



**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
stjohns.pastorstephen@gmail.com

Office: 740-323-2854

Office Administrator

Anita Chirdon

Office Assistant

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stjohnsunited@windstream.net

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Julie Kroah

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Sexton

Mike Dooley

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Chapel Pianist

Jane Shoemaker

Children's Bell Choir

Colleen Kroah

Adult Bell Choir

Jerry Goodman

Signer

Debi Snow

Librarian

Catherine Lim

Prayer List

Rebecca Swartz

raswartz1231@aol.com &

stjohnsunited@windstream.net

*Rooted in the Evangelical
and Reformed Traditions*

*We are Sowing Seeds of Hope
in a Time of Chaos
So We May All Be One*



ROOTED *in God's Love*

And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high

And deep is the love of Christ.

Ephesians 3:17-18, NIV

May 10, 2026

Mother's Day

Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

Sanctuary Service: 10:30 a.m.

May 10, 2026

Tune your FM Radio to 107.5

8:00 am

Sanctuary Service

10:30 am

Announcements & Greetings

Prelude

“My Tribute” Crouch

Todd Baldosser

***Opening Hymn**

“To God Be the Glory”

No. 72

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

- 1) **To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.**

Refrain

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!*

- 2) **O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.**

Refrain

- 3) **Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.**

Refrain

***Call to Worship**

Leader: All who gather here are sons and daughters

All: We praise God for our parents who gave us life

Leader: We are grateful for mothers brave, compassionate, full of wisdom and grace

All: We give God thanks and praise

Leader: For mothers who are no longer with us physically as they are with You in Heaven, but whose light shines in our hearts

***Please stand if you are able**

All: We pray for those that mourn and give thanks for eternal life
Leader: For those struggling to raise children on their own
All: We pray for support and real help in difficult times
Leader: For stepmothers navigating the challenges of creating a new family
All: We pray for wisdom and patience
Leader: For grandmothers who are doing the hard work of raising children again
All: We pray the caregivers are blessed with those who also care for them
Leader: For those who are struggling with the creative process of bringing new life and for those who are waiting for the adoptive process to be fulfilled
All: We wait eagerly with you and offer our supportive hands to hold
Leader: For women who do not have children but instead teach, lead, care for and guide the children of others
All: We give God thanks and praise
Leader: For all mothers, created in the image of God and caring as He does
All: We proclaim Happy Mother's Day!

***Prayer of Invocation**

All: Gracious God, today we especially celebrate all women who have mothered others. Thank You for the many ways women reveal Your compassion and strength to the world. May they be honored, cherished and encouraged today and every day. May we follow their example of faith and service, bringing honor to Your name as we pray the words you taught us; ...

***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.

Second Sunday Giving Moment Brian Lensink – Church Council, Treasurer

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 (10:30 a.m.) Piano Duet – Catherine Lim & Jane Shoemaker
“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Me/How Great Thou Art” arr. by Auld/Carter

Scripture Reading Psalm 51: 10 Jeff Conner

Scripture Reading Ephesians 3: 14-21

Sermon “My Heart Christ’s Home” Mrs. Barbara Swisher

Hymn **“Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart”** **No.265**
(verses 1, 2, 3)

- 1) **Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.**
- 2) **I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no opening skies,
but take the dimness of my soul away.**
- 3) **Teach me to feel that thou are always nigh;
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
to check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.**

***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

"I Am Thine O Lord" Crosby/Doane

Todd Baldosser

Pastor Steve's Quote of the Week

"Although the world is full of suffering. It is also full of the overcoming of it."

Helen Keller

1880-1968

Dr. Swisher's message next week:

Sunday, May 17, 2026

"How to Use Prayer in Daily Life"

Isaiah 30: 15

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!



Understanding Pentecost

Led by Elaine Gard

May 10 & 17 at 9:00AM

(in the Large Meeting Room)



Have you ever wondered what Pentecost really means—and why it still matters today?

- Come explore the powerful moment when the Holy Spirit came, transforming lives and launching a movement that continues across the world.

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".

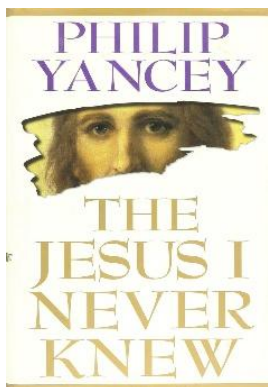


St. John's Little Free Pantry

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



The book study group meets every Thursday at the River Road Coffee House on the north side of the square in downtown Newark. We will gather on May 7, 14, 21, and 28 at 11am to enjoy fellowship and conversation about our recent book selection. We are reading "The Jesus I Never Knew" by Philip Yancey. This book won the Gold Medallion Christian Book of the Year Award in 1996 and looks at Jesus Christ - his teachings, his miracles, and his death and resurrection. The book is available online. We would love to have you join us.

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 _____

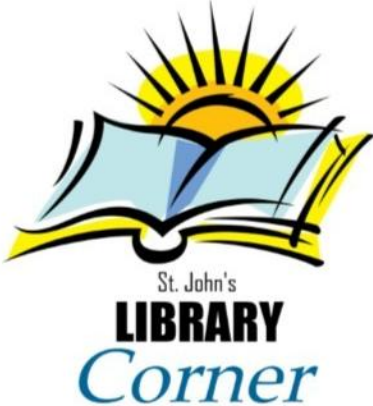


SEE ALSO



www.stjohnsnewark.org

Summer Reading Program!



Designed for **adults, teens, and kids**—because everyone needs a place to learn, connect, and be inspired. Whether you're diving into deeper study, exploring new stories, or reading with your child - discover the joy of reading.

June through August
New books arriving soon!

Continue to let us know what books you are interested in by filling in the information below and drop in the collection plate or write it on the **NEW white board** in the Church Library.



Book Title: _____ Author: _____

Suggested by: _____ Contact information: _____

If you have any questions, see our librarian Catherine Lim or email stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net.

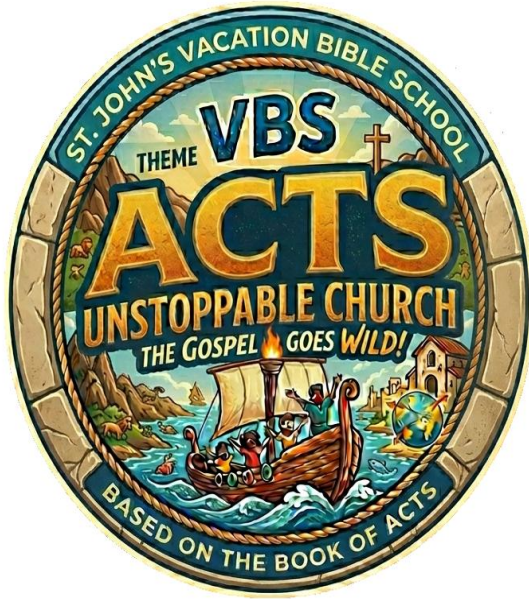
Finances for the Month and Year to Date

<u>General Fund Income</u> (Incomplete)	<u>April</u>	<u>Year to date</u>
Congregation giving (Faith Promise)	25,543.85	103,306.23
Income from Foundation Fund	11,500.00	46,000.00
Monthly Income from Emerson Miller Fund	3,758.33	15,033.32
Month & YTD Total Income	25,543.85	103,306.23
General Fund Expenses	23,393.05	101,380.99
Over/Under Month & YTD	\$ 2,150.80	\$ 1,925.24



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St. John's United Church of Christ



Vacation Bible
School

June 23 - 27

9:00AM—11:30-AM

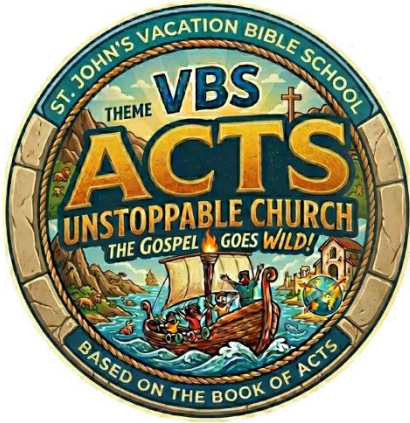
This year we will follow the leaders of the early church through their wild adventures
unbelievable challenges!

Join us for a week filled with Bible stories,
crafts, science, games, and FUN!

Donations of vanilla pudding cups, pretzel rods, coco puffs, oyster crackers, fruit roll-ups, goldfish crackers, red and blue Hawaiian punch are appreciated

285 W. National Drive, Newark

740-323-2407 www.stjohnsnewark.org



ST. JOHN'S UCC

285 W. National Dr. Newark, OH 740-323-2407

Preschool through Sixth Grade

June 22 - 26, 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Child's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____

Home telephone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Home e-mail address: _____

Child's age: _____ Last school grade completed: _____

In case of emergency (when the parent/guardian cannot be reached), please contact:

Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Relationship to child: _____

Please list any allergies (including food allergies) the VBS staff should be aware of: _____

Person responsible for picking up this child at the end of each VBS day:

Name: _____ Phone # _____

Signature of parent/guardian: _____

Photographs (Please sign only to disallow photo use)

I Do Not allow photographs and/or video representations of me or my child to be taken for the express purpose of telling stories about the church VBS experience and/ or promoting church activities in the future.

Signature _____ Date _____



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, & 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 –shoulder surgery 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. Julie Davis

Ushers:

Frank Davis, Terry Gano,

Barry Dooley, Gary Kinser

Cradle Roll:

Volunteer

Bible Discovery Zone:

Marla Crowthers & Youth

Media Worship Team:

Sound & Video:

8:00 am: Mike Dooley

10:30 am: Ken Kroah/Julie Kroah

THIS WEEK AT GLANCE



Sunday: May 10, 2026

Mother’s Day

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

Tuesday:

- 7:00pm Finance & Stewardship
Committee Meeting -
Remote access

Wednesday:

- 10:00 am Christian Education Meeting
- 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
- 2:00pm Music Committee Meeting

Sunday: May 17, 2026

**Graduation &
Appreciation Sunday**

- 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!

Attendance Report for Sunday, May 3, 2026

8:00 a.m. - 25 10:30 a.m. – 43

Sunday, May 3 Live Stream Views – 178

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.



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