



**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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Children's Bell Choir

Colleen Kroah

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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*



COMMUNION *Service*

September 7, 2025

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

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

Sanctuary Service: 10:30 a.m.

8:00 am

10:30 am

Todd Baldosser

No. 53

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

- 1) Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!
- 2) Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.
- 3) Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

Jeff Conner

Leader: We are a chosen People

All: A Royal Priesthood of Believers

Leader: A Holy Nation

All: God's Special Possession

Leader: That we may declare the Praises of God

All: Who brought us out of darkness

Leader: Into His marvelous light

All: Let us worship the Lord and Light together

*Prayer of Invocation

All: We gather together today, Lord, on this Rally Day to celebrate the beginning of a New Season of the year and a new calendar for the Church Year. As a family of faith, we embark on the adventure of Bible discovery and growth in our knowledge, understanding and application of Your Word. Help guide us in this opportunity of faith and action. As we pray this prayer of new beginnings;

***Please stand if you are able**

***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.**

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.**

Choir Anthem (10:30 a.m.) “O Come Let Us Sing to the Lord” Nagy

Scripture Reading Psalm 121

Scripture Reading John 17: 1-11

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher

“He Asked God to Protect Us, And Make Us One”

Hymn

“My Shepherd, You Supply My Need”

No. 80

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

- 1) My Shepherd, you supply my need; most holy is your name;
in pastures fresh you make me feed, beside the living stream.
You bring my wand'ring spirit back, when I forsake your ways;
you lead me, for your mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.**
- 2) When through the shades of death I walk, your presence is my stay;
one word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;
my cup with blessings overflows, your oil anoints my head.**
- 3) Your sure provisions, gracious God, attend me all my days;
O may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise.
Here would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;
no more a stranger, nor a guest, but like a child at home.**

Invitation to Holy Communion

Pastor: Christ, the Lord invites to His table all who love Him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.

Confession and Pardon

All: Merciful and loving God, we confess that we have not always made the best choices, we have missed opportunities to be Your people and have left undone good work we knew should be done. Where we have missed it, we ask forgiveness; where we have sinned, we ask for your cleansing and refreshment.; where we have gone astray, we desire now to come home to You.

Hear the Good News

Pastor: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners, that proves His unconditional love for us. In the Name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the Name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven

All: Glory to God. Amen.

Service of Holy Communion

Invitation for Faithful Giving

Offertory “Jesus Lover of My Soul” Wesley 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: All knowing, searching and caring God, You know our every thought, hope, fear and aspiration. You wove us together with care, claiming us before we could even speak Your Name. Receive these tithes and offerings now, not from perfection but from our hearts earnestly seeking You. Use them, we pray, to shape us more reflective of You and stretch us, as well dear Lord, to be even more generous, more faithful and more open to Your Spirit. In the Name of Jesus who knows all about us and loves us still. Amen.

**1) Praise him! praise him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!
Sing, O Earth, his wonderful love proclaim!
Hail him! hail him! highest archangels in glory;
strength and honor give to his holy name!
Like a shepherd Jesus will guard his children,
in his arms he carries them all day long:**

***Refrain* Praise him! praise him! tell of his excellent greatness;
praise him! praise him ever in joyful song!**

**2) Praise him! praise him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!
For our sins he suffered, and bled and died;
he our Rock, our hope of eternal salvation,
hail him! hail him! Jesus the crucified.
Sound his praises! Jesus who bore our sorrows;
love unbounded, wonderful, deep and strong:**

Refrain

**3) Praise him! praise him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!
Heavenly portals loud with hosannas ring!
Jesus, Savior, reigneth forever and ever;
crown him! crown him! Prophet and Priest and King!
Christ is coming! over the world victorious,
Power and glory unto the Lord belong:**

Refrain

***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

"How Can I Keep From Singing?" Lowry

Todd Baldosser

Pastor Steve's Quote of the Week

“God doesn't give you what you can handle.
He helps you handle what you've been given.”

Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher

Dr. Swisher's message next week:

September 14, 2025

“Hope x 4”

Romans 4: 15-17

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!



In memory of Rev. Louis H. Lammers by Bill and Sharla Miller



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!

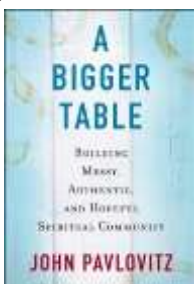
St. John's Little Free Pantry

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/>



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.



St. Johns Music Volunteer Potluck

Thanks to all those bringing special music to St. John's services this past summer. Your music was wonderful and added to our services.

The Saint John's music volunteer potluck will occur Sunday, September 14, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service. Anyone involved in music making and assisting in music making at the church is invited. Please bring a covered dish or dessert. 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. Todd Baldosser

Ushers:

Frank Davis, Larry Jones, Terry Gano,

Barry Dooley, Gary Kinser

Cradle Roll:

Volunteer/Avery Nagel

BDZ – Children's Church

Brian Lensink & Youth if needed

Media Worship Team:

Sound & Video:

8:00 am: Mike Dooley

10:30 am: Ken Kroah/Julie 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: September 7, 2025

Communion Sunday

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

Tuesday:

7:00 pm Finance & Stewardship Meeting

Wednesday:

10:00 am Christian Education Meeting
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
2:45 pm Music Committee Meeting

Sunday: September 14, 2025

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am Outdoor Drive-In Service
9:00 am All Sunday School classes
10:30 am Sanctuary Service
10:30 am Bible Discovery Zone – Children's Church
11:30 am Youth Group Meeting
11:30 am Music Pot luck

Financial Update

Monthly Faith Promise goal	\$ 8,419.25
Income as of August 31, 2025	<u>7,278.50</u>
Month to Date Balance	(\$ 1,140.75)

Attendance Report for Sunday, August 31, 2025

8:00 am - 29 10:30 am - 39
Sunday, August 31 Live Stream Views - 306

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.

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