



**St. John's
United Church of Christ
285 W. National Drive
Newark OH
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Main: 740-323-2407

Church Website

www.stjohnsnewark.org

Our Church Staff

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher

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Emmaleigh Crowthers

Adult Bell Choir

Jerry Goodman

Signer

Debi Snow

Librarian

Catherine Lim

Prayer List

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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



← BE STRONG **→**
and
→ COURAGEOUS. →

Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged,
for the Lord your God
will be with you wherever
you go
Joshua 1:9

October 25, 2026
Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost
Outdoor Drive-in Service: 8:00 a.m.
Sanctuary Service: 10:30 a.m.

October 25, 2026

Tune your FM Radio to 107.5

8:00 am

Sanctuary Service

10:30 am

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Announcements & Greetings

Prelude “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” Luther Todd Baldosser

***Opening Hymn** “Just a Closer Walk with Thee” **No. 557**
(8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 3)

**1) I am weak, but thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I’ll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.**

Refrain:

*Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
daily walking close to thee: let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

**2) Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.**

Refrain:

**3) When my feeble life is o’er, time for me will be no more;
guide me gently, safely o’er to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore.**

Refrain:

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Sing aloud with gladness

All: **God is gathering His people**

Leader: From near and far we come

All: **All who struggle and labor for new life**

Leader: God hears and will answer

All: **Those who weep**

Leader: God will console

All: **Those who are lost**

Leader: Find a clear path home

All: **Let us Worship the God who gathers us**

***Please stand if you are able**

***Prayer of Invocation**

All: Dear God, As we gather together today, we thank you for the gift of presence, togetherness, and friendship with You and with our family and friends around us and within us now. Open our hearts to hear Your Word, quiet our minds and fill our souls with Your peace and truth as we pray the words that came directly from Your heart...

***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.

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 Deuteronomy 31:8 Jeff Conner

Scripture Reading Joshua 1:9

Sermon “If You Get Scared Do This” Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher

Hymn **“In This Very Room”** **No. 295**
(8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 3)

- 1) In this very room there’s quite enough love
for one like me, and in this very room
there’s quite enough joy for one like me;
and there’s quite enough hope,
and quite enough pow’r to chase away any gloom,
for Jesus, Lord Jesus, is in this very room.
- 2) In this very room there’s quite enough love
for all of us, and in this very room
there’s quite enough joy for all of us;
and there’s quite enough hope,
and quite enough pow’r to chase away any gloom,
for Jesus, Lord Jesus, is in this very room.
- 3) In this very room there’s quite enough love
for all the world, and in this very room
there’s quite enough joy for all the world;
and there’s quite enough hope,
and quite enough pow’r to chase away any gloom,
for Jesus, Lord Jesus, is in this very room.

Invitation for Faithful Giving

Offertory “Andante” from Piano Sonata K. 545 Mozart 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: Dear God, Life can sometimes be scary, may these tithes and offerings bring courage. Sometimes life can seem confusing, may these gifts bring clarity. Often we feel worried, may these gifts be a sign that You are ultimately in control and seek to bring good things into the lives of Your people. Ultimately, Lord, may these blessings show that we are intentionally building Your Church and continually reaching forward in mission and ministry. In Jesus' Name. Amen

***Closing Hymn**

“Lead On, O King Eternal”

No. 632

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

- 1) Lead on, O King eternal, the day of march has come;
henceforth in fields of conquest thy tents shall be our home;
through days of preparation thy grace has made us strong;
and now, O king eternal, we lift our battle song.**
- 2) Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
and holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace;
for not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums;
with deeds of love and mercy, the heavenly kingdom comes.**
- 3) Lead on, O King eternal: we follow, not with fears,
for gladness breaks like morning where'er thy face appears;
thy cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light;
the crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might.**

***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.**

CL#2548454

Postlude

“How Can I Keep From Singing” Lowry

Todd Baldosser

Pastor Steve's Quote of the Week

**“Be happy because today is a new opportunity to outdo yesterday.”
Judge Frank Caprio**

Dr. Swisher's message next week:

Sunday, November 1, 2026

November 1, 2026 (All Saints Sunday)

“Remembering”

I Corinthians 1:2

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!



Lydia Elaine Flint
Born: September 26, 2026
Parents: Zach and Meghan(Tulloss) Flint
Grandparents: Dick and Pamela Tulloss



Rachel H. Ilardi
Born: December 12, 1949
Died: October 18, 2026
A member of St. John's since 2014



St. John's United Church of Christ
October 25, 2026
4pm—5:30pm

Family Fun! Come in costume, enjoy candy, hotdogs and more.
Trunk or Treat starts at 4. For more information about this community event call the Christian Education office at 740-323-2408.

St. John's members and friends - Planning to pass out candy, plan on 250 pieces. Come in costume and/or decorate your car! Come, join in the fun and welcome our friends and neighbors to St. John's.
Prize for the best decorated car!

DONATIONS OF CANDY ARE WELCOMED AND APPRECIATED



Starting November 1, 2026

Join us inside for the 8:00AM Chapel Service.
With the weather turning colder, the Outdoor
Drive-In Service will be moving indoors.



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
for the PERSECUTED CHURCH

November 1, 2026

More than 388 million (360 million in 2025)
Christians face high levels of persecution and
discrimination for their faith in Jesus.

**WE ENTER THROUGH OUR FRONT DOOR
BECAUSE WE CAN!**

To observe the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church where many have to hide their Christian faith in fear of persecution, we here at St. John's are encouraging everyone to enter through the front door. Enjoy the beauty of the sanctuary as you walk up the front steps while remembering and praying for those who cannot worship in freedom as we can.

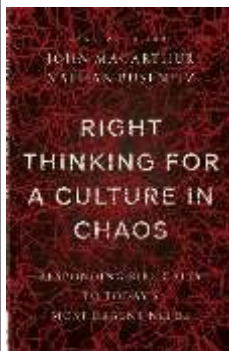


As we move forward with the elevator upgrade project, we have placed envelopes at both bulletin tables in the Sanctuary for your use if you would like to contribute to the Elevator Project Fund. Contributions will be used to repay the loan amount back to the Foundation Fund. You can also mark your offering envelope or check with Elevator Fund. Thank you for your support for this important investment for our church.

Mission and Outreach for November

As we approach the Thanksgiving season, thankful for the many ways God has blessed us this year, we look for ways to share our blessings with others. One that we did last year was especially appreciated. We would like to continue this year collecting boxes of cereal for the St. Vincent Men's Haven. There will be a collection container in the Fellowship Room for boxes of cereal. All kinds are appreciated. Thanks for giving.

Book Club



The Book Study group will meet on Thursday, October 29, November 5, 12 and 19 at 11am as usual. There will be no meeting on the last Thursday of the month due to the Thanksgiving holiday. We meet at the River Road Coffee House on the north side of the square in downtown Newark. The current book is Right Thinking for a Culture in Chaos, Responding Biblically to Today's Most Urgent Needs by John MacArthur and Nathan Busenitz. Come join the discussion and fellowship.

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/>

Bible Discovery Zone Sunday Classes 9:00AM

Adult Class



Join us for
Revelation: Hope vs Fear

by Carl Kochendorfer

Led by Carl Kochendorfer

Meet in the large meeting room

Youth Class



Join us for
"The Thread"

By YM360

Led by Elaine Gard

Meet in the small meeting room

Classes at 10:30AM

Bible Discovery Zone Children's Church

Ages 5 - 12: Join us for Bible lessons, crafts and games

Meets in the Bible Discovery Zone classroom

Ages 0—5 Nursery care is available

St. John's United Church of Christ
Positive Living
 Podcast



Hosted by
Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Swisher
 St. John's UCC Senior Pastor

St. John's
 UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

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Special Guests Include



Shawn Barker
 Johnny Cash
 Tribute Artist



Clint Holmes &
 Kelly Clinton Holmes
 Entertainer
 Inspirational Speaker



Karen Hester
 Dolly Parton
 Tribute Artist



Donna Chafee
 Author of
 "First Great Sorrow:
 My Years with RFK"



Dr. Robert A. &
 Donna Schuller
 Crystal Cathedral
 Ministries



Rev. Adam Hamilton
 Sr. Pastor and Author



Dwight Icenhower
 World Renowned
 Elvis Tribute artist



Justin Ezra Sullivan
 Kenny Rogers
 Tribute artist



E' Casanova Evans
 Official Michael Jackson
 Body Double

Special Guests Include



Steve March-Torme
 Musician/Radio Host
 Son of Mel Torme



Butch Patrick
 Child star Best known
 as Eddie Munster



Brandon Cruz
 Child star Best known
 as Eddie in
 The Courtship of Eddie's Father



Ty Herndon
 Country Music Star
 "What Mattered Most"



James William Anderson III
 Singer, Song writer & TV Host
 Member of the Grand Old Opry



Tom Stevens
 Tony Bennett Tribute Artist



Dion DiMucci
 Of Dion and the Belmonts
 Rock & Roll HOF Inductee



Graham Nash
 of Crosby, Stills & Nash
 and The Hollies



Dion Pride
 Recording artist
 & son of Charley Pride



Keith Thibodeaux
 Child star Best known
 as Little Ricky



Peter Lemongello
 Recording artist
 Known for "Love '76"

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This Christmas, we will again beautify our sanctuary with an array of Poinsettias, which will be purchased from a local nursery. If you would like to participate in this celebration of Christmas, please fill out the form below or contact the church office.

6.5" pot \$ **12.00/each**
1 plant - 4 to 7 blooms (Red in color)

Please order early. The DEADLINE for placing orders is Sunday, November 29, 2026.

Please pick up plants after the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, December 20, or after the Christmas Eve Services on December 24.

_____I desire the office to purchase a poinsettia for me to keep.

_____I desire the office to purchase a poinsettia to be donated to a shut-in.

For Poinsettias and Memorials: Be sure to complete the following to be printed in the bulletin: (i.e.: In honor of or in memory of..... by or from.....)

You may also choose (**please check the box below**) to remember a loved one with a gift to the Abiding Memorial Fund ☐ or the Foundation Fund ☐ (if one is established). All such gifts noted and received **BY DECEMBER 6** will be listed in the bulletin on **Sunday, December 13, Sunday, December 21 and Christmas Eve**. Fill out the information above. Abiding Memorial and Foundation Fund Cards and envelopes are also available in the literature rack in the Narthex or in the office, or mark your envelope with the information.

Thank you!





General Prayers: Charlie Bruah,
Rev. Dr. Winfield Strout, Eli Taylor, Carl
Kochendorfer, Trisha Boehmer, Delores Williams,
Jerry Goodman and the family of Rachel Ilardi
**Church Members Homebound and Nursing
Facility Residents:** Bonita Farmer, Patricia Gilbert,
Paula Hatfield, Faith Kelly, Dolores 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. April Kinser

Ushers:

Frank Davis, Terry Gano,

Barry Dooley, Gary Kinser

Cradle Roll:

Volunteer

Bible Discovery Zone:

Kayla Hill/Youth

Media Worship Team:

Sound & Video:

8:00 am: Mike Dooley

10:30 am: Karson Ewing/Tom Lawyer

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, October 18, 2026

8:00 a.m. - 23 10:30 a.m. - 47

Sunday, October 18 Live Stream Views - 190

THIS WEEK'S GLANCE



Sunday:

October 25, 2026

**Twenty-second Sunday
after Pentecost**

8:00 am

Outdoor Drive-In Service

9:00 am

Youth & Adult Sunday School
Classes

10:30 am

Sanctuary Service

10:30 am

BDZ Children's Church &
Cradle Roll

2:00 pm

Trunk or Treat Meal Prep

4 -5:30 pm

Trunk or Treat

Tuesday:

12-1:00 pm

LifeWise Academy

Wednesday:

6:00 pm

Crystal City Chorus

Thursday:

11:00 am

Thursday Book Study,
Right Thinking for a Culture in
Chaos, Responding Biblically to
Today's Most Urgent Needs by
John MacArthur and Nathan
Busenitz. at River Road Coffee
on the Square

7:15 am

Choir Practice

12:30-1:30 pm

LifeWise Academy

Sunday:

November 1, 2026

All Saints Day

Communion Sunday

**International Day of Prayer
for the Persecuted Church**

**Twenty-third Sunday
after Pentecost**

8:00 am

Indoor Chapel Service

9:00 am

Youth & Adult Sunday School
Classes

10:30 am

Sanctuary Service - Choir Sings

10:30 am

BDZ Children's Church &
Cradle Roll

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	September	Year to date	
Congregation giving (Faith Promise)	6,246.32	76,435.48	
Income from Foundation Fund	11,500.00	103,500.00	
Monthly Income from Emerson Miller Fund	3,758.33	33,824.97	
Month & YTD Total Income	21,998.21	220,534.53	
General Fund Expenses	24,343.40	233,943.97	
Over/Under Month & YTD	(2,345.19)	(13,409.44)	() = Negative

