



**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**

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher

[stjohns.pastorstephen@gmail.com](mailto:stjohns.pastorstephen@gmail.com)

Office: 740-323-2854

Office Administrator

Anita Chirdon

Office Assistant

Kim Workman

[stjohnsunity@windstream.net](mailto:stjohnsunity@windstream.net)

Organist & Choir Dir.

Todd Baldosser

[scarlatti35@hotmail.com](mailto:scarlatti35@hotmail.com)

Christian Education Director

Julie Kroah

[stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net](mailto:stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net)

Sexton

Mike Dooley

[Mikedooley537@gmail.com](mailto:Mikedooley537@gmail.com)

Chapel Pianist

Jane Shoemaker

Children's Bell Choir

Emmaleigh Crowthers

Adult Bell Choir

Jerry Goodman

Signer

Debi Snow

Librarian

Catherine Lim

Prayer List

Rebecca Swartz

[raswartz1231@aol.com](mailto:raswartz1231@aol.com) &

[stjohnsunity@windstream.net](mailto:stjohnsunity@windstream.net)

*Rooted in the Evangelical  
and Reformed Traditions*

*We are Sowina Seeds of Hope*



*August 30, 2026*  
*Fourteenth Sunday after*  
*Pentecost*  
**Outdoor Drive-in Service: 8:00 a.m.**  
**Sanctuary Service: 10:30 a.m.**

August 30, 2026

Tune your FM Radio to 107.5

8:00 am

Sanctuary Service

10:30 am

.....  
**Announcements & Greetings**

**Prelude**                    “How Majestic Is Your Name”   Smith                    Todd Baldosser

**\*Opening Hymn      “Morning Has Broken”      (8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 3) No. 53**

- 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!**

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader:      Give thanks to the Holy One, who calls us together and makes a way for us

**All:              We glory in God’s Holy Name! Let our hearts rejoice as we seek the Lord**

Leader:      Remember the wonderful works He has done, the saving acts

**All:              The promises of Grace**

Leader:      We sing praise to our God, who lives and reigns with all generations

**All:              Come let us Worship the mighty God, who gives us strength and leads us in righteousness**

**\*Prayer of Invocation**

**All:              Remind us of what really matters, O God. Help us to be active participants in Worship today, focusing on kindness, love and our sacred worth in You. God You are so good and kind and You are with us now. We celebrate Your Presence as we pray the words you revealed to us, ...**

**\*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.**

**Special Prayer Time for Dolly Parton Fans and Family**

**\*Affirmation of Faith -**

**The Statement of Faith of the Christian Church in South Korea**

**We believe in the one God,  
Creator and Sustainer of all things,  
Father of Nations,  
the Source of all goodness and beauty,  
All truth and love**

**We believe in Jesus Christ  
God manifest in the flesh  
our teacher, example and Redeemer,  
the Savior of the World**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit  
God present with us for guidance  
for comfort and for strength**

**We believe in the forgiveness of sins, in the life of love and prayer and in grace  
equal to every need**

**We believe in the Word of God contained in the Old and New Testaments as the  
sufficient rule both of faith and practice**

**We believe in the Church, those who are United in the living Lord for the  
purpose of worship and service**

**We believe in the reign of God  
as the divine will realized in human society  
and in the family of God, where we are all brothers and sisters**

**We believe in the final triumph of righteousness and in the life everlasting.**

**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                      “I Come to the Garden”                      Julie Davis**

**Scripture Reading                      Luke 20:14-17                      Jeff Conner**

**Scripture Reading                      Genesis 37:1-8**

**Special Music                      “Here You Come Again”                      Karri Rose Baker  
                                                 “I Will Always Love You”**

**Sermon                      “Your Coat of Many Colors and Mine”                      Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher**

**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***

## **Invitation for Faithful Giving**

**Offertory**

**“Coat of Many Colors” Parton**

**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 good things come from You, dear God, and with gratitude we return today what is already Yours. You created all that is and with love formed us in Your image. When our love failed, Your love remained steadfast. All that we are and all that we have is a trust from You. And so with thankfulness, we offer these tithes and offerings, as well as ourselves, all that we have and all that we are to Your Kingdom. Use these gifts and each of us to restore, build up, and empower the work, the movement, the ministry You have called us to do. In Jesus' Name. Amen**

**\*Closing Hymn**

**“All Creatures of Our God and King”**

**No. 22**

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

- 1) All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing;  
Alleluia, Alleluia!  
O burning sun with golden beam, O silver moon with softer gleam,  
O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**
- 2) O rushing wind with voice so strong, you clouds that sail in heav'n along,  
O praise God, Alleluia!  
O rising morn, in praise rejoice, you lights of evening find a voice,  
O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**
- 4) And all forgiven tender hearts, forgiving others, take your part,  
sing praises, Alleluia!  
You who long pain and sorrow bear, praise God, who knows your ev'ry care.  
O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**\*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**      “O God Beyond All Praising” Vaughn Williams      Todd Baldosser

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

“You'll never do a whole lot unless you are brave enough to try.”

Dolly Parton  
(1946-2026)

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

Sunday, September 6, 2026

“Believe in God's Presence”

Psalm 8:1-4

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.**



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/>



## **St. John's United Church of Christ Positive Living Podcast**

**Hosted by**

**Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Swisher**

St. John's UCC Senior Pastor

***Special Episode September 1, 2026 In Memory of Dolly Parton***

**Popular Dolly Parton Tribute artist**

### **Karen Hester**

A professional musician and performer known all over the world. Karen Hester brings the music, heart, and unmistakable sparkle of Dolly Parton to life.

Karen is Pastor Steve's guest on the Positive Living Podcast.



As we move forward with the elevator upgrade project, we have placed envelopes at both bulletin tables in the Sanctuary for your use if you would like to contribute to the Elevator Project Fund. Contributions will be used to repay the loan amount back to the Foundation Fund.

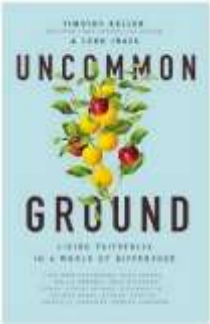
You can also mark your offering envelope or check with Elevator Fund.

Thank you for your support for this important investment for our church.

### *AFTERNOON CIRCLE –*

*will meet on Wednesday, September 2, at 1:00 p.m. in the Large Meeting Room of the church. Our hostess for the afternoon is Mrs. Charlotte Kinser. Our Bite-Size Bible Study will be on Rhoda. And the program will be on PRAYER, THE MIGHTIEST FORCE IN THE WORLD, based on the book of the same name by Frank C. Laubach. A business meeting will follow.*

### **Book Club**



The book club will continue to meet each Thursday in September (3, 10, 17, and 24) at 11am at the River Road Coffee House on the north side of the square in downtown Newark. You are welcome to join us for food and fellowship as we discuss a book by Timothy Keller and John Inazu called Uncommon Ground, Living Faithfully in a World of Difference. The book is available online.

### **Read the Bible in a Year**

#### *Journey Together: Our Year in the Bible*

Reading Guides and bookmarks are available in the Fellowship room and on line at [www.stjohnsnewark.org](http://www.stjohnsnewark.org)

*Additional Books & Resources in the Church Library*

#### Reading List for —August 30—September 5 (Days 358-365)

|                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sunday—2-3 John, Jude    | Thursday—Revelation 10-12 |
| Monday— Revelation 1-3   | Friday—Revelation 13-15   |
| Tuesday—Revelation 4-6   | Saturday—revelation 16-18 |
| Wednesday—revelation 7-9 | Sunday - Revelation 19-22 |



**September 13, 2026**

**Continental Breakfast Served**

**8:45AM—10:15AM**

**Rally Day Program**

**“Creation is Grand” by Ken Kroah**

**Plus, hands-on science stations.**

**Wrap-up of our Read-the-Bible-in-a-Year Challenge**



**Rev. Stephen Swisher**

will be featured on

***AM Kevin Club***

show with host Kevin Shorey.

**Streaming live**

**September 18 at 11AM CST**

on Apple Podcasts and YouTube at *AM Kevin Club*

***Don't miss this excellent conversation on  
faith, life, and leadership!***

## St. John's Youth Car Wash



**Saturday, September 19, 2026**

**11am—2pm**

At O'Reilly Auto Parts on Deo Drive, Newark

A free will Offering will be available

All proceeds support the Mission Trip fund



# St. John's United Church of Christ Positive Living Podcast

Hosted by  
**Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Swisher**  
St. John's UCC Senior Pastor

## *Special Guests Include*



Shawn Barker  
Johnny Cash  
Tribute Artist



Clint Holmes &  
Kelly Clinton Holmes  
Entertainer/Inspirational Speaker



Karen Hester  
Dolly Parton  
Tribute Artist



Rev. Adam Hamilton  
Sr. Pastor and Author



Dr. Robert A. &  
Donna Schuller  
Speakers & Leadership Consultants



Donna Chafee  
Author of "First Great Sorrow:  
My Years with RFK"



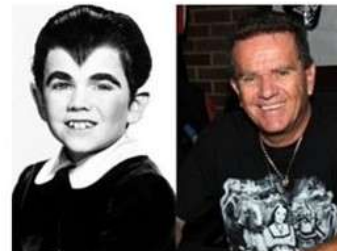
Dwight Icenhower  
World Renowned Elvis  
Tribute artist



E'Casanova Evans  
Michael Jackson  
Tribute Artist



Steve March-Torme  
Musician/Radio Host  
Son of Mel Torme



Butch Patrick  
Child star Best known  
as Eddie Munster

*New episodes the last Tuesday each month.*

on St. John's Facebook page • website • YouTube channel.

## Bible Discovery Zone Sunday Classes Starting Sept. 20

### **Adult Class**

Join us for  
***“Revelation: Hope vs Fear”***

by Carl Kochendorfer

**Led by Carl Kochendorfer**

Meet in the large meeting room

### **Youth Class**

Join us for  
***“The Thread”***

By YM360

**Led by Elaine Gard**

Meet in the small meeting 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**



**St. John’s United Church of Christ**  
**October 25, 2026**  
**4pm—5:30pm**

Family Fun! Come in costume, enjoy candy, hotdogs and more.  
Trunk or Treat starts at 4. For more information about this  
community event call the Christian Education office at 740-323-2408.

**St. John’s members and friends** - Planning to pass out  
candy, plan on 250 pieces. Come in costume and/or decorate your car! Come,  
join in the fun and welcome our friends and neighbors to St. John’s.

Prize for the best decorated car!

**DONATIONS OF CANDY ARE WELCOMED AND APPRECIATED**



**General Prayers:** Charlie Bruah,  
Rev. Dr. Winfield Strout, Eli Taylor, Carl  
Kochendorfer, Trisha Boehmer, and Delores  
Williams

**Church Members Homebound and Nursing**

**Facility Residents:** Bonita Farmer, Patricia  
Gilbert, Paula Hatfield, Rosalie Johnson, Faith  
Kelly, Dolores McDonald, Esther Gillham, Helen  
McGaughy, Mary Lou Hostetler, Molly Sheets,  
Debi Snow

**We Appreciate Those Serving Today!**

Liturgist:

Jeff Conner

Cantor:

10:30 a.m. Diane Reef

Ushers:

Frank Davis, Terry Gano,

Barry Dooley, Gary Kinser

Cradle Roll:

Volunteer

Media Worship Team:

Sound & Video:

8:00 am: Mike Dooley

10:30 am: Ken Kroah/Julie Kroah



**Sunday: August 30, 2026**

8:00 am Outdoor Drive-In Service

10:30 am Sanctuary Service

10:30 am Cradle Roll

**Wednesday:**

1:00 pm Afternoon Circle Meeting

6:00 pm Crystal City Chorus

**Thursday:**

11:00 am Thursday Book Study,  
UNCOMMON GROUND,  
Living Faithfully in a World  
of Difference by Timothy  
Keller and John Inazu at  
River Road Coffee on the  
Square

**Sunday: September 6, 2026**

**Communion Sunday**

8:00 am Outdoor Drive-In Service

10:30 am Sanctuary Service

10:30 am Cradle Roll

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



*Attendance Report for Sunday, August 23, 2026*

8:00 a.m. - 28      10:30 a.m. - 65

Sunday, August 23 Live Stream Views - 225

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!

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

**General Fund Income**

|                                         | <u>July</u>        | <u>Year to date</u> |                |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Congregation giving (Faith Promise)     | 7,495.94           | 61,331.22           |                |
| Income from Foundation Fund             | 11,500.00          | 80,500.00           |                |
| Monthly Income from Emerson Miller Fund | 3,758.33           | 26,308.31           |                |
| Month & YTD Total Income                | 23,089.96          | 173,587.52          |                |
| General Fund Expenses                   | 23,867.61          | 179,218.11          |                |
| <b>Over/Under Month &amp; YTD</b>       | <b>(\$ 777.65)</b> | <b>(\$5,630.59)</b> | ( ) = Negative |

