

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**

<u>Pastor</u>

Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher stjohns.pastorstephen@gmail.com

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Julie Kroah
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Sexton

Charles Bruah

**Chapel Pianist** 

Jane Shoemaker

Children's Bell Choir

Colleen Kroah

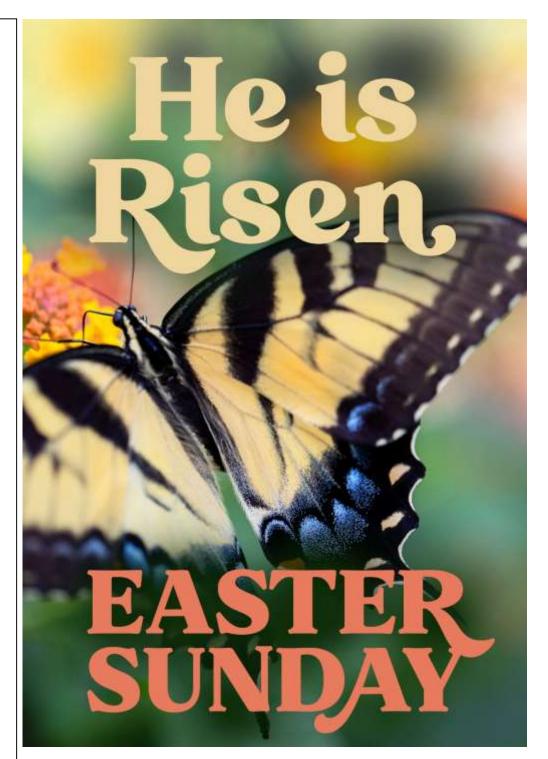
Adult Bell Choir Jerry Goodman Librarian/Signer

Debi Snow

Prayer List
Rebecca Swartz

<u>rebecasmail@aol.com &</u> stiohnsunited@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



## April 20 2025

Outdoor Sunrise Drive-in Service: 7:00 a.m. Early Sanctuary Service: 8:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service: 11:00 a.m. April 20, 2025

Welcome

**Prelude** "He Lives!" Traditional Todd Baldosser

**Opening Prayer** 

Opening Hymn "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" No. 216

1) Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!

All creation, join to say, Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

4) Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!

Following our exalted Head, Alleluia! Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

**Pastoral Prayer** 

**Scripture Reading** Psalm 16: 9-10

**Scripture Reading** Luke 24: 1-12

Message "A Finished Story or a New Beginning?" Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher

### **Service of Holy Communion**

**Prayer of Confession** 

All: Gracious and Patient God, we come before You on this most important Sunday of the year, looking within ourselves to identify areas we need to strengthen or change or redeem. Forgive us God, for those things which we have done or left undone, committed or neglected that would have grown or strengthened Your Kingdom on this earth. Heal our hearts from wounds we have inflicted on others or others have inflicted upon us. Renew our souls and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**Words of Assurance** 

Pastor: God is merciful. God is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast

love. Feel the healing and loving power of God now. Forgiveness is possible. A fresh new start begins now as a gift from our Risen

Savior, Amen

Presentation of the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation

#### **Invitation for Faithful Giving**

**Prayer of Dedication for the Offering** 

All: The tomb is empty, our lives are full, our eternal future secured. Now we turn our attention to the ways we can share this life-changing truth with others. Dear God, we desire to be grateful in spirit, hopeful in our speech and faithful in our actions. That is why we present these, our best gifts to You now. Take these tithes and offerings and multiply them. Use them to sustain, strengthen and promote Your message and ministry here at home and around the world. In Jesus' Name. Amen

Closing Hymn "Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain"

No. 215

- Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness; God hath brought forth Israel into joy from sadness; loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters, led them with un-moistened foot through the Red Sea waters.
- 'Tis the spring of souls today; Christ hath burst his prison, and from three day's sleep in death as a sun hath risen; all the winter of our sins, long and bleak, is flying from his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.
- Now the brightest season dawns with the day of splendor, now the royal feast of feasts comes its joy to render; comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.

#### **Closing Prayer**

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

"Easter. It's like looking directly into the sun. I am blinded by marvelous light." Madeline L'Engel

Sunday - April 27

Youth Sunday "Praise!"

Psalm 145:1-2 and Ephesians 1:3-5

#### **Announcements & Greetings**

**Prelude** (8:30 a.m.)

Jane Shoemaker

"The Power of the Cross with Lift High the Cross" arr. by Tornquist

**Prelude** (11:00 a.m.)

"He Lives!" Traditional

Todd Baldosser

\*Opening Hymn

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

No. 216

Matthew Kroah – Trumpet (11:00 a.m.)

(8:30 a.m. Verses 1 & 4)

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! 1)

All creation, join to say, Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

2)

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!

Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!

Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia! Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

**4**)

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!

Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!

Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

#### \*Call to Worship

It is early morning Leader:

Still dark but the sun is rising All:

The stone is rolled away Leader: The tomb is empty! All:

Leader: A glowing figure in white proclaims

Why do you search for the living among the dead? All: The One you are looking for has overcome the darkness Leader:

The One you seek has risen! Jesus is alive! All:

Christ is Risen Leader:

All: He is Risen, Indeed!

Leader: Let us worship our Risen Savior together

Hallelujah! All:

#### \*Prayer of Invocation

All: Dear God, we repeat our Easter shouts of surprise and joy again and again. Because news of Your victory over death, darkness and evil is news so startling, so amazing, so different from the news that bombards us day after day. Beyond our comprehension, You startle us again with a fresh start, a new beginning, Resurrection life. This realization of life after death equips us to love life to the fullest now full of Grace, hope and joy. As this sinks deep into our spirits we pray Your words as Easter people ready for New Life...

\*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.

\*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.

Adult Bell Choir (11:00 a.m.) "Rejoice! The Lord Is King" by Burroughs

**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** (8:30 a.m.) "Because He Lives" arr. by Bock Jane Shoemaker

Choir Anthem (11:00 a.m.) "The Stone Was Rolled Away" Blake

**Scripture Reading** 

Hosea 6:2

**Scripture Reading** 

Peter 1:3; Romans 8:11; John 11: 25-26

"The Relevancy of the Resurrection" Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher Sermon

Hymn "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus" (8:30 a.m. Verses 1 & 3) **No. 233** 

- 1) Alleluia! Sing to Jesus, risen now to reign in love. Alleluia! Praise the Savior; with the multitudes above. There the songs of saints and martyrs thunder like a mighty flood, "Jesus out of every nation has redeemed us by his blood."
- **2**) Alleluia! not as orphans we are left in sorrow now. Alleluia! Christ is near us, faith believes, nor questions how. Though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o'er, shall our hearts forget the promise, "I am with you evermore"?
- **3**) Alleluia! Bread of Heaven, be on earth our food and stay. Alleluia! here the sinful flee to you from day to day. Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's redeemer, plead for me, where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

### **Service of Holy Communion**

#### **Prayer of Confession**

All: Gracious and Patient God, we come before You on this most important Sunday of the year, looking within ourselves to identify areas we need to strengthen or change or redeem. Forgive us God, for those things which we have done or left undone, committed or neglected that would have grown or strengthened Your Kingdom on this earth. Heal our hearts from wounds we have inflicted on others or others have inflicted upon us. Renew our souls and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

#### **Words of Assurance**

God is merciful. God is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast Pastor: love. Feel the healing and loving power of God now. Forgiveness is possible. A fresh new start begins now as a gift from our Risen Savior. Amen

#### Presentation of the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation

#### **Invitation for Faithful Giving**

\*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 Dedication for the Offering

All: The tomb is empty, our lives are full, our eternal future secured. Now we turn our attention to the ways we can share this life-changing truth with others. Dear God, we desire to be grateful in spirit, hopeful in our speech and faithful in our actions. That is why we present these, our best gifts to You now. Take these tithes and offerings and multiply them. Use them to sustain, strengthen and promote Your message and ministry here at home and around the world. In Jesus' Name. Amen

\*Closing Hymn "Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain" No. 215
Matthew Kroah – Trumpet (11:00 a.m.) (8:30 a.m. Verses 1 & 3)

- Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness; God hath brought forth Israel into joy from sadness; loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters, led them with un-moistened foot through the Red Sea waters.
- 'Tis the spring of souls today; Christ hath burst his prison, and from three day's sleep in death as a sun hath risen; all the winter of our sins, long and bleak, is flying from his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.
- Now the brightest season dawns with the day of splendor, now the royal feast of feasts comes its joy to render; comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.

#### \*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** (8:30 a.m.) "The Strife Is O'er" arr. by Smith Jane Shoemaker

Postlude (11:00 a.m.) "Joyful Joyful" Beethoven Todd Baldosser

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

"Easter. It's like looking directly into the sun. I am blinded by marvelous light." Madeline L'Engel

Sunday - April 27

Youth Sunday "Praise!"

Psalm 145:1-2 and Ephesians 1:3-5

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!

# The Youth of St. John's presents



# Easter Breakfast

### Sunday April 20 Serving 7:30am – 10:45am

Come let the Youth cook your breakfast. Enjoy pancakes, sausage, egg casseroles, fruit and more.





Join us for Youth Sunday as we present the why and the who we "Praise"

Praise!

April 27, 2025

8:00am and 10:30am



### JOIN US IN CELEBRATING OUR RISEN SAVIOR

Join us for Dr. Swisher's uplifting message "A Finished Story or a New Beginning?" at the 7:00am Outdoor Drive-In Sunrise service. Then continue the celebration with his special Easter message "The Relevancy of the Resurrection" at the 8:30am or the 11:00am Sanctuary services.

Communion will be served at all services.

Easter Breakfast served 7:30am to 10:45am (free-will offering accepted)

Sunday, April 20th Dr. Stephen Swisher will lead services at 7:00am, 8:30am and 11:00am

> St. John's United Church of Christ 285 W. National Drive Newark • (740) 323-2407 www.stjohnsnewark.org



In memory of Joann and Ron Claypool by their family

In memory of Dorothy Ann Jones by Larry Jones

In memory of Debbie Claypool Jones by Larry Jones

In memory of Dorothy Turdo by Frank & Vicky Davis

In memory of Harriett & Glenn Applegate

To the Glory of God And in Loving Memory of Bob Shoemaker

by Jane Shoemaker

In memory of my sister, Kay Nolte, by Jane Shoemaker

In memory of Dorothy Turdo by Karen B Richardson

In loving memory of parents, grandparents, great grandparents Sue & Ernie

Vannest by Marla, Greg, Tim, Christie, Emmaleigh, Remington, Rebekkah,

Harley, Kimber, Alan, Akela, Leelee & Clayton

In loving memory of grandparents, Henry & Myrtle Vogelmeier by Marla, Greg & family

In loving memory of Aunt Mary, Uncle Walter & Dorothy Ann Zerger by Greg, Marla & family

In loving memory of dad, grandpa, great grandpa, Richard Crowthers by Greg,

Marla, Alan, Akela, Leelee, Clayton, Tim, Christie, Emmaleigh, Rebekkah, Harley & Kimber

In loving memory of grandparents, Curtis Vannest, Alice Gerry Francis, Thelma

Vannest, Cleone Selders & Aunt Judy Parks by Marla, Greg and family

In loving memory of Donna Hewitt by Marla & Greg

In memory of Richard & Marie Conner by Jeff Conner

In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Ford, Sr. by their family

In memory of LCPL Kenneth Ford, Jr. by his family

In memory of Judith Goodman by Jerry Goodman

In loving memory of Nathaniel James Gard by his family

In loving memory of David Hummel by the family

In memory of Mrs. Harriett Applegate by Mr. & Mrs. C. David Carpenter

In Loving Memory of Our Parents by Terry & Marcia Gano

In memory of Debbie Jones on her birthday by her family

In memory of Debbie Jones on her birthday by Susan Jill Ehrenfried

### Thank you for sharing your



In Memory of Dr. Lowell H. Swisher by Barbara Swisher

In Memory of Maj. Thomas W. Swisher by Barbara Swisher

In Honor of Dr. Stephen Swisher and Emily Swisher by Barbara Swisher

In Memory of Dr. Lowell Swisher by Dr. Stephen Swisher

In Memory of Maj. Thomas W. Swisher by Dr. Stephen Swisher

In Honor of Mrs. Barbara Swisher by Dr. Stephen Swisher

In honor of Emily Swisher by Dr. Stephen Swisher

In honor of the Congregation and Staff of St. John's United Church of Christ

by Dr. Stephen Swisher

In memory of Richard & Mary Jo Kochendorfer by Brenda Smith and

Carl Kochendorfer

In memory of Christine Kochendorfer by Brenda Smith and Carl Kochendorfer In loving memory of our Parents, Wilbert and Evelyn Davis, Gene & Rosemary Wood, and brother, Bobby Wood by Frank & Vicky Davis

In memory of G. Robert Powers & Audry Powers, Dwayne Hoeft

by Tim & Beth Powers

In Loving Memory of parents, grandparents, great grandparents Sue & Ernie Vannest by Marla, Greg, Alan, Akela, Leelee, Clayton, Tim, Christie, Emmaleigh, Remington, Rebekkah, Harley & Kimber

In Loving Memory of Dad, Grandpa, Great Grandpa Richard Crowthers by Greg, Marla, Alan, Akela, Leelee, Clayton, Tim, Christie, Emmaleigh,

Remington, Rebekkah, Harley & Kimber

In Loving Memory of Walter, Mary & Dorothy Ann Zerger

by Marla, Greg & family

In memory of R. William Jackson, Jr. by the O'Brien Family and

the French Family

In memory of Dorothy Jackson by the O'Brien Family and the French Family

In memory of Harriett & Glenn Applegate by the Applegate Family

In memory of Bill Lange from his family

In memory of the deceased loved ones of Ralph & Charla Devine

In loving memory of Martti & Elli Saari, Mary Lou Baker, Alice Chirdon Wills,
Peter Chirdon, & Ken Roberts by the Chirdon Family

In memory of Oshell, Denver, Mike & Mistie by Betty Hill

In memory of Trevor, Shaun & Mackensy by Betty Hill

### Thank you for sharing your



In memory of Dorothy Turdo by the Hill & Ford Family

In memory of Richard & Marie Conner by Jeff Conner

In memory of Judith Goodman by Jerry Goodman

In memory of Roswell & Mary & Rosalyn Maddy by Mike Dooley

In memory of Dan Van Hoose by Mike Dooley

In memory of Wayne & Bonna Dennis by Mike Dooley

In honor of Arlie and Clara Sturtz, Carl and Annie Ruth McCoy, Phillip Hagons & Rick Haines by Teresa McCoy

In honor of my parents James and Sung Lim by Catherine Lim

Beginning April 27, 2025, at 8:00AM





Come As You Are—Stay In Your Car





# PLEASE NOTE Starting April 27, 2025

8:00AM Outdoor Drive-In Service 9:00AM Adult Sunday School & Confirmation Class

10:30AM Sanctuary Service



Please join us as we meet on Thursday's April 3, 10, 17, and 24 at 11am to continue our discussion of the book entitled "Original Blessing, Putting Sin In its Rightful Place" by Danielle Shroyer. We enjoy coffee and conversation as we meet at the River Road Coffee House on the square in downtown Newark. The book is available online.



#### CONFIRMATION CLASS

Meetings are Sundays in the small meeting room 9:30AM—10:40AM

March 9 & 23 April 13 & 27 May 11 & 25

Confirmation Sunday
June 1 during the 11AM Service



Mission and Outreach Committee - Focus for April Our clothing drive continues with a focus this month on men's clothing. Pants, jackets, underwear, shoes and

shaving supplies continue to be needed. Many thanks to the women who have donated clothing so generously this past month. As we give, my prayer is that we will feel God's spirit dressing us, as it says in Colossians 3:12 with "compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience." We will continue to highlight a different mission outreach one Sunday each month during worship.

### St. John's Little Free Pantry

#### Take what you need. Give what you can.



Our little food pantry needs your help. Many of our members along with people from the community have been adding items on a regular basis. However, the need is so great that their efforts need to be supplemented. We are asking that those that can, bring food items to church on Sundays and place them in the donation bins provided: One at the top of the stairs between the Fellowship Room and the sanctuary or the one inside the side entrance door that leads to the rear of the sanctuary. We hope to collect enough food that we can resupply the little food pantry throughout the week.

Thank You,
Bill and Nancy McInturf



#### GRADUATION SUNDAY –May 18, 2025

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 18, 2025, to celebrate the momentous event.

Please fill out the form and place it in the offering plate or turn it into the office by May 4, 2025! Thank you!

Name
Parents/Church Family
Graduating from
Degree
Plans for the future
Additional information to share



We are looking for help to assist with the training with our Construction students on Mondays and Tuesdays anytime between 1-7pm. Hours can vary.

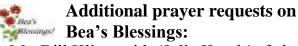
General Prayers: Bill Carr, Charlie Bruah, Rev. Dr. Winfield Strout, & Lois "Lyn

Cayton" Montgomery

Remember

**Homebound and Nursing Facility Residents:** 

Mel Cunningham, Bonita Farmer, Patricia Gilbert, Paula Hatfield, Rosalie Johnson, Faith Kelly, Delores and Harold McDonald, Esther Gillham, Helen McGaughy, Mary Lou Hostetler, Charles & Lois Meyers, Molly Sheets, & Lois Swonger



- Mr. Bill Klinesmith (Julie Kroah's father)
- Mrs. Barbara Swisher
- Reverend Charles White James' Father
- Mark D: Cancer return

#### We Appreciate Those Serving Today!

Liturgist:

Jeff Conner

Cantors:

7:00 a.m. Colleen Kroah

8:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m. Julie Davis

Ushers:

Larry Jones, Terry Gano,

Mike Dooley, Barry Dooley

Gary Kinser

Cradle Roll:

Volunteer/Avery Nagel

Bible Discovery Zone:

Elaine Gard & Youth if needed

Media Worship Team:

Sound & Video:

7:00 am: Charlie Bruah 8:30 am: Mike Dooley

11:00 am: Julie Kroah/Ken Kroah

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.

Sunday: April 20, 2025 Easter Sunday

7:00 am Outdoor Sunrise Drive-In

Service

7:30–10:45 am Easter Breakfast –

Free Will Offering

8:30 am Sanctuary Service

11:00 am Bible Discovery Zone

11:00 am Sanctuary Service

**Monday:** 

6:30 pm Church Council Meeting

Wednesday:

6:00 pm Crystal City Chorus

Thursday:

11:00 am Thursday Book Study

"Original Blessing, Putting Sin In Its Rightful Place" Shroyer - at River Road

Coffee on the Square

**Saturday:** 

6:00 pm Youth Overnight Sunday: April 27, 2025

**Second Sunday of Easter** 

**Youth Sunday** 

8:00 am Outdoor Drive-In Service

10:30 am Sanctuary Service 10:30 am Bible Discovery Zone

Financial Update

<b>Monthly Faith Promise goal</b>	\$	8,419.25
Income as of April 13, 2025		<b>2,602.00</b>
<b>Month to Date Balance</b>	(\$	<b>2,817.25</b> )
<b>Boiler Cost</b>	\$	99,260.00
<b>Boiler loan amount</b>	\$	26,654.19
<b>Boiler Donations received</b>	\$	20,428.20
Donations still needed	\$	6.225.99

Report for Sunday, April 13 8:30 am - 16 11:00 am - 65

Sunday, April 13, Live Stream Views – 214

Live streaming is now available on Facebook. If you missed the Live stream, you can watch a replay anytime on our YouTube or Facebook pages. Links for both of these sites can be found on our church website at www.stjohnsnewark.org

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Friday: 9am -12pm. Please call the office 740-323-2407 and leave a message to make any additional appointments or call/text Anita 740-973-8218. Thank you!