John's

The 2024 September Chimes

United Church of Christ



Prayer List

General Prayers: Bill Carr, Charlie Bruah, Debbie Snow
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 stjohnsunited@windstream.net

Thank you!

The family of Judy Goodman would like to thank members of the congregation for the many cards, kind words, and contributions to the Abiding Memorial and Foundation Funds during her illness and subsequent death. Special thanks to Reverend Mark Katrick for conducting the memorial service at the funeral home, and to Church Sexton and good friend Charles Bruah for his assistance with the luncheon in Herman Hall. Per her wishes Judy's ashes were interred at the cemetery of St. John's UCC in Holgate Ohio (her father's home church). The burial service took place on June 22, 2024, Judy and Jerry's 50th wedding anniversary.

Dear St. John's,
Thank you for your generous donation to New Beginnings. We appreciate your kindness and generosity to our program.
Sincerely, Tricia Hufford



September Sunday Worship Hours

September 1 Only - 8:00 a.m. Outdoor Drive-In
Starting September 8 - 8:30 a.m. Outdoor Drive-In
Traditional Sanctuary Service at 11:00 a.m.

Financial Update

Monthly Faith Promise goal	\$	4,840.42
Income as of August 25, 2024		<u>6,531.00</u>
Month to Date Balance	\$	1,690.58
Boiler Cost	\$	99,260.00
Boiler loan amount	\$	26,654.19
Boiler Donations received		\$10,688.20
Donations still needed	\$	15,965.99

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!



Congratulations!

Clayton Timothy Alan Crowthers

Born: August 8, 2024

Length 19.5" and 6 lbs. 11 oz.

Parents: Alan & Akela Crowthers

Sibling of Emilee

Grandparents: Greg & Marla Crowthers

Reverend Dr. Walker

To reach Rev. Dr. Walker, call her cell 614-370-5346. Please leave a message and she will return your call as quickly as possible. Her email address is 7akaboah@gmail.com

Search Committee Update

During our August 4 congregational meeting, Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher was voted unanimously to be called as the Senior Pastor of St. John's United Church of Christ. Rev. Swisher will begin his ministry at St. John's starting October 1, 2024. His first Sunday will be October 6. The Search Committee is very grateful for the support and prayers we have received from both Council and the entire church family.

As we begin this new chapter, we must thank Rev. Dr. Amelia Walker for her spiritual leadership in both our Sunday services and her visitations. She brought God's word to our membership in a way that reunited our congregation and renewed our purpose in Jesus Christ. We have asked her if she would come back any time Rev. Swisher will be on vacation. We will have a pot luck reception following the 11AM service on September 29 to thank Rev. Walker for her service to St. John's.

Reverend Swisher will be the 34th pastor to minister at St. John's since its founding in 1841. Rev. Swisher will continue a legacy of ministers that reflect our history as a German Evangelical Church and move us forward in the 21st century as a church that serves the members of St. John's and the surrounding community. Rev Swisher will reside in the parsonage. The parsonage is currently being updated in several rooms including the kitchen and upstairs bathroom. Frank Davis has been leading this work supported by Chuck Chirdon, Ken Kroah, Tim Powers and Terry Gano. We are in need of volunteers to complete a top-to-bottom cleaning prior to the end of September. Look for signup sheets in the Fellowship Room.

I will be working with Rev. Swisher and our UCC Conference to enable Rev. Swisher to gain standing in the UCC. This is an important stipulation that ensures that Rev. Swisher gets the support from the UCC, and also that he becomes ensconced in the UCC Polity and Heritage. I am personally excited to see how we, as a church, will move forward with Rev. Swisher as our new Pastor and Teacher. Please join us October 6 for Rev. Swisher's first Sunday at St. John's and give him a large St. John's welcome!

Tim Powers, Search Committee Chairman

Afternoon Circle -

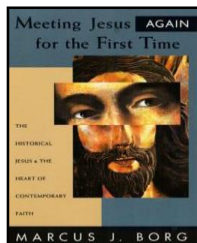
will meet on Wednesday, September 4, at 1:00 p.m. in the Large Meeting Room for the program "Accessories All Christian Women Should Wear." We'll have our usual Bite-Size Bible Study, this time on Abigail. Mrs. April Kinser will serve refreshments.

Last month we had tables full of ladies as we observed Peace Day and enjoyed our favorite Carrot Cake!

All ladies of the congregation are invited and urged to join us for a short, fun afternoon of food, fellowship, and Bible study. Afternoon Circle - 152 years strong - the only remaining fellowship group in St. John's history.



The early Drive-In service time is changing. On Rally Day, Sunday, September 8, the early service will start at 8:30 a.m. and continue for future services.



You are welcome to join the book study group as we continue our discussions of the book by Marcus Borg entitled "Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time, The Historical Jesus and the Heart of Contemporary Faith. We will meet each **Thursday** in September (5,12,19,26) at the River Road Coffee House downtown on the square in Newark at 11am. The book is available for purchase online.

SEPTEMBER 29



We will have a potluck reception following the 11AM service on September 29 to thank Rev. Walker for her service to St. John's.

A special thank you for her spiritual leadership in both our Sunday services and her visitations. She brought God's word to our membership in a way that reunited our congregation and renewed our purpose in Jesus Christ.

The CHOSEN

SEASON 2

WEDNESDAY'S

6:30PM—8:00PM

August 21— September 11

The CHOSEN



Invite a friend and join us for fun, lively fellowship.

August 21 discussion on episodes 1 & 2

August 28 discussion on episodes 3 & 4

September 4 discussion on episodes 5 & 6

September 11 discussion on episodes 7 & 8



Books are available to purchase online or at Memory Petals & Christian Gift Shop in Heath, or if you like, the church will purchase the book for you.

It is not necessary to have the book for the discussion group

Church Council Notes for Monday, August 19, 2024



Attending: Frank Davis, Charles Dudley, Frances Hill, Gary Kinser, April Kinser, Julie Davis, Tim Powers, Greg Crothers, Mike Dooley, Brian Lensink, Jeff Connor, and Anita Chirdon and Kim Workman.

Devotions were led by Brian Lensink, who shared an inspiration from the TV show CHIPS. The message was that as Christians we are to seek wisdom and clarity. The world around us may not share our beliefs, but Christ wants us to be compassionate and understanding. Look to Jesus for guidance.

A use of facility request from the CE committee was approved for 10/20/2024 for the community Trunk or Treat which will be in the front parking lot from 4-5:30pm.

Frank Davis reports that slate roof repair has been ordered and will be done as soon as timing can be worked out.

Rev. Swisher was accepted as our called minister at the congregational meeting earlier this month and will start in October. A congregational potluck luncheon will be held Sunday, September 29, 2024 after the worship service to express our thanks to Rev. Walker.

Rally Day, the beginning of the new church school year, will be [Sunday, September 8, 2024](#). The outdoor service will be at 8:30 am and will continue at that time until the end of the year. The outdoor service will continue until the end of October. The first week in November the early service will move into the chapel at 8:30am.

Respectfully submitted

April Kinser, Secretary Jeff Connor, President

The next meeting is on Monday, September 16, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. All members of St. John's are always welcome to attend.



SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

Revisiting Our Roots

8:30AM Outdoor Drive-In Service

9:30am **Rally Day Welcome Coffee Hour**

11:00am Sanctuary Service

12:00pm **Root BierGarten Party**

September 8 at 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone

September 15 at 9:30am Adult Class: *Revisiting Our Roots: The Evangelical Catechism*

September 22 at 9:30am Confirmation Class
at 11:40am Youth Group

CONFIRMATION CLASS BEGINS



Confirmation Class

A new Confirmation Class is forming for all those Youth interested in Church Membership. An organizational meeting will be held for Youth and their Parents on Sunday, September 8, (Rally Day) from 10:15-10:45 in the Small Meeting Room (next to the Christian Education Office). Classes will meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month, beginning on September 22, during the Sunday School hour, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Our first class will look at how we got our Bible. Mrs. Elaine Gard will be the teacher. Confirmation Classes will continue until Pentecost Sunday next June, when the class will be Confirmed. Alternate Sundays will be used for study and special activities.

All Youth 12 years old and above are invited to attend. Any Adults who would like a Confirmation Refresher are also invited to sit in with us.

(We will be using MY CONFIRMATION as our curriculum. Class members will also be instructed in Acolyting by Mr. Terry Gano and will be put on the Acolyte Schedule.)

Come and be a part of this exciting new adventure as we prepare for Church Membership!

September Mission Focus

Mission and Outreach committee has set aside funds to purchase supplies for feminine hygiene emergency kits for Church World Service, a worldwide charity that supplies essential needs in times of disaster. Supplies have been ordered and kits will be assembled on September 14, 2024. If you would like to help assemble these kits, please call April Kinser at [740-323-3500](tel:740-323-3500). Assembled kits will then be donated at the UCC Annual Heartland Conference Gathering in Columbus at the end of September. The theme this year is Being the Community of Christ Together and we will join with other UCC churches to provide love and compassion and necessary supplies for those in need.

ADULT Sunday School

"Revisiting Our Roots"

Evangelical Catechism

Lead by Elaine Gard

9:30AM

September 15, 29, October 6,
20, November 3, 17

The Adult Sunday School Class will be "revisiting our roots" this fall by looking at the old German Evangelical Catechism. (We will study in English!) This is the catechism which was taught to all Confirmands when St. John's was part of the old German Evangelical Church. This question and answer program gave the basic beliefs of the church and was memorized by all young people before joining the body of Christ.

No memorization will be required! But how do our beliefs *today* compare to those of St. John's when we were founded? What did St. John's stand for then? What does St. John's stand for now? Join us to discern.

The Adult Sunday School Class meets during the Sunday School hour, 9:30-10:30 a.m., in the Large Meeting Room. For this study only, we will meet on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of September, October, and November! Mrs. Elaine Gard will lead this study (as well as teaching the Confirmation Class on the alternate Sundays). Be present on September 15 for our first class as we look at the Introduction to the Catechism and the study of God. Copies of the Evangelical Catechism will be available in the Fellowship Room on Rally Day, September 8. Please read the Intro and Part I before class. The alternate Sundays can be used for reading the next parts to be studied, along with the scripture references.

Join us for this exciting look into the past, and how that influences our faith now and as we move forward.

St. John's Little Free Pantry

It's *EASY* to *DONATE*

Walk or pull your car up to the pantry and place your donation inside.

ANYTIME, at your convenience.

The Little Free pantry is for everyone. Anyone can donate what they have to give and anyone can take what they need.



THANK YOU for keeping our Little Free Pantry filled.

From the St. John's Evangelism and Outreach Committee



THE RANKINGS ARE IN: THIS IS MY NEW FAVORITE LEADER IN THE BIBLE

Tom Harper June 3, 2024 BibleLeadership.com

It's hard to choose the "best" biblical leader (other than Jesus, of course). You could make a case for Noah's bold perseverance, Nehemiah's political savvy, Joshua's bravery ... the list goes on.

Who would you choose? I just decided I have a new top contender in this biblical leadership ranking ... John the Baptist.

For one main reason. I came across a tiny little story in John chapter 3. It forced me to highlight it and squeeze a bunch of notes into the margin next to it.

In verses 22-30, the Baptist's disciples complain to their boss that more people are going to Jesus instead of him to be baptized. "You were the original! In fact, you baptized him!" (My paraphrase.)

John's brilliant display of leadership humility silences them. And it impressed me deeply.

In verse 27, he says, "A man can only receive what is given him from heaven." He goes on to say he's not the one people should be following; he, in fact, is trying to lead people to the one who sent him.

John's famous admission in verse 30 is the crux of the whole passage: "He must become greater; I must become less."

He led his own disciples out of their jealousy and pride.

The biggest lesson I took away is that John didn't let his ministry become an idol, and he didn't let his followers convince him it should be.

He simply wanted his life to point to Jesus—even if that meant losing his personal followers. As long as they went to Jesus, John's joy would be complete. And his mission would be accomplished.

Rally Day

Revisiting Our Roots



Community Social
Root Beer Floats

September 8, 2024
12:00PM

Plus a special Fellowship Hour
9:30AM to 10:30AM



Rally Day is September 8! Join in the celebration, "Revisiting Our Roots!" 9:30AM Special Fellowship Hour. Then following the 11AM service a Root BierGarten Neighborhood Social. Come for fellowship, come for fun, come for the Root Beer Floats!



Bible Discovery Zone will begin September 8 at 11:00AM
Adult Sunday School Class will begin September 15 at 9:30AM
Youth Group will begin September 22 following the 11AM service.



The Confirmation class will begin with a short organizational meeting September 8 and the first class will be September 22 at 9:30AM. Elaine Gard will be leading a class for anyone ages 12 through adult.



Trunk or Treat, will be October 20, 2024 4:00PM -5:30PM. Everyone is invited to come and pass out candy from the trunk of their car to the neighborhood kids. We will also be providing a meal to all who attend. Be creative and decorate you car, wear a costume and add to the fun. Plan for about 300 kids. We are also accepting donations of candy. There will also be a competition for the best decorated car/trunk. See you there!

The Youth will be selling Pepperoni Rollers to raise funds for the 2025 Mission Trip. You can place your order September 15 through September 29.



Sunday School Classes

Adult class – will begin September 15.
Bible Discovery Zone – will begin September 8.
Cradle Role – Available during the 11AM service.

September Worship Service Duties

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

Cradle Roll

- 1 Avery Nagel/Volunteer
- 8 Avery Nagel/Volunteer
- 15 Avery Nagel/Volunteer
- 22 Avery Nagel/Volunteer
- 29 Avery Nagel/Volunteer

Cantors

- 1 Diane Reef
- 8 Julie Davis
- 15 Todd Baldosser
- 22 Diane Reef
- 29 Julie Davis

Sunday Sound Worship Team

- 1 Ken Kroah
- 8 Mike Dooley
- 15 Mike Dooley
- 22 Ken Kroah

Sunday Video Worship Team

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



SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:00am Outdoor Drive-In Service- Come as you are - Stay in your car! 11:00am Sanctuary Service	2 Labor Day Office Closed	3	4 1:00pm The Afternoon Circle of the Women's Guild Meeting 5:30pm Mission & Outreach Committee Meeting 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice 6:30pm The Chosen Season 2	5 11:00am Book Study "Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time, The Historical Jesus and the Heart of Contemporary Faith" River Road Coffee on the Square 7:15pm Choir Practice	6 2:45pm Music Committee Meeting	7
8 Rally Day! Revisiting Our Roots 8:30am Outdoor Drive-In Service- Come as you are - Stay in your car! 9:30am Rally Day Welcome Coffee Hour 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service - Choir Sing 12:00pm Root BierGarten Party	9	10 7:00pm Finance & Stewardship Meeting	11 Patriot Day 10:00am Christian Education Meeting 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice 6:30pm The Chosen Season 2	12 11:00am Book Study "Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time, The Historical Jesus and the Heart of Contemporary Faith" River Road Coffee on the Square	13	14
15 8:30am Outdoor Drive-In Service- Come as you are - Stay in your car! 9:30am Evangelical Catechism 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service	16 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	17	18 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice	19 11:00am Book Study "Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time, The Historical Jesus and the Heart of Contemporary Faith" River Road Coffee on the Square 7:15pm Choir Practice	20	21
22 First Day of Autumn 8:30am Outdoor Drive-In Service- Come as you are - Stay in your car! 9:30am Confirmation Class 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service - Choir Sing 11:40am Youth Group Meeting	23	24 Chimes Assembly	25 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice	26 11:00am Book Study "Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time, The Historical Jesus and the Heart of Contemporary Faith" River Road Coffee on the Square	27	28
29 8:30am Outdoor Drive-In Service- Come as you are - Stay in your car! 9:30am Evangelical Catechism 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service 12:00pm Potluck Reception for Rev. Dr. Amelia Walker	30	1	2 1:00pm The Afternoon Circle of the Women's Guild Meeting 5:30pm Mission & Outreach Committee Meeting 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice	3 7:15pm Choir Practice	4	5



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. –September 1 Only - Outdoor Drive-in Service
 8:30 a.m. –Beginning September 8- Outdoor Drive-in Service
 Come as you are! Stay in your car!
 11:00 a.m. – Sanctuary Service


Volume 24 Number 9

Address Service Requested



<p>Main Office Phone 740-323-2407 www.stjohnsnewark.org</p>	<p>Part-time Interim Minister Rev. Dr. Amelia Walker 614-370-5346 7akaboah@gmail.com</p>	<p>Todd Baldosser Organist/Choir Director scarlatti35@hotmail.com</p>
<p>Anita Chiridon/Office Administrator Kim Workman/Office Assistant stjohnsunitied@windstream.net</p>	<p>Charles Bruah Church Sexton 740-975-2699</p>	<p>Julie Kroah Christian Education Director Direct Number 740-323-2408 stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net</p>

LIBRARY FOCUS FOR SEPTEMBER



Understanding the Old Testament by Bernard W. Anderson. An introduction to the Old Testament including history, archaeology, literature, art, theology.

The Chosen season 2. Jesus brings his message to growing crowds.

For Children

The First Book of Ancient Bible Lands by Charles Robinson, Jr. A look at the ancient lands of the Bible for kids.

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