



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

Main: 740-323-2407

Church Website

[www.stjohnsnewark.org](http://www.stjohnsnewark.org)

**Our Church Staff**

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Colleen Kroah

Adult Bell Choir

Jerry Goodman

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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*

“I have been reminded  
of your sincere faith,  
which first lived in  
your grandmother ...  
and in your mother ...  
and ... now lives in  
you also.”



*2 Timothy 1:5, NIV*

*April 26, 2026*

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

**Sanctuary Service: 10:30 a.m.**

April 26, 2026

Tune your FM Radio to 107.5

8:00 am

Sanctuary Service

10:30 am

## Announcements & Greetings

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**Prelude**

“Jesus Lover of My Soul”

Todd Baldosser

**\*Opening Hymn**

“Blessed Assurance”

**No. 543**

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

1) **Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!**

**Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.**

**Refrain**

*This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;*

*this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.*

2) **Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love.**

**Refrain**

3) **Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,**

**watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.**

**Refrain**

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Come let us Praise the Lord!

**All: We Praise God with our whole heart!**

Leader: God’s works are great among us

**All: Open our hearts and spirits to see all You are doing, O Lord**

Leader: May our lives reflect the wondrous love of God

**All: That all may see and know Him**

Leader: Let us Worship the Lord

**All: And Praise His Name together**

**\*Prayer of Invocation**

**All: Open our hearts, minds and spirits today dear Lord that we may hear the great Good News of Your Power. Fill our hearts with rejoicing as the words are proclaimed in song and story. Enliven us and remind us that You are with us. As we pray these words of hope and faith...**

**\*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.**

**\*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.**

**Special Music**

**"I Believe" Drake**

**Johnny Pfeffer**

**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**

**"Come Sing Alleluia" Bailey/Mayo**

**Scripture Reading**

**Romans 4: 19-21**

**Jeff Conner**

**Scripture Reading**

2 Timothy 1: 5

**Sermon**

“Awareness of our Mentors”

Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher

**Hymn**

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

**No. 687**

(8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 4)

- 1) **In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,  
but one community of love throughout the whole wide earth.**
- 2) **In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;  
his service is the golden cord closebinding humankind.**
- 4) **In Christ now meet both east and west in him meet south and north;  
all loving hearts are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.**

**Invitation for Faithful Giving**

**Offertory**

“Waltz in B flat” Brahms

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 Shepherd who calls us by name, You invite us into life that is rich in meaning, deep in joy and bold in compassion. Receive these gifts as signs of our trust in You. May they be used to bring abundance to others, to feed those in need, to strengthen the lost and to proclaim Your voice of love. In coming and going, in worship and service, make us more like Jesus, in whose Name we give and pray. Amen**

**\*Closing Hymn “How Great Thou Art” (8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 4) No. 33**

- 1) **O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the worlds thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
thy power throughout the universe displayed.**

**Refrain**

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
how great thou art, how great thou art!*

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
how great thou art, how great thou art!*

2) **When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;**

*Refrain*

4) **When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art!**

*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 "Children of the Heavenly Father" Traditional Todd Baldosser**

**Pastor Steve's Quote of the Week**

**"If I could leave you with one last thought it would be this:  
Live with kindness. Carry compassion wherever you go. Forgive more.  
Judge less. Love without condition."**

**Judge Frank Caprio  
Providence, Rhode Island  
1936-2025**

**Dr. Swisher's message next week:**

**Sunday, May 3, 2026  
Are We Using Our Gifts?  
2 Timothy 4:1-2; 5**

**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 LOVING  
Memory*

*Donald M. Boldt*

Born: July 20, 1935

Died: April 23, 2026

*A member of St. John's since 1997*

A Memorial Service will be at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 23, 2026 at St. John's.



### 2026 Meetings

11:30AM—1:00PM

April 12 & 26

## **Afternoon Circle Celebrates 154 Years!**

*Afternoon Circle will meet on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, to celebrate the 154th Anniversary of its founding.*

*A potluck salad smorgasbord will be served at 12:00 noon, in the Fellowship Room. Tableware, bread, dessert, and beverages will be provided.*

*Along with our regular monthly offering and Least Coin Offering, our special Anniversary Offering will be collected - one penny for each year that the Afternoon Circle is old; this year equals \$1.54.*

*The theme of the day will be "Blessing of Unity - Cornerstone of Love".*

*All ladies of our St. John's Church Family, as always, are invited to come, to share a salad, and to celebrate with us.*

*I will pour out my spirit on all people. Acts 2:17*

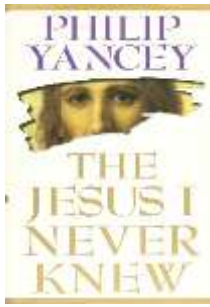
**Pentecost Sunday is May 24.**

**In celebration of the birthday of the church, plan to wear red.**



Pentecost is celebrated 50 days after Easter (including Easter) that commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus in Jerusalem, marking the "birthday of the Church".

## Book Study Group



We will continue discussion on **THE JESUS I NEVER KNEW** by Phillip Yancey. This book was awarded the Gold Medallion Christian Book of the Year Award in 1996. Along with scriptural references, this book explores Jesus Christ - his miracles, his teachings, his death and resurrection. The book is available online. You are invited to join us at 11am at the River Road Coffee House on the square in downtown Newark.



## *St. John's Little Free Pantry*

**Take what you need. Give what you can.**

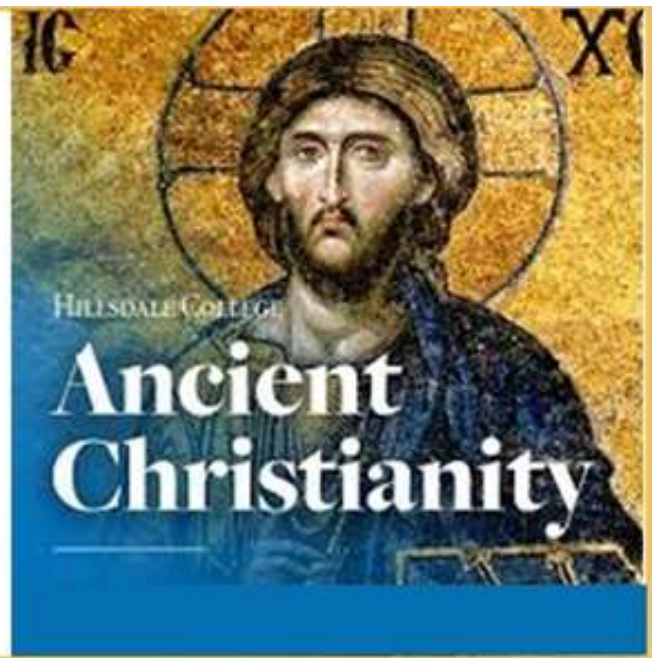
To replenish our food pantry every day we need your help every week. There are collection boxes near each entrance to the Church. Keep in mind that many of the people using this pantry have limited cooking facilities. Ollie's, Dollar Tree, and Aldi's are good places to find foods at good prices. Cans with pull tabs when possible and no glass containers! Thanks for your support! <https://www.littlefreepantry.org/>

Adult Class at 9:00AM

Led by Tim Powers

in the large meeting room

The history of the Christian Church from its origins to its rise as the dominant religion in the Roman Empire. Focusing on primary texts and development in the first 400 years of Christian history.



The annual National Day of Prayer “Prayer Around the Square” for Licking County will be held at the Public Square in Newark, Ohio, from 7am to 7pm on Thursday, May 7. There will be sixteen prayer stations posted around the Square. You are invited to participate any time during the day to make personal prayers of repentance and intercession for the sins of our communities and nation. This year's theme is “A Time To Repent” from the scripture Mark 1: 14-15. Pastor Steve will be leading one of the prayers at noon at the Licking County Courthouse on the east side steps.

**CELEBRATE**



**GRADUATION SUNDAY –May 17, 2026**

Do you know of someone who is graduating from high school or college this spring? We would like to invite them to join us on Sunday, May 17, 2026, to celebrate the momentous event.

Please fill out the form and place it in the offering plate or turn it into the office by May 3, 2026! Thank you!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/Church Family \_\_\_\_\_

Graduating from \_\_\_\_\_

Degree \_\_\_\_\_

Plans for the future \_\_\_\_\_

Additional information to share \_\_\_\_\_

***Finances for the Month and Year to Date***

**General Fund Income**

	<u>March</u>	<u>Year to date</u>
Congregation giving (Faith Promise)	13,837.91	29,311.81
Income from Foundation Fund	11,500.00	34,500.00
Monthly Income from Emerson Miller Fund	3,758.33	11,274.99
Month & YTD Total Income	29,392.05	77,762.38
General Fund Expenses	\$26,031.19	77,875.16
<b>Over/Under Month &amp; YTD</b>	<b>\$ 3,360.86</b>	<b>(\$ 112.78) ( ) = Negative</b>



**ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – PRAYER LIST**

OUR PRAYER LIST IS DEDICATED TO BEA PURSLEY, WHO LOVINGLY DEDICATED HER TIME TO OUR CHURCH MINISTRY AND PROVIDED THIS LIST FOR SEVERAL YEARS.



Bea's Blessings! will transition back to its original email prayer chain as of June 1, 2026, since we have been able to add the prayer chain list to our newer Constant Contact platform that we use for the bulletin preview and the monthly Chimes newsletter.

During May, we will list Bea's Blessings! prayer requests on both the back of the bulletin and on the email prayer chain in order to give you additional time to sign up for Bea's Blessings email list. We will then discontinue the bulletin version on June 1. Please fill out the Stay Connected form below to add your name to continue to receive Bea's Blessings! if you are not already on the list. This prayer list is for prayer concerns for anyone, like friends, neighbors, etc.

# stayCONNECTED

St. John's has many ways for you to stay up to date and connected with all the events and happenings.

*To add to or change your current requests, fill out the information below and drop it in the offering plate.*

\_\_\_\_\_ Sunday Preview: Email of the Sunday bulletin and special events.

\_\_\_\_\_ Bea's Blessings: Emailed Prayer Circle including a wider network of requests.

\_\_\_\_\_ One Call Now: A phone call for cancelations and special announcements.

\_\_\_\_\_ The Chimes newsletter delivered by mail.

\_\_\_\_\_ The Chimes newsletter delivered electronically by email.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_



SEE ALSO



[www.stjohnsnewark.org](http://www.stjohnsnewark.org)



**General Prayers:** Charlie Bruah,  
Rev. Dr. Winfield Strout,  
Eli Taylor, Carl Kochendorfer, Trisha  
Boehmer, Delores Williams & the family of Don  
Boldt.

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



**Additional prayer requests on Bea's  
Blessings:**

- Dennis Maddy – Rebecca Swartz's brother
- Bill Klinessmith, Jr. – Julie Kroah's brother -  
improving
- Rev. Harvey Antle – is home now after a stroke  
(Terry Hill's uncle in Kentucky)
- Ashley (Robin Green's Granddaughter) – Recent  
Lupus diagnosis
- Beth Crawford – has improved, moved to a long  
term care facility!
- Carly (Teresa McCoy's daughter)
- Calvin Campbell – is scheduled for shoulder  
surgery, heart test went well.
- Christina (Carolyn Igo's daughter) –  
Cancer diagnosis
- Mr. Ron Baker (Chuck Chirdon's father  
under Hospice Care)

Mrs. Barbara Swisher

**We Appreciate Those Serving Today!**

Liturgist:

Jeff Conner

Cantor:

10:30 a.m. Charles Dudley

Ushers:

Frank Davis, Terry Gano,  
Barry Dooley, Gary Kinser

Cradle Roll:

Volunteer

Bible Discovery Zone:

Frances Hill & Rebekkah Crowthers

Media Worship Team:

Sound & Video:

8:00 am Mike Dooley

10:30 am: Ken Kroah/Julie Kroah

**THIS WEEK'S GLANCE**



**Sunday: April 26, 2026**

- 8:00 am Outdoor Drive-In Service
- 9:00 am BDZ Classes
- 10:30 am Sanctuary Service – Choir  
Sings
- 10:30 am Bible Discovery Zone -  
Children's Church
- 11:30 am Youth Group

**Wednesday:**

- 6:00 pm Crystal City Chorus

**Thursday:**

- 11:00 am Thursday Book Study, THE  
JESUS I NEVER KNEW by  
Phillip Yancey at River  
Road Coffee on the Square
- 12 – 2 pm LifeWise Academy

**Saturday:**

- 8:00 a.m. CSEOA Meeting- hosted by  
St. John's

**Sunday: May 3, 2026**

- 8:00 am Outdoor Drive-In Service
- 9:00 am All BDZ Classes
- 10:30 am Sanctuary Service
- 10:30 am Bible Discovery Zone -  
Children's Church

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Friday: 9am –12 pm.  
Please call the office 740-323-2407 and leave a message  
to make any additional appointments. 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](http://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.



*Attendance Report for Sunday, April 19, 2026*

8:00 a.m. - 20                      10:30 a.m. - 65

Sunday, April 19 Live Stream Views – 252