



**St. John's
United Church of Christ
285 W. National Drive
Newark OH
43055-5298**

Main: 740-323-2407

Church Website

www.stjohnsnewark.org

Our Church Staff

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher

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Chapel Pianist

Jane Shoemaker

Children's Bell Choir

Colleen Kroah

Adult Bell Choir

Jerry Goodman

Librarian/Signer

Debi Snow

Prayer List

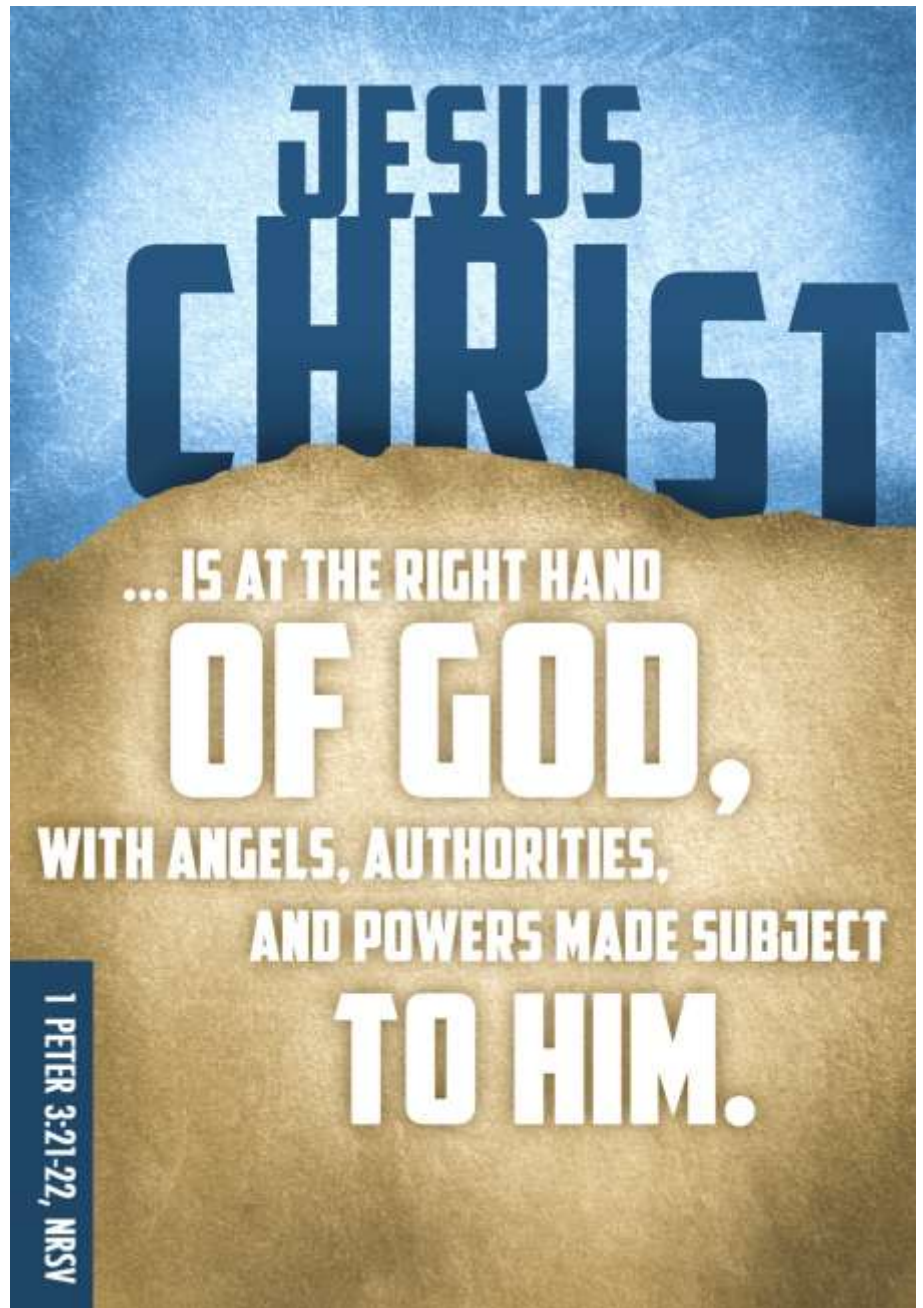
Rebecca Swartz

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***Rooted in the Evangelical
and Reformed Traditions***

***We are Sowing Seeds of Hope
in a Time of Chaos
So We May All Be One***



***August 24, 2025
Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost***

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

Sanctuary Service: 10:30 a.m.

August 24, 2025

Tune your FM Radio to 107.5

8:00 am

Sanctuary Service

10:30 am

Announcements & Greetings

Prelude

“At the Cross” Carter

Todd Baldosser

***Opening Hymn “I Love to Tell the Story” (8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 3) No. 480**

- 1) I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story because I know ‘tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.
I love to tell the story, ‘twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.
- 2) I love to tell the story; ‘tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God’s own holy word.
I love to tell the story, ‘twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.
- 3) I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
‘Twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.
I love to tell the story, ‘twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Let us Worship the Holy one, our refuge, hope and trust

All: Our Praise is continually of our God

Leader: God is our Rock and Salvation

All: God saves and delivers

Leader: God’s righteousness redeems

All: God is our shelter

Leader: We will find rest and delight in the Lord today

All: We lean upon our God, our sure Foundation

Leader: Our Praise is continually of our God

All: Let us Worship the Holy One together in Spirit and in Truth

***Please stand if you are able**

***Prayer of Invocation**

All: Dear God, You make this day Holy and meaningful. As we gather in Your Name, redeem the days when our focus wandered and draw us back to You. Let Your wisdom, compassion and grace guide us. Slow our pace so that we might attend to the things that really matter. Open our understanding to the good that needs to be done. Sustain us in the challenges we face. Help us to be a channel through which Your Name and message flows. As we pray the ultimate words of belief You taught; ...

***The Lord's Prayer – Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

***Gloria Patri**

No. 35

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

***Affirmation of Faith: Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada**

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response “Hear Our Prayer, O Lord” No. 306

**Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord,
incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace. Amen.**

Special Music (10:30 a.m.) Crystal City Singers

Scripture Reading Isaiah 8: 12; 16-18

Scripture Reading 1 Peter 3: 13-22

Sermon Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher
 “No Rose Colored Glasses....But Hope Anyway!”

Hymn **“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”** **No. 585**
(8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 3)

- 1) What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and grief to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit, oh, what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.
- 2) Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!
- 3) Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

Invitation for Faithful Giving

Offertory “Let There Be Peace On Earth” Jackson Todd Baldosser

***Doxology** **No. 46**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

***Prayer of Thanksgiving over the Offering**

All: Unshakeable and Holy God, we bring these gifts before You, not as mere offerings, but as acts of Faith in Your unshakeable Kingdom. Though this world around us trembles, we trust in Your steadfast love, knowing that in Christ, we are welcomed, transformed and sent forth to serve. Bless these tithes and offerings that they may be used to bring hope to the broken hearted and lightness of joy to the weary. With grateful hearts we offer ourselves alongside these gifts, that we may be signs of Your generosity and grace to our community and beyond. In Jesus' Name. Amen

***Closing Hymn "Rejoice, the Lord is King!" No. 699**
(8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 3)

- 1) Rejoice, the Lord is King! The risen Christ adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore:
lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**
- 2) God's reign can never fail, Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;
the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given:
lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**
- 3) Rejoice in glorious hope! For Christ, our Judge, shall come
to glorify the saints for their eternal home:
lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

***Benediction**

***Please join us in the singing of the Congregational Benediction**

**Go Now In Peace/Never be afraid/God will go with you/Each hour of ev'ry
Day/Go now in Faith/Steadfast, strong and true/Know He will guide you in
all you do. Go now in Love/And show you believe/Reach out to others/So
all the world can see/God will be there/Watching from above/Go now in
Peace/In Faith and in Love. Amen/Amen/Amen. CCL#2548454**

Postlude "At the Name of Jesus" Bolduc Todd Baldosser

Pastor Steve's Quote of the Week

**"When you fall get up. When you doubt believe.
When life gets hard be kind to others and yourself." Judge Frank Ciprio**

Rev. Dr. Amelia Walker will be bringing us the message next week:

August 31

Scripture: Luke 14: 1, 7-14

Sermon Notes

To our members, dear friends and visitors:

You are an important part of the worship and ministry that goes on here and we are thankful for your presence. Please sign the attendance pads on the tables.
Thank you!

St. John's Little Free Pantry

Take what you need. Give what you can.



Our little food pantry needs your help. Many of our members along with people from the community have been adding items on a regular basis. However, the need is so great that their efforts need to be supplemented. We are asking that those that can, bring food items to church on Sundays and place them in the donation bins provided: One at the top of the stairs between the Fellowship Room and the sanctuary or the one inside the side entrance door that leads to the rear of the sanctuary. We hope to collect enough food that we can resupply the little food pantry throughout the week.

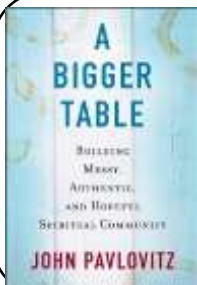
Thank You, Bill and Nancy McInturf

<https://www.littlefreepantry.org/>

Back to School Time

As summer rolls on, we are reminded that school will be starting soon. Our mission focus this month will be the Look Up Center, a community-education and service center with the Glory Rising school for children ages 3 to 5 years. This is a faith-based, half-day learning program for potty-trained children which includes art and music and preparation for school readiness. They are dependent on local support for their Christ-centered outreach. We can assist with necessary supplies. Donations needed include: Glue sticks, Crayons, Markers, colored pencils, tissues, hand wipes (Not bottles of sanitizer) and paper towels. Snacks needed include individual bags (Small) of cookies, chips or goldfish, juice boxes, animal crackers, fruit roll ups, fruit cups, applesauce, and pudding (individual servings). Donations may be dropped off in the Fellowship Room and will be delivered prior to the start of school in September.

With many thanks from the Mission and Outreach Committee



The book study group will meet each Thursday (August 7, 14, 21, 28) at 11am at the River Road Coffee House on the square in downtown Newark. Our current book is titled " A BIGGER TABLE- Building Messy, Authentic, and Hopeful Spiritual Community " by John Pavlovitz and is available online. Please come and join us as we enjoy coffee and discussion and share the love of Christ with each other.

St. Johns Music Volunteer Potluck



Music Volunteer Potluck

All music volunteers are invited to a Music Volunteer Potluck on Sunday, September 14. The meal will follow the 10:30 a.m. church service. Anyone involved with St. John's Music ministry is welcome. Please bring a covered dish or dessert. Table service and beverages will be provided. See you there!

Fall Fling

Save the Date!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2025
5:30PM BRYN DU FIELDHOUSE
537 JONES ROAD, GRANVILLE

HELP US RECOGNIZE OUR HAVEN HEROES

Tom Harvey & Patty Gaul

Sponsorships are available now!
For information,
contact Cathy Stofac
cstofac@svdphaven.org (740) 670-0822



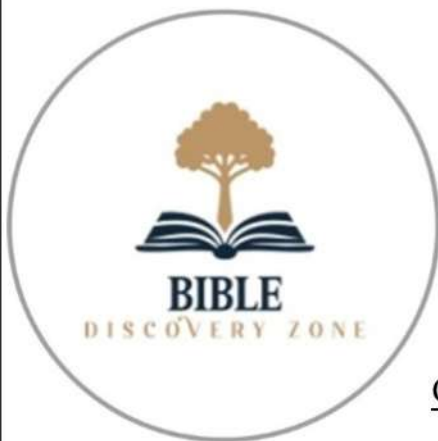
September 7, 2025

9:00AM to 10:30AM

Food • Fun • Friends!

Interactive Bible Stations
for kids and adults

On Rally Day, we will begin our journey together, reading the Bible in a year.



9:00AM—10:00AM

Classes starting September 14

Adult Class held in the Large meeting room
“Searching the Scriptures” by Swindoll led by Rev. Swisher

Youth class held in the Small meeting room
“Pilgrims Progress” by Bunyan led by Elaine Gard

Children’s class held in the Bible Discovery Zone room
(ages infant to 12)



General Prayers: Bill Carr, Charlie Bruah, Rev. Dr. Winfield Strout, Molly Sheets, Mike Dunn, Marla Crowthers & Rev. Gunnar Cerda and Family

Homebound and Nursing Facility Residents: Mel Cunningham, Bonita Farmer, Patricia Gilbert, Paula Hatfield, Rosalie Johnson, Faith Kelly, Delores and Harold McDonald, Esther Gillham, Helen McGaughy, Mary Lou Hostetler, Charles and Lois Meyers, Molly Sheets, Lois Swonger & Debbie Snow



Additional prayer requests on Bea's Blessings:

- Christina (Carolyn Igo's daughter) – Cancer diagnosis
- Aiden Barnes – Health concerns
- Mr. Ron Baker (Chuck Chirdon's father under Hospice Care)
- Mr. Bill Klinesmith (Julie Kroah's father)
- Mrs. Barbara Swisher
- Mark Derus: Under Hospice Care

We Appreciate Those Serving Today!

Liturgist:

Jeff Conner

Cantor:

10:30 a.m. Todd Baldosser

Ushers:

Frank Davis, Larry Jones, Terry Gano, Barry Dooley, Gary Kinser

Cradle Roll:

Volunteer/Avery Nagel

Media Worship Team:

Sound & Video:

8:00 am: Mike Dooley

10:30 am: Karson Ewing /Ken Kroah

Thank you for your continued support! In addition to your giving in person, by drop off, by mail, or by clicking on the donate button on the website,

you can also scan this QR Code. We continue to find new ways to connect with our members and our community that are convenient, secure, helpful, and relevant to the ways in which some people prefer to donate. We thank God for our ability to offer these methods for those who may choose to use them.



Sunday: August 24, 2025

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am Outdoor Drive-In Service
10:30 am Sanctuary Service

Wednesday:

6:00 pm Crystal City Chorus

Thursday:

11:00 am Thursday Book Study "A BIGGER TABLE- Building Messy, Authentic, and Hopeful Spiritual Community" by John Pavlovitz - at River Road Coffee on the Square

Sunday: August 31, 2025

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am Outdoor Drive-In Service
10:30 am Sanctuary Service

Financial Update

Monthly Faith Promise goal	\$ 8,419.25
Income as of August 17, 2025	4,894.50
Month to Date Balance	(\$ 3,524.75)

ATTENDANCE

Report for Sunday, August 17, 2025

8:00 am - 30 10:30 am - 39
Sunday, August 17 Live Stream Views - 248

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Friday: 9am -12pm. Please call the office 740-323-2407 and leave a message to make any additional appointments or call/text Anita at 740-973-8218. Thank you!

Live streaming is now available on Facebook. If you missed the Live stream, you can watch a replay anytime on our YouTube or Facebook pages. Links for both of these sites can be found on our church website at www.stjohnsnewark.org