



**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

Adult Bell Choir

Jerry Goodman

Signer

Debi Snow

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Prayer List

Rebecca Swartz

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Rooted in the Evangelical

and Reformed Traditions

We are Sowing Seeds of Hope

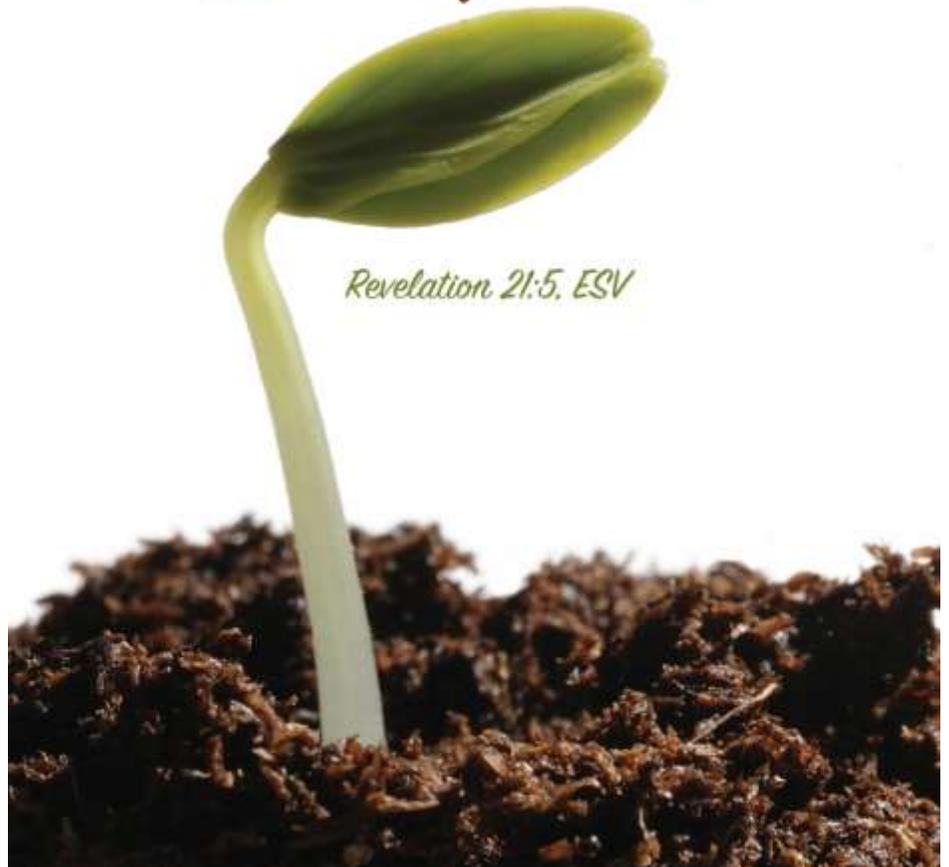
in a Time of Chaos

So We May All Be One



AND HE WHO WAS SEATED
ON THE THRONE SAID,

*"Behold, I am making
all things new."*



Revelation 21:5, ESV

January 18, 2026

Chapel Service: 8:00 a.m.

Sanctuary Service: 10:30 a.m.

January 18, 2026

Chapel Service
Sanctuary Service

8:00 am

10:30 am

Announcements & Greetings

Prelude (8:00 a.m.)

Jane Shoemaker

“A Wonderful Savior Is Jesus My Lord” arr. by Berry

Prelude (10:30 a.m.)

“Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring” J.S. Bach

Todd Baldosser

***Opening Hymn**

“Rejoice, the Lord is King!”

No. 699

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

- 1) **Rejoice, the Lord is King! The risen Christ adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore:
lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**
- 2) **God’s reign can never fail, Christ rules o’er earth and heaven;
the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given:
lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**
- 3) **Rejoice in glorious hope! For Christ, our Judge, shall come
to glorify the saints for their eternal home:
lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

***Call to Worship**

Jeff Conner

Leader: Come! Let us follow Jesus to the edge of the Jordan River

All: We come to be cleansed and made whole

Leader: Come! Let us witness God Incarnate

All: We come to join Jesus in choosing life in the Kingdom of God

Leader: Come! Let us declare the truth of Jesus’ identity and the truth of our identity as Baptized believers

All: We come to remember and to embody who we are as beloved children of God

Leader: Come! let us worship God who empowers us through Divine Presence

All: To live together as the Family of God

***Please stand if you are able**

***Prayer of Invocation**

All: Eternal God, at the Baptism of Jesus, You revealed Him to the world as Your Son, and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Keep all who are born with water and the Spirit faithful to their calling as Your people; through Jesus Christ, our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

***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.

***Prayer of Thanksgiving over the Offering**

All: Ever-Present and knowing God, You formed us from the beginning, naming us as Your own; You have entrusted us with the Holy Work of bearing Your light to the world. Though we often feel unworthy and uncertain, we are reminded in the waters of baptism, that Your grace goes before us and Your strength works through us. Receive these gifts, offered with gratitude and hope. Use them and us to proclaim Your good work and shine Your love to our community and to the ends of the earth. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen

***Closing Hymn "Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain" No. 215**
(8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 3)

- 1) Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness;
God hath brought forth Israel into joy from sadness;
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters,
led them with un-moistened foot through the Red Sea Waters.**
- 2) 'Tis the spring of souls today; Christ hath burst his prison,
and from three day's sleep in death as a sun hath risen;
all the winter of our sins, long and bleak, is flying
from his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.**
- 3) Now the brightest season dawns with the day of splendor,
now the royal feast of feasts comes its joy to render;
comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection
welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.**

***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 (8:00 a.m.) "Postlude in C" arr. by Birchwood Jane Shoemaker

Postlude (10:30 a.m.) "Soon and Very Soon" Crouch Todd Baldosser

Pastor Steve's Quote of the Week

“If you see someone without a smile today, give them yours.” Dolly Parton

Dr. Swisher's message next week:

January 25, 2026

“Locked Up for a Good Reason”

Ephesians 3: 1-13

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!

NEW Classes Starting

January 11, 2026 9:00AM—10:00AM

Adult Class

Abiding In Christ

By Carl Kochendorfer
led by Carl Kochendorfer



2026 Offering Envelopes

Assigned envelopes are in the Fellowship Room. If your envelopes are not there or if you would like assigned envelopes, please contact Anita or Kim in the office. Thank you!



Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, February 15, 2026 after the 10:30 a.m. Service.

We hope to see you at the Congregational Pot Luck and Annual Meeting.

The Youth BIBLE DISCOVERY ZONE Class

Beginning Sunday, January 4, The Youth Class will begin a new study of "Mayberry Bible Study". We'll watch an episode of the old Mayberry TV series and then follow a scripture passage that goes with the episode and study how life is impacted by scripture.

The Youth Class meets during the BIBLE DISCOVERY ZONE hour (9:00 to 10:00 a.m.) every Sunday morning. Any Youth 7th grade and above is invited to join us in the Youth Class Room next to the offices.



2026 Meetings

11:30AM—1:00PM

January 11, 25, February 8, 22 and March 8, 22

Mission and Outreach Focus for January

As we go through the ups and downs of winter, our focus turns to those who need a place to get in out of the cold. The United Way Warming Task Force of Licking County operates a warming center located inside of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and it opens when the outside temperature will be 13 degrees or below. They are expecting a hard winter and are in need of volunteers to staff assigned shifts, including overnights which is the hardest to fill. Other needs include paper products, coffee, hot chocolate, hand warmers and waterproof gloves. They anticipate serving 70 people per night. Emma Chapman, the volunteer coordinator may be reached at 740-345-6685, Ext. 301 or echapman@unitedwaylc.org.



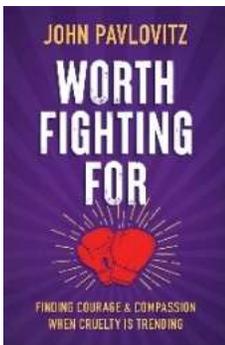
St. John's Little Free Pantry

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. 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/>



Happy New Year!

The book club will continue to meet each Thursday, January 22 and 29 at The River Road Coffee House in downtown Newark on the north side of the square. We continue with discussion and fellowship as we discuss the book "WORTH FIGHTING FOR, Finding Courage and Compassion When Cruelty is Trending" by John Pavlovitz. The book is available online and we welcome you to join us.



Youth Canned Soup Drive

February 8, 2026

Canned soups of all kinds or monetary donations
Benefits the Licking County Food Pantry

Collection bins will be in the Fellowship Room
"Vote" for your favorite team



QUARTER AUCTION

Join us at the Look Up Center for a LifeWise event!

A Quarter Auction is a fun, low-cost fundraising event where participants bid on donated items using quarters instead of large dollar amounts. Tickets are \$20 a piece and include a light dinner with your paddle to bid!

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19
5 PM**

LOOK UP CENTER

**50 O'BANNON AVE,
NEWARK, OH 43055**

Want to be a vendor or donate to the auction? Email newarkoh@lifewise.org to connect!



Scan for tickets!

For more information about LifeWise Newark, visit lifewise.org/newarkcityoh or contact newarkoh@lifewise.org

Finances for the Month and Year to Date

<u>General Fund Income</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Congregation giving (Faith Promise)	12,997.02	93,831.00
Income from Foundation Fund	10,500.00	126,000.00
Monthly Income from Emerson Miller Fund	3,758.33	45,099.96
Month & YTD Income	27,742.46	282,072.80
General Fund Expenses	\$27,224.32	\$295,550.80
Over/Under Month & YTD	\$ 518.14	(\$13,478.00)
Additional Inc. needed from Emerson Miller Fund		<u>13,478.00</u>
General Fund December 31, 2025		0.00



() = Negative



General Prayers: Bill Carr, Charlie Bruah, Rev. Dr. Winfield Strout, Rev. Gunnar Cerda, Brian Lensink & Carl Kochendorfer and the family of Norma Martin



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, and Lois Meyers



Additional prayer requests on Bea's Blessings:

- Carly (Teresa McCoy's daughter)
- Calvin Campbell – Home from the hospital, will have a long recovery
- 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. Todd Baldosser

Ushers:

Frank Davis, Terry Gano,

Barry Dooley, Gary Kinser

Cradle Roll:

Volunteer/Avery Nagel

Bible Discovery Zone:

Marla Crowthers & Youth if needed

Media Worship Team:

Sound & Video:

10:30 am: Karson Ewing/Julie Kroah

Sunday: January 18, 2026
Second Sunday after the Epiphany

- 8:00 am Chapel Service
- 9:00 am All BDZ Classes
- 10:30 am Sanctuary Service
- 10:30 am Bible Discovery Zone - Children's Elementary Class

Monday:
6:30 pm Church Council Meeting

Wednesday:
6:00 pm Crystal City Chorus

Thursday:
11:00 am Thursday Book Study- "Worth Fighting For, Finding Courage and Compassion When Cruelty Is Trending" by John Pavlovitz at River Road Coffee on the Square

12 – 2pm LifeWise Academy

Sunday: January 25, 2026
Third Sunday after the Epiphany

- 8:00 am Chapel Service
- 9:00 am All BDZ Classes
- 10:30 am Sanctuary Service
- 10:30 am Bible Discovery Zone - Children's Elementary Class

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

Attendance Report for Sunday, January 11, 2026

8:00 am - 14 10:30 am - 83

Sunday, January 11 Live Stream Views - 426

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.



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!