

Welcome Home!

to the Church you remember....Welcome home to....



The 2023 May Chimes

United Church of Christ



Prayer List

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers all of our shut-ins and the following members: Alison Armstrong, Barbara & Mel Cunningham, Mary Lou Hostetler, Jeanette Morris, Sandra Donson, Machele West, Dick Boyd, Kate Hannum Rose, Debi Snow, Kathy Wilson, Judy Armstrong, Braxton Picklesimer, Vicky McGee, Brenda Simross, Paula Hatfield, Harriett Applegate, Charles & Lois Meyers, Relna Cornell, Esther Gillham, Helen McGaughy, Bill Carr, Rev. Dr. Winfield Strout, Irmgard Rhodes, Susan O'Brien, Debbie Jones, Karen O'Hare, Callen Hill, Pat Farley, Logan Workman & Carol Johnson

Please contact the church office if you know of any sick or hospitalized members. Remember if you want someone on the Bea's Blessings prayer chain, you can email Rebecca Swartz at rebecasmail@aol.com

Financial Update

Monthly Faith Promise goal	\$ 9,422.17
Income as of April 23, 2023	8,286.50
Month to Date Balance	(\$ 1,135.67)

Thank you for your support!



2023 Assigned Box Envelopes Assigned Offering envelope boxes have arrived and are in the Fellowship Room. Please contact Anita in the office if your envelope box is not there or if you would like assigned envelopes. Thank you!

Thank you

I would like to thank the Hill's for the birthday party. Also to my church family and friends that stopped by. Thanks for all the cards, thoughts and prayers from everyone.
Pat Farley

St. John's UCC,
Thank you for your generous donation during the first quarter of 2023 to the Coalition of Care! Your donation makes all the difference in someone's life who is struggling to make ends meet. Together we can be the hands and feet of Christ to our neighbors in need in Licking County.

Blessings,
Melissa Anderson, Executive Director

St. John's United Church of Christ:
On behalf of the LCCH Board of Directors, staff, and the many clients we serve, I want to thank you for your recent contribution...
Your support is greatly appreciated, and your generosity will help LCCH to continue to provide housing services to the Licking County community.
Again, thank you for your gift, and we look forward to your continued support!
Deborah L. Tegtmeier, Executive Director



May Sunday Worship Hours

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

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Service

Except May 21 Visioning Session 9-11:30 a.m.



What's so important about a vision?

If we look to scripture, we find the prophet Habakkuk. We don't know a lot about Habakkuk other than he was thought to have lived around 612BC. Yet we have some very powerful words in his writings. He writes during the time when leadership was shifting from judges to kings, like the people had asked God to do. But Jerusalem was under siege and the tribes were facing exile. Chapter 1 of Habakkuk finds the prophet asking God some hard questions. How long must I cry for help and have you not listen? How long will I lament about the violence around us, yet you don't save us, God? Habakkuk then tells God that he'll stand in a tower, a watchpost, and wait for God's answer. And what is God's answer? Write the vision. Make it plain. In other words, in the midst of the world's chaos, in a time when things may not be happening in the way you want, cast a vision. Discern what it is you want to happen. Then write it down, in plain language.

Sometimes plain language is even harder to write than lengthy wordy visions. It requires deep thought, conversation, prayer, and clarity. So, in a very biblical way, we will gather as a church to have these conversations. We'll remember together, and we'll dream together. We'll ask God to help us gain clarity about what is important to us in our worship life, and what is important to us in our mission outreach, and how we want to be the church in our community in this time and place.

With the Holy Spirit guiding us, we'll write our vision plainly. I hope you'll join us in this process over the next several months.

NEWS FROM CHURCH COUNCIL –

St. John's Church Council met on Monday, April 20, 2023



Minutes of previous meeting: Not approved. The persons making the motion and seconding to terminate St. John's relationship with LifeWise Academy were not in the minutes as well as Council members' concerns and support of the Pastors sermon content. Motion was made by Frank Davis to not approve minutes until corrections have been made. Julie Davis seconded. Motion passed.

Pastor's Report: - Pastor thanked the staff and council for their support for a successful Easter Week. She also expressed her thanks for a "great" youth Sunday service. The Visioning Sessions start next Sunday.

Property Committee - Frank Davis reported that replacing the old boilers is necessary. Frank has an estimated budget of \$100,000 for 7 boilers based on an initial quote.

Pastoral Search - Tim Powers remotely, made a presentation about Trinity UCC, Elliston, Ohio and their transformation to a thriving, growing church.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 15th, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Large Meeting Room. Rev. Joyce will have devotions. All members of St. John's are always welcome to attend Council meetings.



For information about church camp go to
<https://heartlanducc.org/templed-hills/>

Afternoon Circle -

will celebrate its 151st Anniversary on Wednesday, May 3, at Noon, in the Fellowship Room. This will be our usual Salad Smorgasbord, so bring your favorite salad to share. Rolls, beverages, table service, and cake will be provided. The program is entitled "The Welcoming Nest". And don't forget our annual Anniversary Offering of one penny for each year the Circle is old - this year it's \$1.51.

Last month we had a great time over Zoom with Colleen Kroah who told us of her mission trip to Puerto Rico over spring break (although the coconut soda pop didn't go over too well). And we enjoyed Anita Chirdon's Finnish sweet breads. Our "bite size Bible study" on Pilate's wife was very interesting.

There is always a lot of good fellowship, good food, and good study at our Afternoon Circle meetings. Please know that any woman of our St. John's Church Family is always welcome to join us.

Car Wash



Saturday, May 6, 2023

11am—2pm

At O'Reilly Auto Parts on Deo Drive Newark

A free will Offering will be available

All proceeds go toward the Mission Trip fund

UPDATE

**can
we
talk?**

St. John's is hosting a series of small group casual conversations.

Each week will be discussing a topic from the book *Holy Disunity*

Sunday 9:15AM—10:30AM—ONLY

In the Small Meeting Room

Books will be available at the church



St. John's Little Free Pantry

Take what you need. Give what you can.

Who is Little Free Pantry (LFP) for? LFP is for those who want and/or need to give. LFP is for those not easily able to meet everyday food and personal needs. LFP is for a hungry kid after school or a home cook who forgot to buy an onion. LFP is for everyone.

When you bring items to donate, put them right into the LFP. **Anyone** may access the LFP at any time. LFP is a reminder of our neighbors' need that creates a place for exercising compassion, trust, and mutual aid.

What to put in the Little Free Pantry

- Canned vegetables, fruits, pasta and proteins
- Peanut butter
- Kid-friendly non-perishables
- Snack-sized fruit cups
- Individually wrapped crackers
- Personal care items
- Paper goods
- Small school supplies
- Wrapped plastic utensils (saved from a restaurant)

Member Mission Trip News!

Mission Trip to Puerto Rico Colleen Kroah

I had the opportunity over Spring break to go to Puerto Rico on a mission trip with fellow students through Send Relief. Send Relief is a crisis relief organization that works to meet people's physical and spiritual needs in Jesus' name. The week was spent painting and restoring houses. I had the good luck to meet and work on the house of Abuela Benedita, a wonderful 95 year old lady with a large family that lived close by. She does not speak English and I do not speak Spanish, but we shared hugs, good food and Jesus. For Benedita my group worked on her house. We sealed the roof to stop leaks and repainted the walls that were peeling and chipping. In addition to the physical work, I was able to visit a local church, one of the only English speaking churches on the island, where I learned about what hospitality really means. Then, I saw this kind of hospitality put into action as the families that we helped cook breakfast and lunch for the teams every day. I am so thankful that I was able to have this wonderful spirit filled time in Puerto Rico.

I am looking forward to continuing my mission work this summer as an employee at Big Creek Missions.



Member Mission Trip News! - continued

Greetings!

I am pleased to announce that for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic began, I will be returning to Nicaragua for a medical mission trip! I will be serving as the Medical Director for a team that includes one of my 1st year medical students, Ola. She is a part of the Global Health course that I teach where we train students to provide compassionate, appropriate care in the global health setting. I welcome your prayers and well wishes as we travel on [June 10-17](#) to the southwestern side of Nicaragua where we will be staying close to one of the cities called Tola.

Though there has been political unrest in Nicaragua, we will be traveling with the nonprofit organization OneWorld Health that has long-standing ties with Nicaragua and would only permit us to go if it is safe. During our time there, we will be holding mobile clinics in churches and schools and referring those who need ongoing care to one of the ambulatory clinics established there. Each morning opens with prayer and a devotional, then we have clinic, and end the day with reflection over dinner and closing prayer.

These trips create friendships through shared faith and mission and educate us on global health issues and inequities. I am always humbled on these trips and thankful to be able to help support our global and church communities. Upon my return, I look forward to sharing our work and experiences with you. If you would like to give to this mission, please note it in your offering.

Jenny Lee DO, MPH
Assistant Professor
Department of Family Medicine
Professional Skills Course Director
Boonshoft School of Medicine, Wright State University



There is a simple, convenient way for you to get preventive health screenings and learn your risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions.

These painless screenings go beyond your regular checkup to identify dangerous plaque buildup or blockage, a major risk factor for stroke and heart disease. The screenings are accurate, affordable and will give you valuable information about your health that you can share with your doctor.

We are pleased to host Life Line Screening, who will be on site on [Thursday, June 1](#), 2023 at St. John's United Church of Christ to conduct these valuable screenings.

These 4 vital screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Register by calling toll free [1-844-591-7160](tel:1-844-591-7160), text the word "circle" to [216-279-1607](tel:216-279-1607) or online at <https://llsa.social/HC>

Defining Evangelism

Tabletalk magazine 2016 Ligonier Ministries

Romans 10:13–15 ¹³For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

¹⁴How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard?¹ And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”

Knowing whether we have actually proclaimed the gospel is necessary if we are going to be sure that we are fulfilling Christ's mandate to take the good news of salvation to all creation (Mark 16:15). Therefore, we have distinguished between witnessing and evangelism. Evangelism is a subset of witnessing, but it is not the only way to bear witness to Christ. Essentially, anything we can do that makes visible the invisible reign of our Savior can be classified as witnessing. When we do good works of service to God and neighbor, for example, we are providing a testimony to others by which they may be led to glorify our Lord in heaven (Matt. 5:16). But the doing of good works, however much it may reveal Christ's reign over our hearts and minds, is not evangelism.

Why does living a good life and doing what is right not qualify as evangelism? The answer is that evangelism refers very specifically to telling people about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus and calling them to faith in Him. Just consider the background of the English term evangelism. It comes from the Greek word for gospel (euangelion), or “good news.” Bringing it into English as evangelism, we get a word that literally means “gospelizing,” or “good newsing.” Since gospel refers to a message of good news, if we are “gospelizing”—if we are conducting evangelism—we are declaring a message. We can do so by speaking words, writing them on a piece of paper, or typing them in an e-mail, but the key point is that true evangelism means declaring content. To evangelize is to share a message with others and call them to respond.

As worthy and necessary as it is to show kindness to others, to love our neighbors and our enemies, to be honest and virtuous, and to fulfill all the other biblical commands, no one is converted by our doing such things. There is an important reason why we are ordered to proclaim a message—people are brought into the kingdom of heaven only through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ and what He has done (Acts 16:25–34). As Paul tells us in today's passage, people must call upon the name of the Lord to be saved, and the only way they can do this is if someone preaches the gospel to them.

Not all of us will have the same gift for evangelism. Though preaching the good news comes more easily to some than others, this does not excuse our silence. We must preach the gospel where we are and as we have opportunity.

Be sure to join the

Visioning Session #2

Sunday May 21, 2023

9:00AM — 11:30AM
In Hermann Hall

Breakfast will be served

Combined 8AM and 11AM worship services along with small group dialogue as we continue to work toward finding a called pastor.

Children's Sunday School will be available during this time.

Fellowship Room

Visioning Meeting Comment Box

Please feel free to anonymously drop additional thoughts or comments that you would like to share with the Search Committee regarding the Visioning meetings. Thank you.



GRADUATION SUNDAY – May 21, 2023

Do you know of someone who is graduating from high school or college this spring? We would like to invite them to join us on Sunday, May 21, 2023 to celebrate the momentous event.

Please fill out the form and place it in the offering plate or turn it into the office today!

Name _____

Parents/Church Family _____

Graduating from _____

Degree _____

Plans for the future _____

Additional information to share _____



ST. JOHN'S UCC VBS REGISTRATION FORM
285 W. National Dr. Newark, OH 740-323-2407
Preschool through Sixth Grade
June 26 - 30, 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 _____

St. John's United Church of Christ



Vacation Bible School

June 26 - 30

9:00am – 11:30am

Ages Preschool through 6th grade.

285 W. National Drive, Newark

740-323-2407 www.stjohnsnewark.org



Youth meeting this month is May 7 following the 11AM service. We will take a break from monthly meetings and only meet occasionally in the summer.

Graduation Sunday and Volunteer Appreciation Day are May 21



The St. John's Mission Team will be traveling to Kentucky June 4 – June 10. Please keep our missionaries in your prayers through their week of service.

Vacation Bible School 2023 – Hero Hotline! June 26 -30, 2023. Join us 9:00AM to 11:30AM as we learn how we are “Called Together to Serve God!”



Sunday School Classes

Adult class –Meeting at 9:30AM in the meeting room. Will break for summer.

Bible Discovery Zone – 11AM in the Thou Art room. Will break for summer.

Cradle Role - During the 11AM service. Will be available through summer.

May Worship Service Duties

Ushers: Frank Davis, Jeff Conner, Larry Jones, Terry Gano, Mike Dooley

Cradle Role

7 Michelle Knowlton
14 Julie Kroah
21 Kelsie Best
28 Frances Hill

Cantors

7 Diane Reef
14 Julie Davis
21 Don Boldt
28 Diane Reef

Sunday Sound Worship Team

7 Tom Lawyer
14 Mike Dooley
21 Julie Kroah
28 Mike Dooley

Bible Discovery Zone

7 Brian Lensink/Matthew Kroah
14 Ken Kroah/helper
21 Elaine Gard/helper
28 Volunteer

Thursday Media Worship Team

4 Tom Lawyer
11 Julie Kroah
18 Julie Kroah
25 Tom Lawyer

Sunday Video Worship Team

7 Ken Kroah
14 Tom Lawyer
21 Ken Kroah
28 Tom Lawyer



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 8:00am Outdoor Drive-In Service 9:15am Can We Talk? Series- Rev. Joyce Wealand 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service - Choir Sings 2:00pm Private Use - Fellowship Room/Meeting Room	1 7:00pm Scout Meeting	2 2:30pm Church Staff Meeting	3 1:00pm The Afternoon Circle of the Women's Guild Meeting 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice	4 7:00pm From St. John's UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service. Live streamed at 7:00pm. 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	5	6 11:00am Youth Car Wash at O'Reilly Auto Parts on Deo Drive Newark
7 8:00am Outdoor Drive-In Service 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service - Choir Sings 11:45am Youth Group Meeting 12:00pm Church & Ministry Meeting	8	9 7:00pm Finance & Stewardship Meeting	10 10:00am Christian Education Meeting 5:30pm Mission & Outreach Committee Meeting 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice	11 3:00pm Music Committee Meeting 7:00pm From St. John's UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service. Live streamed at 7:00pm.	12	13
14 Mother's Day 8:00am Outdoor Drive-In Service 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service 12:00pm Evangelism & Outreach Meeting	15 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	16	17 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice	18 7:00pm From St. John's UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service. Live streamed at 7:00pm.	19	20
21 Graduation and Appreciation Sunday 9:00am Bible Discovery Zone & Child Care 9:00am Visioning Process Session - One combined service beginning with breakfast	22	23	24 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice	25 7:00pm From St. John's UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service. Live streamed at 7:00pm. 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	26	27
28 Choir Recognition Sunday 8:00am Outdoor Drive-In Service 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service - Choir Sings	29	30	31 6:00pm Private Use- Chorus Practice	1 8:30am Life Line Screening 7:00pm From St. John's UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service. Live streamed at 7:00pm.	2	3



St. John's United Church of Christ
285 W. National Drive
Newark, Ohio 43055

*Rooted in the Evangelical and Reformed Traditions
We are Sowing Seeds of Hope in a Time of Chaos
So We May All Be One*

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Permit No. 103

Worship Services!

8:00 a.m. – Outdoor Drive-In
11:00 a.m. – Sanctuary Service
Except May 21, 2023 Visioning Session-9am Breakfast
7:00 p.m. – Thursday Prayer Service
Volume 23 Number 5

Address Service Requested



Main Office Phone

740-323-2407

www.stjohnsnewark.org

Rev. Joyce Wealand/Designated Term Pastor

Pastor line: 740-323-2854

Pastorjoyce@windstream.net

Todd Baldosser

Organist/Choir Director

scarlatti35@hotmail.com

Anita Chirdon/Office Administrator

Kim Workman/Office Assistant

stjohnsunitd@windstream.net

Charles Bruah

Church Sexton

740-975-2699

Julie Kroah

Christian Education Director

stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net



LIBRARY FOCUS FOR MAY

He Still Moves Stones by Max Lucado. They are historic moments in which a real God met real pain so we could answer the question. "Does God care when I hurt?".

Bonhoeffer Bible Study DVD. Discover the major themes of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's writing and speaking and how he not only helped transform an entire faith community in Germany during World War II and continues to impact the Christian faith today.

For Children

The Kids Book of Awesome Bible Activities 1 & 2 by Ken Save. Liven up dull afternoons as kids learn more about the Bible by solving brain-teasing puzzles.

**** These featured books and DVD's can be found in the church library on the center shelves****