

Welcome Home!

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

St. John's

The 2025 December Chimes

United Church of Christ



Prayer List

General Prayers: Bill Carr, Charlie Bruah, Larry Crane, Rev. Dr. Winfield Strout, Molly Sheets, Rev. Gunnar Cerda, Ed Hummel and the family of Mel Cunningham.

Homebound and Nursing Facility Residents:

Jeanette Morris, Bonita Farmer, Patricia Gilbert, Paula Hatfield, Rosalie Johnson, Faith Kelly, Delores and Harold McDonald, Esther Gillham, Helen McGaughy, Mary Lou Hostetler, Lois Meyers, & Molly Sheets

Please contact Rev. Swisher 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!

Dear Friends:

Your dedication to supporting older adults is truly inspiring. Thank you for your gift to United Church Homes through the CSEOA.

Contributions like yours enrich the lives of those we serve at United Church Homes, helping us expand our impact and reach more people in meaningful ways.

Warm regards,

Rev. Beth Long-Higgins.

In Loving Memory

Mel Cunningham

Born: March 18, 1928

Died: November 12, 2025

A member of St. John's since 2014

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.



December Worship Hour

8:00 a.m. Chapel Service

10:30 a.m. Traditional Sanctuary Service

3:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Communion & Candlelight

7:00 p.m. Special Music

7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Communion & Candlelight

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

Hello friends,

Merry Christmas month, friends. So many exciting events and ministry opportunities are planned throughout the weeks ahead with you in mind. You'll notice worship, fellowship, outreach and mission events that will give all of us the opportunity to get, retain and offer the true Christmas Spirit to our community and beyond.

When I think about Advent and the Christmas Season, it occurs to me that Christmas is the greatest success – out-of-failure holiday in all of human history.

It is the celebration of Christmas that reminds us that Jesus loved us enough to come into this mixed up world to offer His plan of rescue, refreshment, reconciliation and resurrection to all who choose to believe. Our ancestors to that point had gotten it wrong; they messed up or misused God's original plan for humanity. So a redemption operation was planned in the realms of Heaven and executed perfectly and lovingly by Jesus on behalf of all of us.

Success out of failure is a common occurrence if we allow it to be. As I said in a recent Sunday sermon, we never fail unless we give up. All of those who endure to the end will be saved. All of those who keep putting one foot in front of the other will ultimately win. Maybe not today or tomorrow or even next week. But eventually and assuredly it will happen.

178 years ago Charles Dickens was still reeling from the tepid and critical reception to his latest book. He would wander the streets of London pondering failure that had been devastating as well as the crazy political climate in England at the time led by Oliver Cromwell that outlawed the celebration of Christmas. As he reflected in this Scrooge-like behavior, the morsel of an idea dawned on his creative mind. After about 6 weeks of self-pity, he began to make notes on the novel that would make him a worldwide, household name as well as transform the way the modern world celebrated Christmas. Of course that book is "A Christmas Carol."

A similar story comes in the form of the movie "It's a Wonderful Life." Known today as the classic movie of Christmas began as a failure at the box office. Some of the most talented people in Hollywood like Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed and Frank Capra were not able to sell this story to a post-World War II audience not ready for this story. It lost \$536,000 dollars for the studio. That would be 9.6 million dollars in today's money. The film was pulled from theaters and considered a commercial failure by the industry. It wasn't until 28 years later when the copyright lapsed and stations began running the film on television that it became the success and Christmas Classic it has been for the last 51 years! Grossing more than 31 million dollars in that time span.

Friends, sometimes our setbacks in life are simply setups for our greatest comeback.

As December unfolds and Advent leads us to Christmas Eve, let's remember that Christmas always offers the opportunity for miracles of joy, love, peace and goodwill. Most of all, no matter what challenges we have experienced this last year, Christmas reminds us that failure doesn't have the last word. Because Christmas snatches success from the jaws of failure every single time.

I invite all of us to open our hearts and minds to hear the Christmas story anew with fresh eyes and ears. May we allow it to touch our spirits with the gift of Jesus' love and embrace the second chance it offers us.

Merry Christmas. I'll watch for you in Church and around the community.

Pastor Steve



Family of Faith,

We are continuing our tradition of the Advent offering again this year, which supports the Mission and Outreach of St. John's. UCC. The donations we make and the gifts we give enable us to support those in need throughout Newark and our wider community as we minister in Jesus' Name and Presence. Each extra mile Christmas gift will go directly to lifting up those in need during this most Holy time of year.

May this prayer guide us:

Dear God, Christmas time is here again and our hearts turn to thoughts of service, care and love for our neighbors near and far. We know that you provide all that we need and so we are secure in giving this offering in your Name. Let everything we do this Season, every gift we send, every party we attend, every meal we share—remind us to prepare a space in our hearts for You and for one another. May our desire to serve others help add the words Merry or Joyous to their Christmas experience. In Jesus' Name. Amen.



The Book Study Group will meet on Thursday's, December 4, 11, and 18 at 11am at the River Road Coffee House in downtown Newark on the north side of the square. We continue our discussion of the book titled "Worth Fighting For, Finding Courage and Compassion When Cruelty Is Trending " by John Pavlovitz, a pastor from North Carolina. In this book he shares his ideas for courage and hope as we as Christians attempt to share love and compassion with those in need. Come join us.



St. John's Little Free Pantry

Take what you need. Give what you can.

Our little food pantry needs your help.

To replenish our food pantry every day we need your help every week. There are collection boxes near each entrance to the Church. Those attending the drive-in service can give your donations to one of the ushers as you enter the parking lot. People have asked what types of food is needed so here is a list of some suggestions. Keep in mind that many of the people using this pantry have limited cooking facilities.

Ollie's, Dollar Tree, and Aldi's are good places to find these foods at good prices.

Cans with pull tabs when possible and no glass containers! Thanks for your support!

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

Mission and Outreach Focus for December

We are partnering with the Salvation Army again this year to provide toys and gifts to needy children within the Newark area. A special tree will be in the Fellowship Room decorated with tags that contain the first name of a child and what they hope to get this Christmas. Please pick a child's name, take the card and make your purchases for that child. All purchases must be new, unused items. Please return all gifts to the church by Sunday, December 7, 2025. Include the tag with the child's name but do not wrap the gifts. St John's will transport the items to the Salvation Army by the December 12, 2025 deadline. If you would like to include wrapping paper, that is fine but do not wrap the gifts so the parents may be able to do the wrapping.

On the fourth Sunday of Advent, December 21 this year, we will participate in a special offering called The Christmas Fund. This is a special Mission offering that provides direct financial support to those who have served the church and are facing financial difficulties. More information will be available in the bulletins.



Notes from Council meeting of November 17, 2025

Attending: Jeff Conner, Chuck Chirdon, Frank Davis, Frances Hill, Greg Crowthers, Ken Kroah, Gary Kinser, Tim Powers, Terry Gano, Julie Davis, Reverend Swisher, and Anita Chirdon, Office Administrator and Kim Workman, Office Assistant.

President J. Conner called the meeting to order and F. Davis shared a devotion about how we all need the church in our lives. Church participation may serve different purposes for all of us but reminds us to prioritize Jesus Christ as we engage in fellowship and community.

Reverend Swisher reported a request, from the CSEO Association of the UCC to hold the annual Spring Meeting at our church in May 2026. Council voted to approve this request and Rev. Swisher and April Kinser will assist with the planning committee. Also he reports an anonymous donation from a non-member as a year-end gift, and another donation from someone who watches our service in New Mexico.

F. Davis presented the proposed budget for 2026 and Council approved for it to be forwarded to the entire congregation for a vote to accept at the Budget Meeting on December 7, 2025.

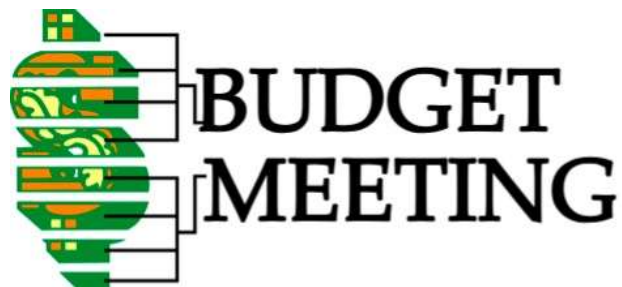
Christian Education Committee requested use of the facility for the German Service on Sunday, December 21, 2025, which was approved by council.

A Foundation Fund has been started in memory of Larry Jones.

Respectfully submitted,
April Kinser, Secretary Jeff Conner, President

Our next meeting will be on December 15, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. All members of St. John's are always welcome to attend.

Mark your calendar



Annual Congregational Budget Meeting

Sunday, December 7, 2025

After the 10:30 a.m. Service – a copy of the budget follows.

We hope to see you at the Congregational Budget Meeting to vote.

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2026 Proposed Budget

	<u>2026</u>
I <u>PERSONNEL COMMITTEE</u>	
<u>Senior Pastor/ Interim Pastor</u>	
a. Salary	52,000
b. Housing Allowance 15,000 used incalculation of SS, annuity and life and dis. Plan.	
c. Social Security Allowance 7.65%	5,126
d. Travel Allowance (mileage paid at IRS Guidelines)	3,975
e. Ministerial Annuity 14%	9,380
f. Life Ins. & Dis. Inc. Ben. Plan 1.5% of Salary	1,005
Bonus provided in lieu of providing any insurance.	15,000
Continuing Education	
Total Compensation Package	<u>86,486</u>
 Pulpit Supply	 1,280
<u>Office Administrator</u>	31,192
<u>Office Assistant (18.43 per hour)</u>	7,370
<u>Church Sexton</u>	8,867
<u>Organist / Adult Choir Director</u>	18,540
Organist Supply	500
<u>Pianist - Chapel Service \$60 per performance</u>	1,260
<u>Media Coordinator</u>	4,178
<u>Nursery Worker \$15 per hour</u>	1,560
<u>Director of Christian Education</u>	8,152
Social Security/Church Paid 7.65%	6,244
Workers' Compensation	500
Payroll Company Fees	3,000
 Total Personnel Committee	 <u>179,129</u>
 II <u>CHURCH & MINISTRY</u>	 <u>2026</u>
a. Registration & Meeting Expense	200
b. Books & Worship Material	<u>600</u>
Total Church & Ministry	800
 III <u>PROPERTY MANAGEMENT</u>	 <u>2026</u>
a. Utilities	28,000
b. Insurance	13,300
c. Church Maintenance	7,500
d. Lawn and Landscape Care	6,500
e. Cleaning Service	12,444
f. Snow Removal	1,500
g. Parsonage utilities, taxes and repairs	12,000
Total Property Maintenance	81,244

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2026 Proposed Budget

	<u>2026</u>
<u>IV MUSIC COMMITTEE</u>	
a. Choir/Organ/Handbell Supplies	800
b. Instrument Maintenance	400
	<hr/>
Total Music	1,200
<u>V FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP</u>	<u>2026</u>
a. Office Supplies	4,500
b. Miscellaneous	1,100
c. Copier Lease and Supplies	5,300
	<hr/>
Total Finance & Stewardship	10,900
<u>VI CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</u>	<u>2026</u>
a. Christian Education Expenses	3,500
	<hr/>
Total Christian Education	3,500
<u>VII SPECIAL EVENTS</u>	<u>2026</u>
a. Kitchen Supplies	300
b. Church Lunches	1,700
c. Receptions	400
	<hr/>
Total Special Events	2,400
<u>VIII MISSION</u>	<u>2026</u>
a. Mission Projects	6,000
b. OCWM (basic support)	1,000
c. Minister Discretionary Fund	2,000
	<hr/>
Total Mission	9,000
<u>IX CONGREGATIONAL CARE</u>	<u>2026</u>
	100
<u>X EVANGELISM & OUTREACH</u>	<u>2026</u>
	10,000
	<hr/>
TOTAL MISSION PLAN	\$298,273

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2026 Proposed Budget

<u>Proposed Income</u>	<u>2026</u>
"Faith Promise" Goal	105,798
Initial Offering	500
Plate Offering (Cash)	6,000
Use of Facility (Fees)	1,000
Interest Income	138,000
Grocery Coupons	75
Advent Offering (100% to Mission Budget)	800
Lenten Offering (100% to Mission Budget)	800
Other Income	200
Miller Estate	45,100
	298,273

Thank you for your support!
We were able to match our goal of \$3,500.00
with our Second Mile Giving Campaign.

Finances for the Month and Year to Date – November numbers are incomplete

<u>General Fund Income - all as of 11/16/25</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	
Congregation giving (Faith Promise)	8,040.00	78,777.16	
Income from Foundation Fund	10,500.00	105,000.00	
Income from Emerson Miller Fund	3,758.33	37,583.30	
Total Month & YTD Income	22,852.58	252,114.56	
General Fund Expenses (not complete)	\$23,576.90	\$267,976.68	
Over/Under Month & YTD (not complete) (\$ 724.32)		(15,862.12)	() = Negative



JOIN US SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:00AM


Youth
Advent **STUDY**

For the season of Advent, the Youth will be studying the opening chapters of the book of Luke, combined with a study of the Advent Candles.

Afternoon Circle -

will meet on Wednesday, December 3, for the Annual Christmas Luncheon. We will gather at 12 o'clock noon in the Fellowship Room for a meal catered by Creative Catering of Heath. Bring a \$5 (Dollar Tree) gift for the annual exchange. Enjoy the Christmas story, THE RED SLED. Our Bite Size Bible Study will be on Eunice and Lois. Share with our sisters in Christ the beginning of this beautiful season of Advent. All women of our St. John's Church Family are invited to attend, making reservations by Sunday, November 30, with Vicky Davis.

AFTERNOON CIRCLE COLLECTS MITTENS, SOCKS, HATS FOR BEN FRANKLIN SCHOOL

During the months of November and early December, the Afternoon Circle will be collecting warm mittens/ gloves, socks, hats, scarves, for the children at Ben Franklin School. There will be a basket in the Fellowship Room for you to donate these items. The last day for collection is Sunday, December 14.

In the past, we have collected these items and given them to the school toward the end of winter. This year, we'd like to beat the cold and offer these items to the children as the cold winds begin to blow. They can be given as new items to kids who need them, or as replacements for lost items during the winter months. Thank you in advance for your warm donations.



Advent Devotionals -

The First Sunday of Advent falls this year on the last Sunday of November - November 30, to be exact.

We are in the process of preparing devotionals for the 25 days of Advent based on our beautiful Chrismons. Last year we seemed to have a lot of questions about the Chrismons that decorate our sanctuary Christmas tree in the chancel. So we'd like to answer some of those questions about the history and meanings of these special symbols, and give you some materials to prepare your hearts and minds for the coming of Christ Child.

German Language Christmas Service Celebrate Our Heritage

December 21 at 3:00 p.m.

The service will be in German and English with English translations available. Music by Todd Baldosser and the Newark Maennerchor. Children's Moment included.

More fun following the service with traditional German goodies





You may choose to remember a loved one with a gift to the Abiding Memorial Fund ____ or the Foundation Fund _____. All such gifts noted and received **BY DECEMBER 7** will be listed in the bulletin on **Sunday, December 14, Sunday, December 21 and Christmas Eve**. Abiding Memorial and Foundation Fund Cards and envelopes are also available in the literature rack in the Narthex or in the office, or mark your envelope with the information. Thank you!

Be sure to complete the following to be printed in the bulletin: (i.e.: In honor of or in memory of..... by or from.....)

NEW Classes Starting

January 5, 2026 9:00AM—10:00AM

Adult Class

Abiding In Christ

By Carl Kochendorfer

led by Carl Kochendorfer

Youth Class

Ages 13 and up

***The Book of Luke
and Advent Candles***

Led by Elaine Gard

“New Star”

December 14, 2025

at the 10:30AM service

Join us as the kids present the story of Christmas through the eyes of the stars.



Practice 12/7, 12/14 at 9AM and 12/7 at 6PM



The Gift of Rest

by Rob Toornstra

November 17, 2025 todaydevotional.com

“You are not to do any work; wherever you live, it is a sabbath to the Lord.”— [Leviticus 23:3](#)

Our culture tends to wear busyness like a badge of honor. We work long hours; we juggle family, church, and school responsibilities; and we take our work with us when we go on vacation. When people ask us how we're doing, though exhausted, we take pride in sighing, “Busy!” We need to ask, “Are we doing all this just to be seen, valued, and affirmed?”

Leviticus 23 opens a section about feasts and festivals that God called his people to observe. These events created a sense of rhythm and structure for God's people, and the first of these was the weekly Sabbath. Every seven days, the people were to set their work aside and rest. As noted in [Exodus 20:8-11](#), resting reminded Israel that God, not their labor, sustained the world, and [Deuteronomy 5:12-15](#) made clear that God, not their labor, was their salvation.

Today most Christians observe Sunday as their day of rest and worship. Why? Because Jesus, who rose on the first day of the week, gives us a greater rest than the people of Israel had in the time of Leviticus. Jesus' death and resurrection mean that the work of perfect obedience has been completed; he has provided the rest that our souls long for. In Jesus we are free from the relentless work of trying to earn our worth and to live as if we bear the weight of the world on our shoulders.

Are you weary and burdened? Jesus invites you to find rest in him. Set aside time this week to enjoy the rest and worship that God graciously gives us.

Lord, you invite us to find in you the only true rest that can satisfy our souls. Help us to enjoy the rest you provide. Amen.



Journey Together: Our Year of Bible Discovery

Reading the Bible in a Year as a Congregation

Fruitful Vines: 7 Reasons to Read the Bible in a Year (Excerpt 4)
by Melissa Kruger

Reading the Bible through in a year helps you:

Avoid Reading the Bible as a Self-Help Manual

It's tempting to approach Scripture as a how-to manual for our lives. We want answers, and we'd like them now please. At times, we desire solutions more than we desire God, so we pick and choose what to read based on our current emotions or circumstances. Following a reading plan encourages a hopeful, listening posture that asks, "What do you have for me today?" We put ourselves under the Bible's direction, trusting that the passage we are reading is beneficial for whatever circumstances we are facing.

Bible Reading Plans
are available in the Fellowship room or on our website at
www.stjohnsnewark.org.

December 21, 2025 at 9:00AM

First Quarterly Read the Bible Question and Answer Session

At this point, we've read Genesis 1 to 2 Kings. Let's get together and chat about what surprised you, what you learned, and questions that you have.

ASK THE
Pastor

If you have questions as you read the Bible this year, submit your questions to Rev. Swisher and he will answer them as time allows. You can submit your questions in the box in the Fellowship room or you can submit by email at www.stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net.



December 24, 2024

3:00pm Sanctuary service

7:00pm Special music

7:30pm Sanctuary service

Communion & Candlelight at both services

Youth Live Nativity 6:30PM—7:15PM

WELCOME!

COME, LET US ADORE HIM

St. John's United Church of Christ • 285 W. National Drive Newark

www.stjohnsnewark.org • 740-323-2407



It is our joy and honor to welcome

Rev. Joel King

January 11, 2026

at 10:30AM



Rev. Joel King, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s
first cousin will speak at the

10:30am service on January 11, 2026



Be sure to get your Advent Devotional Reading booklet available in the Fellowship room and on the website.

On December 21, at 3pm, St. John's is hosting a German Language Christmas Service. The service will be in German and English with English translations. Come and enjoy a program celebrating the Christmas season and our German heritage.



December 14 enjoy the Children's Christmas Program "New Star" during the 10:30AM service.

Live Nativity!! The Youth and children's groups will present a Live Nativity on December 24 starting at 6:30PM. Please bring canned goods to place at the manger to benefit the Licking County Food Pantry Network.



Read the Bible in a Year: Our Journey Together. We're starting month 4 of our year-long journey together. There are reading plans available in the Fellowship room and on the website. If you have questions about particular passages, be sure to join us for the first Quarterly Question and Answer Session December 21 at 9:00AM. Rev. Swisher will be there to answer questions that are left in the "church" box in the fellowship room, emailed or just bring your questions with you.



January 4, 2026 at 11:30am. Mission trip planning meeting. Bring your curiosity, questions and helping spirit.

Sunday School Classes

Adult Class – Sundays at 9:00AM.

Confirmation Class – 2nd & 4th Sundays at 9:00AM

Bible Discovery Zone – ages 5 to 14 at 10:30AM.

Cradle Roll – Available during the 10:30AM service.



December Worship Service Duties

Ushers: Frank Davis, Jeff Conner, Terry Gano, Barry Dooley, Gary Kinser

Cradle Roll

7 Avery Nagel/Volunteer
14 Avery Nagel/Volunteer
21 Avery Nagel/Volunteer
28 Avery Nagel/Volunteer

Cantors

7 Charles Dudley
14 April Kinser
21 Diane Reef
28 Todd Baldosser

Bible Discovery Zone

7 Julie Kroah & Pat Farley
14 Marla Crowthers & Youth if needed
21 Elaine Gard & Youth if needed
28 Frances Hill & Youth if needed



Sunday Sound Worship Team

7 Karson Ewing
14 Ken Kroah
21 Karson Ewing
28 Ken Kroah

Sunday Video Worship Team

7 Tom Lawyer
14 Julie Kroah
21 Tom Lawyer
28 Julie Kroah



DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>30 Advent 8:00am Chapel Service 9:00am Adult Sunday School 9:00am Youth Class 10:30am Bible Discovery Zone Children's Church 10:30am Sanctuary Service - Choir Sings</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 12:00pm The Afternoon Circle of the Women's Guild Christmas Luncheon 6:00pm Mission & Outreach Committee Meeting 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice</p>	<p>4 Thursday Book Study- "Worth Fighting For, Finding Courage and Compassion When Cruelty Is Trending" by John Pavlovitz at River Road Coffee on the Square</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7 Second Sunday of Advent 8:00am Chapel Service 9:00am Adult Sunday School 9:00am Bible Discovery Zone Elementary Class in BDZ Classroom 9:00am Youth Class 10:30am Bible Discovery Zone Children's Church 10:30am Sanctuary Service 11:30am Congregational Budget Meeting</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 7:00pm Finance & Stewardship Meeting</p>	<p>10 10:00am Christian Education Meeting 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice</p>	<p>11 Thursday Book Study- "Worth Fighting For, Finding Courage and Compassion When Cruelty Is Trending" by John Pavlovitz at River Road Coffee on the Square 7:15pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14 Third Sunday of Advent 8:00am Chapel Service 9:00am Adult Sunday School 9:00am Bible Discovery Zone Elementary Class in BDZ Classroom 9:00am Youth Class 10:30am Bible Discovery Zone Children's Church 10:30am Sanctuary Service- Children's Christmas Program, Choir Sings 11:30am Youth Group Meeting</p>	<p>15 6:30pm Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice</p>	<p>18 Thursday Book Study- "Worth Fighting For, Finding Courage and Compassion When Cruelty Is Trending" by John Pavlovitz at River Road Coffee on the Square 7:15pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21 Fourth Sunday of Advent 8:00am Chapel Service 9:00am Bible Discovery Zone Elementary Class in BDZ Classroom 9:00am First Quarterly Read the Bible and Answer Session 9:00am Youth Class 10:30am Bible Discovery Zone Children's Church 10:30am Sanctuary Service - Choir Sings 1:00pm Community German Service</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Live Nativity - Bring canned goods to support the Local Food Pantry 3:00pm Christmas Eve Communion & Candlelight 7:00pm Special Pro-Service Music 7:30pm Christmas Eve Communion & Candlelight</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day Office Closed</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28 8:00am Chapel Service 9:00am Bible Discovery Zone Elementary Class in BDZ Classroom 9:00am Youth Class 10:30am Bible Discovery Zone Children's Church 10:30am Sanctuary Service 11:30am Youth Group Meeting</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice</p>	<p>1 New Year's Day Office Closed</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>



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. Chapel Service
10:30 a.m. – Sanctuary Service
3:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve Communion & Candlelight
7:00 p.m. – Special Music
7:30 p.m. – Christmas Eve Communion & Candlelight
Volume 25 Number 12

Address Service Requested



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Organist/Choir Director

scarlatti35@hotmail.com

Anita Chirdon/Office Administrator

Kim Workman/Office Assistant

stjohnsunitd@windstream.net

Mike Dooley

Church Sexton

740-398-5863

Julie Kroah

Christian Education Director

Direct Number 740-323-2408

stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net



LIBRARY FOCUS FOR DECEMBER

The Purpose of Christmas by Rick Warren. A call to "remember the reason for the season," taking us on a journey back in time to the most wonderful story of all—the birth of the baby Jesus. Book and DVD study.

The Nativity Story (2005) DVD The story of Mary and Joseph and their journey leading to the birth of Jesus Christ.

For Children

The Birth of Jesus by Catherine Storr. A retelling of the timeless Christmas story through words and pictures.

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