

Welcome Home!

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

St. John's

The 2024 January Chimes

United Church of Christ

Prayer List

General Prayers: Debbie Jones, Barbara McKee, and the family of Sharon Hickman

Homebound and Nursing Facility Residents: Mel Cunningham, Jeanette Morris, Bonita Farmer, Patricia Gilbert, Paula Hatfield, Rosalie Johnson, Faith Kelly, Delores and Harold McDonald, Harriett Applegate, Esther Gillham, Helen McGaughy, Mary Lou Hostetler, Charles & Lois Meyers, Irmgard Rhodes, Molly Sheets, & Lois Swonger.

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 the office at stjohnsunited@windstream.net

Congregational Meeting



Please mark your calendar - The Congregational Annual Meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2024 after the 11:00 a.m. service. Please plan on attending.



Sharon Kay Hickman
Born: April 3, 1947
Died: December 7, 2023
A member of St. John's since 1960

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, & Friday: 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
For additional times, please call the office 740-323-2407 and leave a message to make an appointment or call/text Anita at 740-973-8218. Thank you!

Thank you!

I would like to extend a very special thank you to all of your members that came to pay their respects to Sharon Hickman. Sharon was always sharing our Lord's love with others and it was so nice to see it being given back. May our Lord shine brightly on your church and I praise His holy name for such devoted servants.

In His service, Loren Knowlton, Sharon's son-in-law.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS!

Thanks to you our families and youth will have a GREAT Christmas.

-Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from
The Village Network

Thank you for all of your prayers, cards, calls, emails & visits before my surgery and during my recovery. Thank you for being such a caring church family.

Anita Chirdon



January Sunday Worship Hours

8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Service

Financial Update

Monthly Faith Promise goal	\$ 9,422.17
Income as of December 24, 2023	<u>8,894.00</u>
Month to Date Balance	(\$ 528.17)
Boiler Estimated Cost	\$ 110,000.00
Boiler loan amount	\$ 41,000.00
Boiler Donations received	7,078.20
Donations still needed	(\$ 33,921.80)



NEWS FROM CHURCH COUNCIL – St. John’s Church Council met on Monday, December 18, 2023

The meeting of Church Council was called to order at 6:36 p.m. on Monday, November 18, 2023, by Tom Lawyer, President.

Devotions - Given by Tom Lawyer

Search Committee

Committee Chair, Tim Powers stated that the St. John’s pastor profile is out, and no responses have been received yet. This is likely influenced by the busy holiday season.

Treasurer’s Report

Given by Frank Davis. As of November 30, giving was (\$16,506.79) less than budgeted and expenses were (\$9,583.57) less than budgeted. We therefore are (\$6,923.22) in the red. Mr. Davis also stated that the Finance and Stewardship Committee discussed the short fall in the budget and hoped by the end of the year we will be okay. Without having a minister’s salary for December, we will save \$7718.50 and giving has picked up a little. Motion to approve Treasurer’s Report was received by Jeff Conner with a second from Kirk Homrighouse. Motion carried.

Communications

Use of facility request received from April Kinser for game night on January 17, 2024. Motion to approve received a first by Julie Davis and second by Tim Powers. Motion carried.

Christian Education – Frances Hill

Spaghetti dinner planned for February 13, 2024. Motion to approve received a first from Tim Powers, second by Jeff Conner. See written report for additional information.

Old Business: None

New Business

Charlie will coordinate delivery of poinsettias to shut ins.

Three positions will be open on church council. Members of the congregation are invited to express any interest they may have in joining council.

Devotions for January will be handled by Greg Crowthers.

Executive Session: No

Adjourn

At 7:13 p.m. a motion was made by Frank Davis with a second by Owen Lee that this meeting of the Church Council be adjourned. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Lawyer, President

The next meeting is on Monday, January 15, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. All members of St. John’s are always welcome to attend.

Volunteers are needed! Please consider joining our Church Council.

There are three open positions available starting on February 19, 2024.

A few excerpts to give a little insight. Please ask a current Council Member if you have questions. A complete hard copy with officer and member information is available in the Fellowship Room if you are interested.

Job description of a Church Council Member at St. John's United Church of Christ.

Taken from the 2013 Constitution, Art. XI:2,3

- Elected for one three-year term
- Can be re-elected for a second 3-year term immediately (maximum of 6 years)
- Must be off of Council one year before being elected to another term after serving 2 terms in a row

According to Tradition

- Each member is a liaison with one of the Council Committees –
Member does not need to be the chair of that committee

Officers are the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and the Secretary

Committees: Christian Education Committee, Church & Ministry Committee, Congregational Care, Evangelism & Outreach Committee, Finance & Stewardship, Mission & Outreach, Music Committee, Personnel Committee, Property Management, Special Events



Need a pick me up in the middle of winter? Come join in the fun "Game Night " on **Wednesday, January 17** from 4:30 to 7:30 in the upstairs meeting room. Bring your own "sack supper" and a snack or dessert to share. Bring a favorite card game or board game to play. Depending on the group, we will have several games going at once as we engage in fun and fellowship together.



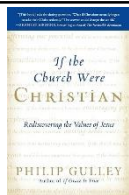
PLANNING MEETING

JANUARY 28, 2024 11:45AM

(FOLLOWING THE 11:00AM SERVICE)

Plan to attend if you are interested in more information about the summer mission trip.

Attend if you have questions or if you're just curious about the mission trip.



The book study group will meet on Thursdays, January 4, 11, 18, 25 at 12:00 noon at the River Road Coffee House on N. Park Place in downtown Newark. The current book is titled "If the Church Were Christian, Rediscovering the Values of Jesus" by Philip Gulley.

Afternoon Circle -

will not have a regular meeting in January. Instead, we will meet for lunch at the Licking Memorial Hospital cafeteria on Wednesday, January 3, at 1:00 p.m. All women of our St. John's Church Family are welcome to attend.



St. John's
VALENTINE'S DAY
SPAGHETTI
DINNER



February 13, 2024 6:00PM

Hermann Hall
285 W. National Drive Newark Ohio
Freewill offering accepted

Reserve your spot today!
Email stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net or call 740-323-2408

All proceeds benefit the Mission Trip



St. John's Little Free Pantry

Thank you for keeping our Little Free Pantry filled

The Little Free Pantry is for those who want and/or need to give. The Little Free pantry 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).



**Inclement Weather – Stay Informed for Church Cancellations
& Other important Information**

It's that time of year when the weather can cause road conditions to be dangerous. Our church policy is to close the church if the Newark area or Licking County is under a level 2 weather advisory. Please add your name and phone number to our ONE CALL NOW list to get important information and updates from St. John's if you **are not** on the list and put this in the offering plate or notify the office. Thank you!

New Addition: Name _____ Phone number _____

Brother Lawrence, Living in Heaven on Earth by Anita Mathias



Quotes from Brother Lawrence

"In the noise and clatter of my kitchen, while several persons are at the same time calling for different things, I possess God in as great tranquility as if I were upon my knees in the Chapel."

"Make it your study, before taking up any task," Brother Lawrence advises, "to look to God, be it only for a moment."

The Kitchen Prayer

O Lord of pots and pans and things,
Since I have no time to be
a great saint by doing lovely things,
or watching late with Thee,
or dreaming in the dawnlight,
or storming Heaven's gates,
Make me a saint by getting meals,
and washing up the plates.

Warm all the kitchen with Thy Love,
and light it with Thy peace;
Forgive me all my worrying,
and make my grumbling cease.
Thou who didst love to give men food
in room, or by the sea,
Accept the service that I do-
I do it unto Thee.

Generally attributed to Brother Lawrence

Brother Lawrence, an obscure 17th century French Carmelite monk of little education was assigned to the monastery kitchen where, amidst the tedious chores of cooking and cleaning at the constant bidding of his superiors, he developed his rule of spirituality and work. In his Maxims, Lawrence writes, "Men invent means and methods of coming at God's love, they learn rules and set up devices to remind them of that love, and it seems like a world of trouble to bring oneself into the consciousness of God's presence. Yet it might be so simple. Is it not quicker and easier just to do our common business wholly for the love of him?"

"Nor is it needful that we should have great things to do. . . We can do little things for God; I turn the cake that is frying on the pan for love of him, and that done, if there is nothing else to call me, I prostrate myself in worship before him, who has given me grace to work; afterwards I rise happier than a king. It is enough for me to pick up but a straw from the ground for the love of God."

"I began to live as if there were no one save God and me in the world."

* * *

I thought of Brother Lawrence today when I listened to Duncan Smith, a chirpy adorable boyish preacher, who said we could be in heaven while right here on earth, stuck in a traffic jam, for instance. We could be in Jesus, with Jesus in us, wrapped in the Holy Spirit, with the Holy Spirit inside us, in the embrace of the Father, with the God inside us. Cool, huh?



Here are some titles that have been out for some time.

Best Loved Poems of the American People by Hazel Felleman

He Chose the Nails by Max Lucado

Gentle Moon: The Story of Molly Lee by Deanna Windon

Please Give a Devotion for Woman's Groups by Amy Bolding

Reaching Out to the Unchurched by Douglas Johnson

Faking Church by Dan Schaeffer

No More Shacks! By Millard Fuller

Devotions for Growing Strong by Charles Swindoll

Volunteers Needed



Audio: 11AM Sunday Morning Sound. Set up, monitor and record the 11AM Sunday Worship service. Training provided. Volunteer commitment is once or twice a month.

Video: 11AM Sunday Morning Video . Set up , monitor and live stream the 11AM Sunday Worship service. Training provided. Volunteer commitment is once or twice a month.

Teachers: Children's Sunday school teachers in the Cradle Roll and Bible Discovery Zone classrooms. Teach once a month with a helper. Lesson and activities are provided ahead of time. Enjoy spending time with our amazing kids.

Join us



Let's come together and pray for our church and our new pastor, whoever that maybe. This will be silent and self-led prayer time. Come when you can, leave when you need to. Pray for few minutes or longer.

Following the 8AM service and again before the 11AM service.



Celebrating our Church Library as it turns 100!! Check out the great books, movies, Bible studies and magazines available in the library.

Youth will be meeting January 7 and 21 and February 4 and 18 following the 11AM service in the Youth room.



Adult Sunday school class will start the new year off by studying *Defined* by Alex and Stephan Kendrick. Come join us! Based on their movie, *OVERCOMER*, this new Bible Study is about finding your identity in God. Before asking, *who am I*, you need to be able to answer, *who is God*.

Mission Trip **Planning Meeting** on January 28, 2024 in the meeting room following the 11am service. Bring your questions and curiosity about the summer mission trip.



Valentine Spaghetti Dinner February 13, 2024 at 6pm. Come enjoy dinner and let us serve you. Free will offering accepted. This benefits the Mission Trip fund. Please RSVP to stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.com or 740-323-2408.



Sunday School Classes

Adult class – Meet at 9:30AM in the large meeting room.
Bible Discovery Zone – meet at 11AM in the Thou Art room
Cradle Role – Available during the 11AM service.

January Worship Service Duties

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

Cradle Roll

7 Avery Nagle
14 Avery Nagle
21 Avery Nagle
28 Avery Nagle

Cantors

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

Sunday Sound Worship Team

7 Ken Kroah
14 Mike Dooley
21 Ken Kroah
28 Mike Dooley

Bible Discovery Zone

7 Brian Lensink &
Matthew Kroah
14 Marla Crowthers &
Emmaleigh Crowthers
21 Elaine Gard & Karson Ewing
28 Frances Hill & Kayden Ewing


Thursday Media Worship Team

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

Sunday Video Worship Team

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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 First Sunday after Christmas New Year's Eve 8:00am Early Indoor Service - Sanctuary 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service	1  Happy New Year! Office closed	2	3 1:00pm The Afternoon Circle meets for lunch at LMH cafeteria (weather permitting) 6:00pm Private Use-Chorus Practice	4 12:00pm Book study at River Road Coffee on the square 7:00pm From St. John's UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service. Live streamed at 7:00pm. 7:15pm Choir Practice 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	5	6
7 8:00am Early Indoor Service - Sanctuary 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service - Choir Sings 11:45am Youth Group 12:00pm Church & Ministry Meeting 12:00pm Taking Down the Greens	8	9 7:00pm Finance & Stewardship Meeting	10 10:00am Christian Education Meeting 6:00pm Private Use-Chorus Practice	11 12:00pm Book study at River Road Coffee on the square 2:45pm 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 8:00am Early Indoor Service - Sanctuary 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service	15 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	16	17 4:30pm GAME NIGHT - Bring your favorite card or board game, sack supper, and a snack or dessert to share 6:00pm Private Use-Chorus Practice	18 12:00pm Book study at River Road Coffee on the square 7:00pm From St. John's UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service. Live streamed at 7:00pm.	19	20
21 8:00am Early Indoor Service - Sanctuary 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service 11:45am Youth Group	22	23	24 6:00pm Private Use-Chorus Practice	25 12:00pm Book study at River Road Coffee on the square 7:00pm From St. John's UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service. Live streamed at 7:00pm.	26	27
28 8:00am Early Indoor Service - Sanctuary 9:30am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Bible Discovery Zone 11:00am Sanctuary Service 11:45am Mission Trip Planning Meeting	29	30	31 6:00pm Private Use-Chorus Practice	1 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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Worship Services!

8:00 a.m. — Early Sanctuary Service
11:00 a.m. — Sanctuary Service
7:00 p.m. — Thursday Prayer Service
Volume 24 Number 1

Address Service Requested



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Todd Baldosser

Organist/Choir Director

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Julie Kroah

Christian Education Director

Direct Number 740-323-2408

stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net



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LIBRARY FOCUS FOR JANUARY

***God's Promises for Your Every Need* compiled by Dr. A.L. Gill.** You will find comfort in God's Word. No matter what your situation, God has a promise for you!

***John: The Gospel of Light and Life* by Adam Hamilton** DVD. Although it's filled with rich images and profound truths, John's aim was that the readers will not only believe in Jesus Christ, but that they "may have life in his name."

For Children

***People Who Knew God* by Gertrude Preister by Florence Schultz.** Stories to tell you of GOD.

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