



**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

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Colleen Kroah

Adult Bell Choir

Jerry Goodman

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Debi Snow

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Prayer List

Rebecca Swartz

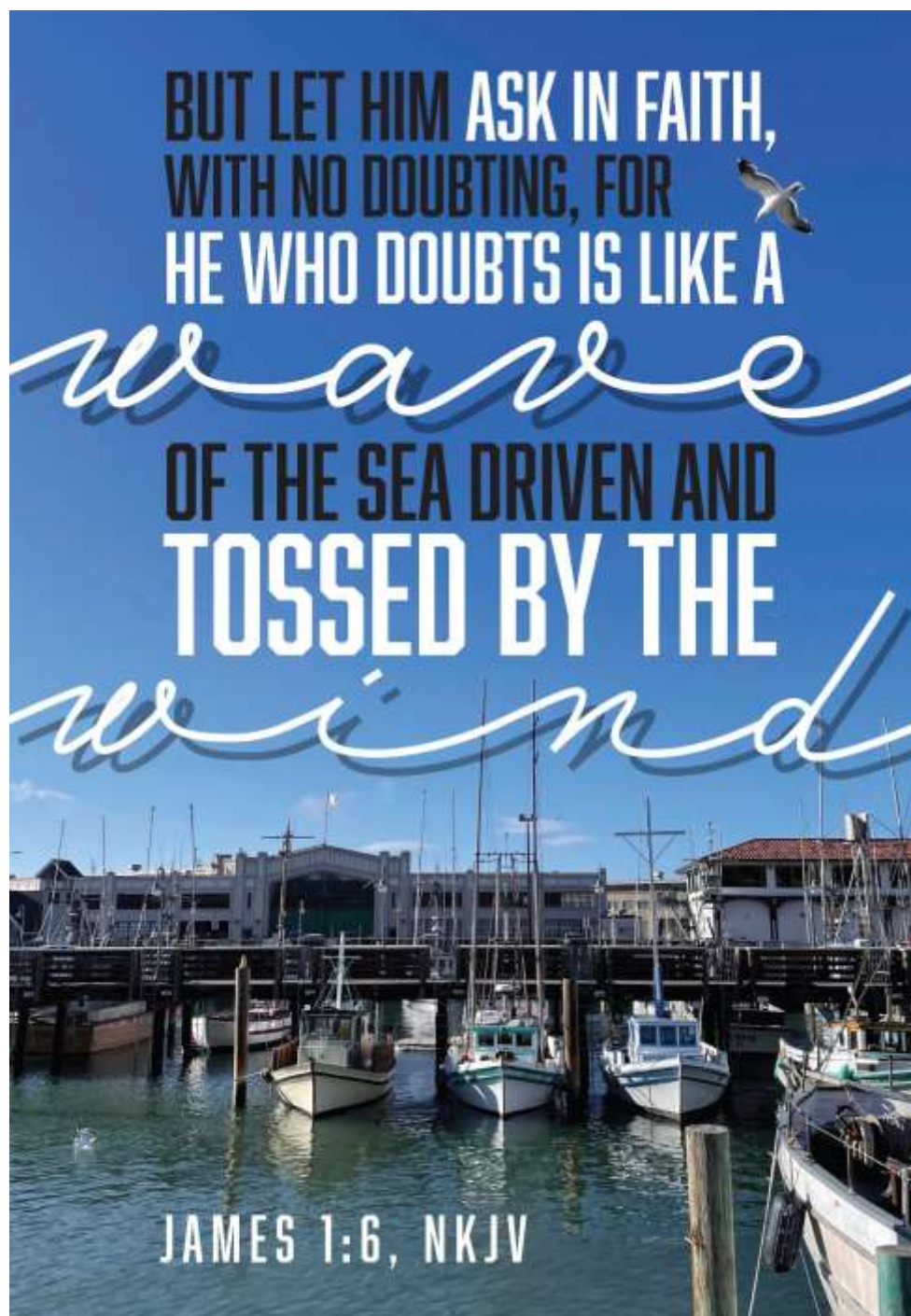
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*Rooted in the Evangelical
and Reformed Traditions*

*We are Sowing Seeds of Hope
in a Time of Chaos*

So We May All Be One



July 19, 2026
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Outdoor Drive-in Service: 8:00 a.m.
Sanctuary Service: 10:30 a.m.

July 19, 2026

Tune your FM Radio to 107.5

8:00 am

Sanctuary Service

10:30 am

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Announcements & Greetings

Prelude

“God Has Chosen Me” Farrell

Todd Baldosser

***Opening Hymn**

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

No. 2

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

- 1) Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive our fear and doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.
- 2) All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.
- 4) Mortals join the happy chorus; stars of morning, take your part;
love divine is reigning o’er us, binding those of tender heart.
Ever singing, move we onward, victors in the midst of strife,
joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

***Call to Worship**

Leader: We gather today to celebrate 185 years of God’s steadfast love and
Faithfulness to and through St. John’s

All: From generation to generation God’s truth endures

Leader: Through decades of prayers, praises and service the Lord has been our
guide

**All: We give thanks for those who laid the foundation and for the
heritage we inherit**

Leader: God’s Grace has sustained this Church through every season

All: His mercies are new every morning and His love endures forever

Leader: Let us worship the Lord with gladness, stepping into the future with
hope and unified hearts

All: Come let us worship and praise His Name together

Please stand if you are able

***Prayer of Invocation**

All: Dear God, We come before You today with hearts full of gratitude, lifting You Jesus, as the foundation of our faith. We thank You for the incredible milestone of 185 years. For nearly two centuries, You have been our guiding light, our place of refuge and our beacon of hope. We thank you for the generations of believers who have gone before us—those who planted seeds, those who weathered the storms and those who faithfully proclaimed Your Gospel within and beyond these walls. We honor their legacy, but we look forward with great expectation to the future You are building here. Open our hearts this day to receive Your Word, open our voices to sing Your praises and open our hearts to serve one another and our neighbors. As we pray these ancient words of righteousness in action...

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 - The Apostles' Creed (*Traditional Version*)**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the universal Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Special Music-Vocal Solo

Colleen Kroah

“Peace Be Still” written by Darst, Holt and Fieldes, 2020

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.**

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 4:16

Jeff Conner

Scripture Reading

James 1:6

Sermon

“Never Believe in Never”

Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher

Hymn

“There Is a Balm in Gilead”

(8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 3) **No. 501**

***Refrain There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,
 there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.***

- 1) Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work’s in vain,
 but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.**

Refrain

- 2) If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
 you can tell the love of Jesus, and say, “He died for all!”**

Refrain

- 3) Don’t ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend;
 and if you lack for knowledge He’ll ne’er refuse to lend.**

Refrain

Invitation for Faithful Giving

Offertory

“Christ Be Our Light” Farrell

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: Loving God, We offer these tithes and offerings as a token of our gratitude for Your abundant blessings through these 185 years and counting. Magnify these gifts for Your purposes and grant us discernment to be faithful caretakers of the resources entrusted to our mission and ministry. Use our tithes, our talents and our lives to bring forth love, Justice, grace and new life in our world. In Jesus' Name. Amen

***Closing Hymn "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus" No. 613**
(8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 4)

- 1) Stand up, stand up for Jesus, ye soldiers of the cross;
lift high his royal banner, it must not suffer loss:
from vict'ry unto vict'ry his army shall he lead,
till ev'ry foe is vanquished, and Christ is Lord indeed.**
- 2) Stand up, stand up for Jesus, the trumpet call obey;
forth to the mighty conflict, in this his glorious day:
"ye that are brave, now serve him," against unnumbered foes;
let courage rise with danger, and strength to strength oppose.**
- 4) Stand up, stand up for Jesus, the strife will not be long;
This day the noise of battle, the next the victor's song;
to those who overcometh, a crown of life shall be;
they with the King of glory shall reign eternally.**

***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 "We Walk By Faith" Alford/Croft Todd Baldosser

Pastor Steve's Quote of the Week
"You are what you believe yourself to be."
Paul Coelho
Author and Lyricist

Dr. Swisher's message next week:

Sunday, July 26, 2026

“Don't Let Fear Paralyze You”

Isaiah 41:10

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/>

Book Study Group

Starting July 23, 2026, the book club will be reading and discussing UNCOMMON GROUND, Living Faithfully in a World of Difference by Timothy Keller and John Inazu. Timothy Keller was an American pastor, theologian, author and founder of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City. John Inazu is an author and The Sally Danforth Distinguished Professor of Law and Religion at Washington University in St Louis, Missouri. We live in a time of deep division and the authors, along with stories provided by others, show us what it means to live with humility, patience, and tolerance while engaging faithfully across differences. The book is available online and in paperback. Come and join in the discussion on Thursdays at 11am at the River Road Coffee House in downtown Newark.

Mission and Outreach for July

This month our church was able to supply towels needed for the St Vincent Men's Haven. The men were very appreciative about how colorful and comforting the towels were. We would like to add to our gift by supplying some 3 in 1 body wash and shampoo. Please deposit donations in the appropriate container in the Fellowship Room. by the end of July. Thank you in advance for your support of this local outreach.



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 again on Wednesday, August 5, at 1:00 p.m. in the Large Meeting Room. Refreshments will be served by Julie Kroah and Julie Davis. Our program will be on the Old Licking County Children's Home, with Brenda Simross. Brenda and her parents were residents/employees at the Children's Home during Brenda's early childhood. All ladies of our St. John's Church Family are encouraged to attend.

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

Additional Books & Resources in the Church Library

Reading List for —July 19—July 25 (Days 316-322)

Sunday—Acts 13-15

Thursday—Acts 25-28

Monday— Acts 16-18

Friday—Romans 1-3

Tuesday—Acts 19-21

Saturday—Romans 4-6

Wednesday—Acts 22-24

The Summer Reading Program is in Full Swing!

St. John's Library

Summer



Reading Program

New Books Added!

The Bible in 100 Pages: Seeing the big Picture in
God's Great Story by Phil Moore.

Usborne History of the World in Pictures
by Rob Lloyd Jones.

Be sure to check out all the
great reads in the library!

Positive Living Podcast



Hosted by

Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Swisher

St. John's UCC Senior Pastor

Don't miss the premiere episode July 27, 2026

Fall Kick-Off



September 13, 2026

Food • Fun • Friends!

Rally Day Program

"Science is Grand" by Ken Kroah

Plus, hands-on science stations



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

Church Members 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

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

Media Worship Team:

Sound & Video:

8:00 am: Mike Dooley

10:30 am: Ken Kroah/Julie Kroah



Sunday: July 19, 2026

8:00 am Outdoor Drive-In Service

10:30 am Sanctuary Service

10:30 am Cradle Roll

Monday:

6:30 pm Church Council Meeting

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

Sunday: July 26, 2026

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, July 12, 2026

8:00 a.m. - 29 10:30 a.m. - 35

Sunday, July 12 Live Stream Views - 184

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>June</u>	<u>Year to date</u>
Congregation giving (Faith Promise)	6,899.91	53,835.28
Income from Foundation Fund	11,500.00	69,000.00
Monthly Income from Emerson Miller Fund	3,758.33	22,549.98
Month & YTD Total Income	22,708.67	150,497.56
General Fund Expenses	26,541.87	155,350.50
Over/Under Month & YTD	(\$ 3,833.20)	(\$4,852.94) () = Negative

