



**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

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Anita Chirton

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Colleen Kroah

Adult Bell Choir

Jerry Goodman

Signer

Debi Snow

Librarian

Catherine Lim

Prayer List

Rebecca Swartz

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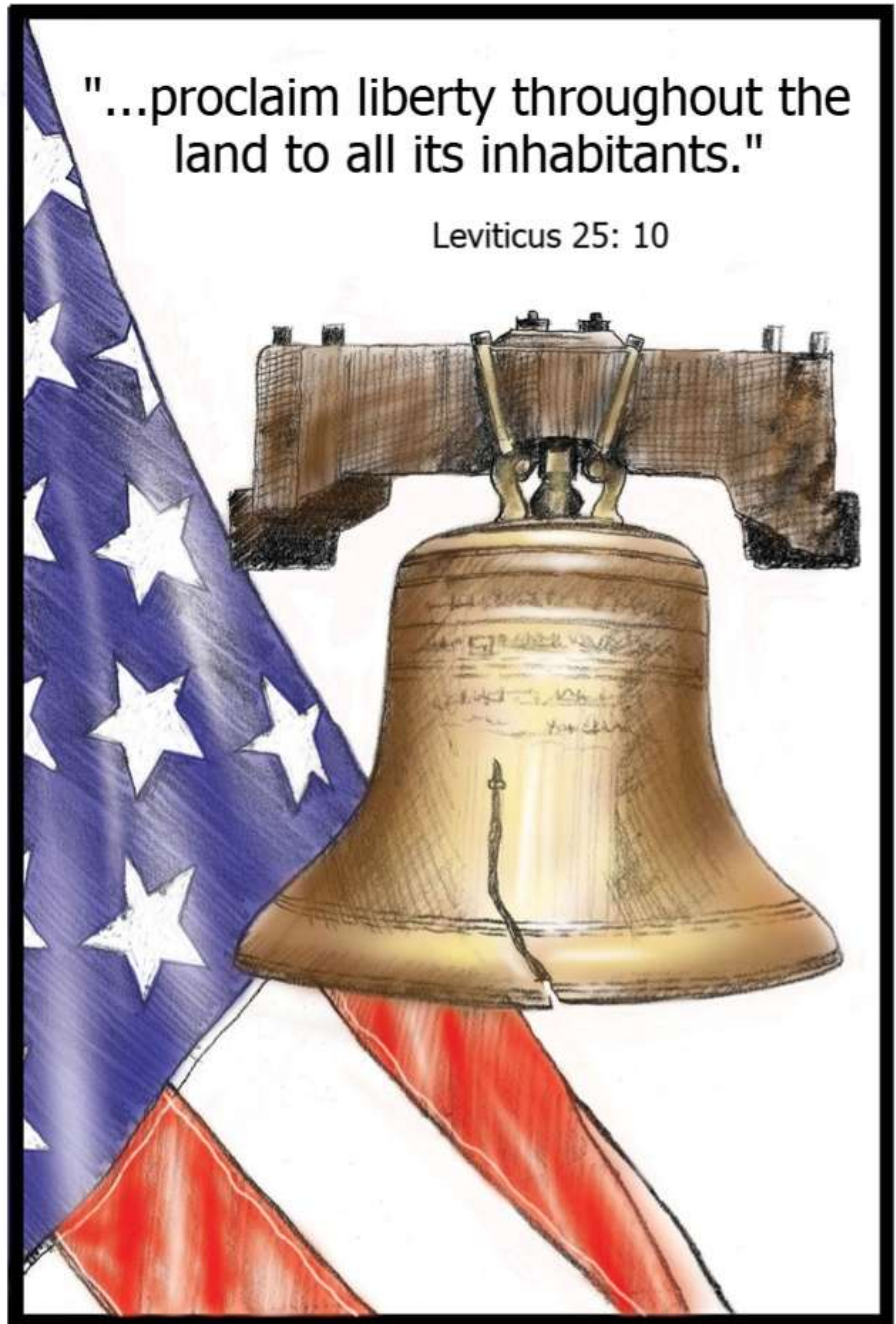


*Rooted in the Evangelical
and Reformed Traditions*

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

"...proclaim liberty throughout the
land to all its inhabitants."

Leviticus 25: 10



July 5, 2026

Communion Sunday

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Sanctuary Service: 10:30 a.m.

July 5, 2026

Tune your FM Radio to 107.5

8:00 am

Sanctuary Service

10:30 am

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Announcements & Greetings

Prelude “Eternal Father Strong to Save” Dykes Todd Baldosser

***Opening Hymn** “This Is the Day” (Repeat 1 Time) No. 286

**This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made.**

***Call to Worship** (*Adapted from Psalm 145*)

Leader: I will extol my God and my King and bless His Name forever

**All: From the beginning of this Nation our ancestors turned to You for
wisdom, protection and light**

Leader: The Lord is gracious and merciful and abounding in steadfast love

**All: For 250 years, America has remained the Beacon of Hope to the
world because of the compassion of the Lord**

Leader: We give You thanks this day, O Lord, for Your faithfulness

**All: Our children will speak of Your works and shall give thanks dear
God**

Leader: They shall speak of Your Glory and tell of Your Power

**All: Our mouths will proclaim praises to the Lord and all flesh Bless
His Name forever and ever**

Leader: May God continue to bless the United States and her people

All: From now and forevermore Amen.

***Prayer of Invocation**

**All: Dear God, On this day after we have Celebrated the birth of our
Nation, we come before You with grateful hearts for the freedom
we enjoy. We thank You for this Country, its people and the
opportunities we have to live, work and worship without fear.
Lord, as the parades and fireworks fade, we ask that You help us
carry the spirit of gratitude and unity into the rest of the year.**

Please stand if you are able

Give us the ability to use our freedom wisely. Heal our divisions and help everyone in America to see each other as neighbors and fellow citizens created in Your image not just political labels. Protect our active duty military, civil service and veterans who continually put their lives on the line so we can remain safe. Help us as Americans to always strive to be “One Nation, under God, indivisible with Liberty and Justice for all” as we pray the words Our ancestors prayed...

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.**

Children’s Moment

Pastor Steve

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

Leviticus 25: 10

Jeff Conner

(This Scripture is inscribed on the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

Scripture Reading

Genesis 1: 27

Sermon

“The Greatness of America”

Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher

Hymn

“Be Thou My Vision” (8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 4) No. 595

1)

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art
thou my best thought by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

Chorus

2) **I roamed and rambled, and I followed my footsteps
To the sparkling sands of her diamond deserts
All around me, a voice was sounding
This land was made for you and me**

Chorus

***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

“Theme from Finlandia” Sibelius

Todd Baldosser

Pastor Steve's Quote of the Week

“Admire as much as you can. Most people don't admire enough.”

Vincent Van Gogh

1853-1890

Dr. Swisher's message next week:

Sunday, July 12, 2026

God's Training for Bigger Thinking

Ephesians 3: 20

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 memory of C. David Carpenter by John (Bill) & Sharla Miller

On behalf of David Carpenter by Sharon Washington

In memory of C. David Carpenter by Joyce and David Zinsmeister

In memory of Dave Carpenter by Timothy & Sandra Mercer

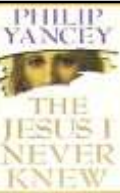


St. John's Little Free Pantry

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 will meet each Thursday this month, July 9, 16, 23, and 30 at 11am at the River Road Coffee House on the square in downtown Newark. We will be finishing our discussion of the book by Phillip Yancey, "The Jesus I Never Knew. Come join our fellowship and discussion.

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 5—July 11 (Days 302-308)

Sunday—Luke 16-18

Thursday—John 4-6

Monday— Luke 19-21

Friday—John 7-9

Tuesday—Luke 22-24

Saturday—John 10-12

Wednesday—John 1-3



St. John's Library
Summer

Reading Program

NEW TITLES!

Get Out of Your Head: Stopping the Spiral of Toxic Thoughts by Jennie Allen
Too Busy not to Pray by Bill Hybels
Think Like a Horse by Grant Gollhofer
The Lawyer and the Laundress by Christine Hill Suntz
The Men We Need by Brant Hansen



Some Favorites!

Gentle and Lowly by Dane Ortlund
The Purpose Driven Life by Rick Warren
Gentle Moon: The Story of Molly Lee by Deanna Windon

Books for Children and Teens

The Answers Books for Kids Box Set by Ken Ham
What Do You See? What Does God See? By Denise D. Brown
Answers Book 4 Teens, Vol 1. by Bodie Hodge

YOU CAN REQUEST A BOOK TO ADD TO OUR LIBRARY

You can request a book by writing the title and author on the whiteboard in the Church Library or email stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net.



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. Charles Dudley

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

THIS WEEK AT GLANCE



Sunday: July 5, 2026
8:00 am Outdoor Drive-In Service
10:30 am Sanctuary Service
10:30 am Cradle Roll

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 12, 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, June 28, 2026
8:00 a.m. - 24 10:30 a.m. - 51
Sunday, June 28 Live Stream Views - 274
America 250 Live Stream - 285
Approximate attendance - 160

*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 (Incomplete)	<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

