



**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

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Anita Chirton

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Jane Shoemaker

Children's Bell Choir

Colleen Kroah

Adult Bell Choir

Jerry Goodman

Signer

Debi Snow

Librarian

Catherine Lim

Prayer List

Rebecca Swartz

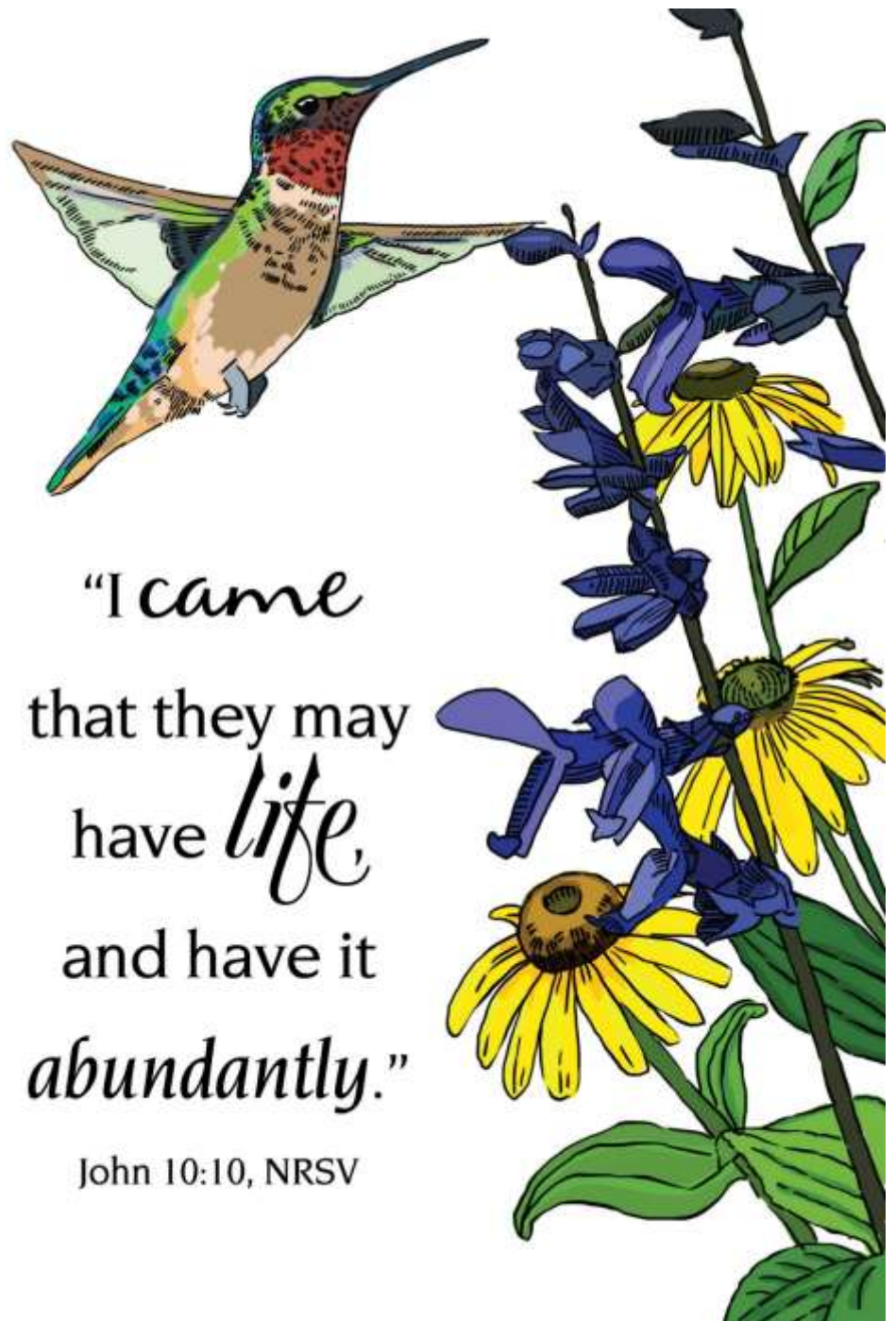
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[stjohnsunited@windstream.net](mailto:stjohnsunited@windstream.net)

*Rooted in the Evangelical  
and Reformed Traditions*

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

*So We May All Be One*



***June 28, 2026***  
***Fifth Sunday after Pentecost***  
**Outdoor Drive-in Service: 8:00 a.m.**  
**Sanctuary Service: 10:30 a.m.**



**\*Prayer of Invocation**

**All: Loving God, We thank You for the gift of this new day and the grace to gather together. As we step away from the noise and busyness of life, we ask that You calm our minds and open our hearts. Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us that we might feel the Holy Presence You offer all of us. Guide our thoughts, our songs and all we do this morning 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.**

**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**

**“How Great Thou Art” arr. by McDonald**

**Jane Shoemaker**

**Scripture Reading**

John 10: 10

Jeff Conner

**Scripture Reading**

Isaiah 52: 12

**Sermon**

“Guidelines to Abundant Living” Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher

**Hymn**

**“O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”** (8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 3) **No. 720**

1) **O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,  
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!  
America! America! God shed full grace on thee,  
and crown thy good with servanthood from sea to shining sea.**

2) **O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,  
who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!  
America! America! May God thy gold refine,  
till all success be nobleness and every gain divine.**

3) **O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years  
thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!  
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,  
confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law.**

**Invitation for Faithful Giving**

**Offertory**

“The House I Live In” Robeson

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: Gracious God, Your hospitality has surrounded and welcomed us.  
Receive our tithes and offerings **this morning** as a way to extend  
comfort, welcome and freedom to others. And use them to extend  
comfort and welcome, to meet needs and Bless others. May our  
giving be confirmation of the words “Here I am, Lord. Send me.”**

**\*Closing Hymn “My Country, ‘Tis of Thee”** (8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 4) **No. 721**

1) **My country, ‘tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing;  
land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims’ pride,  
from every mountainside let freedom ring.**

- 2) **My native country, thee, land of the noble free, thy name I love;  
I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and templed hills;  
my heart with rapture thrills like that above.**
- 4) **Our fathers' God, to thee, author of liberty, to thee we sing;  
long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light;  
protect us by thy might, Great God, our King.**

**\*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**

**"God Bless America" Berlin**

**Todd Baldosser**

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

**"What you do today can improve all of your tomorrows."**

**Ralph Martson - Legendary Quarterback and Motivational Speaker  
1907-1967**

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

**Sunday, July 5, 2026**

**The Greatness of America**

**Genesis 1: 27**

**Sermon Notes**

To our members, dear friends and visitors:

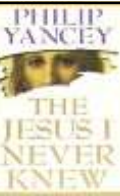
You are an important part of the worship and ministry that goes on here, and we are thankful for your presence. Please sign the attendance pads on the tables.  
Thank you!

### *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

The book study group continues to meet each Thursday at the River Road Coffee House on the north side of the square in downtown Newark. We will get together at 11am on June 25 to enjoy food, fellowship and learning together as we discuss "The Jesus I Never Knew" by Phillip Yancy. The book is available online. Come join us, we'll have a place at the table for you.

### **AFTERNOON CIRCLE -**

*will meet for a 4th of July picnic on Wednesday, July 1, 12 o'clock noon, in the Large Meeting Room of the Church. **"Baseball, Hot Dogs, Apple Pie, THE USA!"** is the theme for the day! We'll be eating the all-American hot dog and apple pie for lunch, enjoy a rousing baseball game of American history trivia, and sing a few patriotic songs. As always, all women of the St. John's Church family are invited to attend. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Room for parts of the meal you can bring. Please RSVP to Bev Lange by Sunday, June 28.*



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 —June 28—July 4 (Days 295-301)

Sunday—Mark 10-12

Thursday—Luke 7-9

Monday— Mark 13-16

Friday—Luke 10-12

Tuesday—Luke 1-3

Saturday—Luke 13-15

Wednesday—Luke 4-6

# 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](http://www.stjohnsnewark.org)





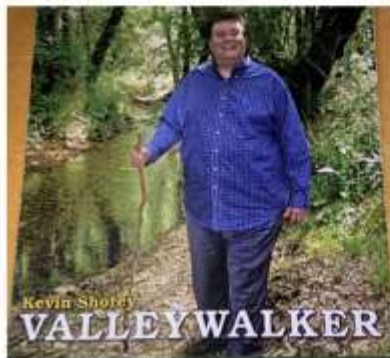
# Patriotic and Gospel Concert

## June 28 at 6:00PM

# FREE

Join the celebration at  
**St. John's UCC Newark**

Special added attraction



Featuring  
world-renowned  
Gospel artist  
**Kevin Shorey**



Grammy Nominated &  
Country Music Legend  
**Barbara Fairchild**

Continue the celebration at the  
*Ice Cream Social*  
courtesy of **Velvet Ice Cream**  
following the Concert



also performing is local  
group **Crystal City Chorus**

# St. John's

UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Swisher

285 W. National Drive • 740-323-2407 • [www.stjohnsnewark.org](http://www.stjohnsnewark.org)





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](mailto: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. Julie Davis

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: Karson Ewing/Tom Lawyer

**THIS WEEK AT GLANCE**



**Sunday: June 28, 2026**

8:00 am Outdoor Drive-In Service

10:30 am Sanctuary Service

10:30 am Cradle Roll

6:00 pm America 250 Patriotic &  
Gospel Concert – followed  
by an Ice Cream Social

**Wednesday:**

1:00 pm Afternoon Circle Meeting

6:00 pm Mission & Outreach  
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

**Sunday: July 5, 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 them.



*Attendance Report for Sunday, June 21, 2026*

8:00 a.m. - 29      10:30 a.m. – 42

Sunday, June 21 Live Stream Views – 174

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*

<b>General Fund Income</b>	<u>May</u>	<u>Year to date</u>
Congregation giving (Faith Promise)	8,754.04	46,935.37
Income from Foundation Fund	11,500.00	57,500.00
Monthly Income from Emerson Miller Fund	3,758.33	18,791.65
Month & YTD Total Income	24,473.52	127,788.89
General Fund Expenses	26,997.44	128,808.63
<b>Over/Under Month &amp; YTD</b>	<b>(\$ 2,523.92)</b>	<b>(\$ 1,019.74)</b>



( ) = Negative