



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

www.stjohnsnewark.org

Our Church Staff

Pastor

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Colleen Kroah

Adult Bell Choir

Jerry Goodman

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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*



For all who
exalt themselves
will be humbled,

Luke 14:11, NRSV

and those who
humble themselves
will be exalted.

*August 31, 2025
Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost*

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

Sanctuary Service: 10:30 a.m.

August 31, 2025

Tune your FM Radio to 107.5

8:00 am

Sanctuary Service

10:30 am

Announcements & Greetings

Prelude

“He Is Exalted” Paris

Todd Baldosser

***Opening Hymn**

“Take My Life”

No. 609

(8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 6)

1)

**Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

2)

**Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.**

6)

**Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasures store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.**

***Call to Worship**

Jeff Conner

Leader: Come before the Lord with Joyful songs

All: Because He is good and generous

Leader: Serve the Lord with gladness

All: Because He of His greatness and Justice

Leader: Come before the Lord with Joy

All: Because He is faithful to His promises

Leader: Because His Word is eternal

All: Know that the Lord is God

Leader: We are His people, community, family

All: Let us enter His gates with Thanksgiving

Leader: And His Courts with Praise

All: Let us rejoice in the Goodness of our God

***Please stand if you are able**

***Prayer of Invocation**

All: Dear God, we come before You today, each with our own dreams, worries, fears and hopes. Our spirits reach out to You as we join in great bonds of love. We have not come as perfect people but as people who are willing to be changed by being in Your Presence. We come seeking forgiveness and grace, inspiration and strength. Envelope us now with Your Holy Spirit, equip and empower us as we pray the words 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: The Nicene Creed (*Traditional Version*)**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of Heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of the same essence with the Father.

Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from Heaven; He became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary. He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, suffered and was buried. The third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures. He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. His Kingdom will never end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets.

We believe in the Holy Christian Church.

We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look forward to the resurrection of the dead and to life in the world to come. 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.)

Ring Out! Children's Bell Choir

“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty”

Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 31: 3-4

Scripture Reading

Luke 14: 1, 7-14

Sermon

“A Radical Counter Cultural Way”

Rev. Dr. Amelia Walker

Hymn

“My Jesus, I Love Thee”

No. 349

(8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 3)

- 1) **My Jesus, I Love thee, I know thou art mine;
for thee all the follies of sin I resign;
my gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.**
- 2) **I love thee, because thou hast first loved me,
and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.**
- 3) **In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow,
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.**

Invitation for Faithful Giving

Offertory

“God Will Lift Up Your Head” Haseltine

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: Faithful and Unchanging God, in a world that shifts and sways, You remain our firm foundation. You have called us into a life of mutual love, teaching us to serve, to welcome and to give with generous hearts. Bless these tithes and offerings that we offer today, that they may extend Your love to those who hunger, who seek Justice and who long for a helping hand. Shape us into a people whose generosity reflects Your own, that through our giving, we may proclaim You. In the name of Jesus Christ, our constant and faithful friend. Amen

***Closing Hymn “O Jesus, I Have Promised” No. 612**
(8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 4)

- 1) O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
be thou for ever near me, my master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.**
- 2) O let me feel thee near me! The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.**
- 4) O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee
that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be;
and, Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow, my master and my friend.**

***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 “All Creatures of Our God and King” Traditional Todd Baldosser

Pastor Steve's Quote of the Week

“We don't make mistakes. Just Happy accidents.”

Bob Ross
PBS Painter

Dr. Swisher's message next week:

September 7, 2025

He Asked God to Protect Us, And Make Us One

John 17: 1-11

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!

Welcome Back

for helping to serve our congregation.

We welcome Rev. Dr. Amelia Walker back to St. John's today. Rev. Dr. Walker will be bringing us the message at both of our services. Thank you

St. John's Little Free Pantry

Take what you need. Give what you can.



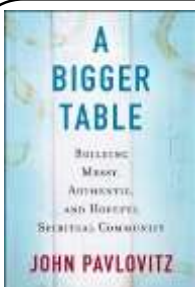
Our little food pantry needs your help. Many of our members along with people from the community have been adding items on a regular basis. However, the need is so great that their efforts need to be supplemented. We are asking that those that can, bring food items to church on Sundays and place them 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/>

Afternoon Circle -

will meet on Wednesday, September 3, at 1:00 p.m. in the Large Meeting Room. Mrs. Charlotte Kinser will be the hostess. Our Bite-size Bible Study will be about Rahab. And our program will be on part of Ohio history, the USS Shenandoah. We invite all ladies of our church family to join us.

Last month, our ladies decided to give \$300 for the purchase of four disaster response buckets for our UCC's Heartland (formerly Ohio) Conference's Disaster Response Team. The 5-gallon buckets are filled with all sorts of cleaning supplies to aid in the clean-up after disastrous storms, flooding, etc., like the one in July in Texas. The disaster buckets will be delivered on October 25, 2025 at the CSEO Association meeting of the UCC.



The book study group will meet each Thursday in September (4, 11, 18, 25) as we continue our discussion of the book "A Bigger Table- Building Messy, Authentic and Hopeful Spiritual Community" by John Pavlovitz. Come join us at 11am at the River Road Coffee House on the square in downtown Newark. The book is available online and there is space at the table for you to join us for discussion and fellowship.



September 7, 2025

9:00AM to 10:30AM

Food • Fun • Friends!

Interactive Bible Stations
for kids and adults

Our fall Kickoff of Bible Discovery Zone classes for all ages!



St. Johns 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!

Mission Focus for September

This month we will wind up our collection of school supplies for the Glory Rising educational program for preschoolers at The Lookup Center. This Christian based program for 3 to 5 year olds depends on the community for needed supplies. Needs include glue sticks, crayons, markers, colored pencils, colored paper as well as snack needs such as small bags of cookies, crackers, fruit rollups, applesauce and pudding (individual servings). Hygiene needs include paper towels, tissues, and hand wipes (not bottles of sanitizer). Donations may continue until the end of September.

**SEASON
5**



The
CHOSEN

Invite a friend and join us for fun, lively discussion on Season 5 of the series.

September 17 discussion of episodes 1, 2

September 24 discussion of episodes 3, 4

October 1 discussion of episodes 5, 6

October 8 discussion of episodes 7, 8

6:30PM in the Fellowship Room



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.*

Rides are available. Please see Julie Kroah, Frances Hill or Elaine Gard if you need a ride.



Classes For All Ages

Starting September 14

9:00AM—10:00AM

Adult Class

Join us for
“Searching the Scriptures”

by C. Swindoll

led by Rev. Swisher

Meet in the large meeting room

Youth Class

Ages 13 and up

Join us for
“Pilgrims Progress”

By J. Bunyan

Led by Elaine Gard

Meet in the small meeting room

Elementary Class

Ages 5—12

Join us for
Bible devotions, crafts & more

Meet in the BDZ room

Bible Discovery Zone Children’s Church

During the 10:30AM Worship Service

Ages 5 - 12: Join us for Bible lessons, crafts and games

Meets in the Bible Discovery Zone classroom

Ages 0—5 Nursery care is available



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. Julie Davis

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 /Tom Lawyer



Sunday: August 31, 2025

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am Outdoor Drive-In Service

10:30 am Sanctuary Service

Monday: Office Closed

Tuesday:

6 – 7:00 pm LifeWise Open House

Wednesday:

1:00 pm Afternoon Circle Meeting

6:00 pm Mission & Outreach

Committee Meeting

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
Choir Practice

Sunday:

September 7, 2025

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am Outdoor Drive-In Service

9 – 10:30 am Rally Day

10:30 am Sanctuary Service

10:30 am Bible Discovery Zone – Children's Church

Financial Update

Monthly Faith Promise goal	\$ 8,419.25
Income as of August 24, 2025	<u>6,436.50</u>
Month to Date Balance	(\$ 1,982.75)

ATTENDANCE

Report for Sunday, August 24, 2025

8:00 am - 30 10:30 am – 61

Sunday, August 24 Live Stream Views – 296

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

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.

