



**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

Pastor

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

Office: 740-323-2854

Office Administrator

Anita Chirdon

Office Assistant

Kim Workman

stjohnsunity@windstream.net

Organist & Choir Dir.

Todd Baldosser

scarlatti35@hotmail.com

Christian Education Director

Julie Kroah

stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net

Sexton

Mike Dooley

Mikedooley537@gmail.com

Chapel Pianist

Jane Shoemaker

Children's Bell Choir

Emmaleigh Crowthers

Adult Bell Choir

Jerry Goodman

Signer

Debi Snow

Librarian

Catherine Lim

Prayer List

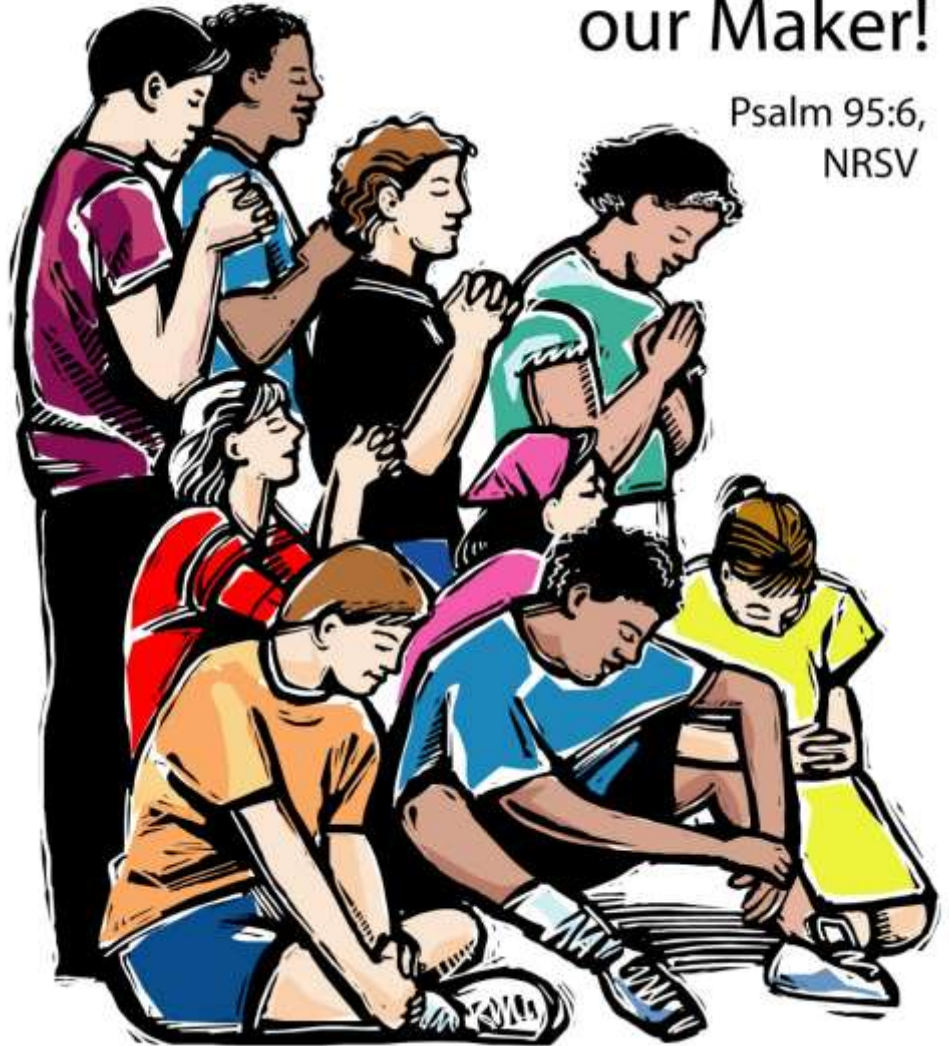
raswartz1231@aol.com &
stjohnsunity@windstream.net

*Rooted in the Evangelical
and Reformed Traditions*

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

O come, let us worship and
bow down, let us kneel
before the LORD,
our Maker!

Psalm 95:6,
NRSV



September 20, 2026

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Sanctuary Service: 10:30 a.m.



September 20, 2026

Tune your FM Radio to 107.5

8:00 am

Sanctuary Service

10:30 am

.....
Announcements & Greetings

Prelude

“Canon In D” Pachelbel

Todd Baldosser

***Opening Hymn**

“How Majestic Is Your Name”

No. 63

**O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
O Lord, we praise your name. O Lord, we magnify your name:
Prince of Peace, Mighty God; O Lord God Almighty.**

**O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
O Lord, we praise your name. O Lord, we magnify your name:
Prince of Peace, Mighty God; O Lord God Almighty.**

***Call to Worship**

Leader: O give thanks to the Holy One! Tell of God’s wonderful works

All: **Declare God’s marvelous deeds among the people**

Leader: O give thanks to the Holy One. Give glory and rejoice!

All: **Sing praises to our God. Let our hearts be glad**

Leader: O give thanks to the Holy One. Remember His miracles on our behalf

All: **The Holy One has remembered us. Let us Worship Him together**

***Prayer of Invocation**

All: **Sovereign and Awesome God, We come to worship You, to know
and to be known by you. Expand our hearts to love fully. Build our
courage to receive the truth. Nurture our Spirits to be gracious,
merciful and kind. Transform us in Your Image and for Your glory
as we enter into Your Presence and pray these words of
transformation and faith...**

***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.**

***Please stand if you are able**

***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 Nicene Creed, A.D. 325 *(Traditional Version)

**We believe in One God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of
all things visible and invisible**

**And in One Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, begotten from the Father
before all ages,**

**God from God,
Light from Light,
True God from True God,
Begotten not made;
of the same essence as the Father.
Through Him all things were made.**

**For us and our salvation; He came down from Heaven and became incarnate
by the Holy Spirit. He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, He suffered and
was buried. The third day He rose again. He ascended into Heaven and is
seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in Glory to judge
the living and the dead. His Kingdom will never end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds
from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped
and glorified.**

**We believe in the one true Holy and Apostolic Christian Church. We affirm
one Baptism. We look forward to the resurrection from the dead and the life
of the world to come. 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 (10:30 a.m.) “God Bless America” Berlin Johnny Pfeffer

Scripture Reading Philippians 2:10-11 Jeff Conner

Scripture Reading Psalm 95:1-7

Sermon “Born to Be a Leader” Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher

Hymn “Jesus Calls Us O’er the Tumult” (8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 5) **No. 337**

- 1) Jesus calls us o’er the tumult of our life’s wild restless sea,
day by day his sweet voice soundeth, saying, “Christian, follow me”;
- 2) Long ago apostles heard it by the Galilean lake,
turned from home, and toil, and kindred, leaving all for his dear sake.
- 5) Jesus calls us! By thy mercies, Savior, may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thine obedience, serve and love thee best of all.

Invitation for Faithful Giving

Offertory “Here I Am to Worship” Hillsong 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, Giving is one of the ways we connect to You. One of the ways we worship You. One of the ways we celebrate You. Receive these resources now as a sign of our faith and trust in Your good work in and through our lives. Bless the continued work that will be accomplished through this faithful giving and help us remain generous in heart and spirit as we reflect Your love for us and our love for You. In Jesus’ Name. Amen

***Closing Hymn**

“Standing in the Need of Prayer”

No. 579

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

Refrain

*It's me (it's me), it's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.
It's me (it's me), it's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.*

- 1) Not my brother, not my sister, but it's me, O Lord,
standing in the need of prayer.
Not my brother, not my sister, but it's me, O Lord,
standing in the need of prayer.
- 2) Not the preacher, not the teacher, but it's me, O Lord,
standing in the need of prayer.
Not the preacher, not the teacher, but it's me, O Lord,
standing in the need of prayer.
- 4) Not the stranger, not the neighbor, but it's me, O Lord,
standing in the need of prayer.
Not the stranger, not the neighbor, but it's me, O Lord,
standing in the need of prayer.

***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

Todd Baldosser

“He's Got the Whole World In His Hands” Traditional

Pastor Steve's Quote of the Week

“When you light a lamp for someone else, it also brightens your path.”

Judge Frank Caprio

Dr. Swisher's message next week:

Sunday, September 27, 2026

“The Best Sermon Ever Spoken”

Matthew 5:1-12

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.



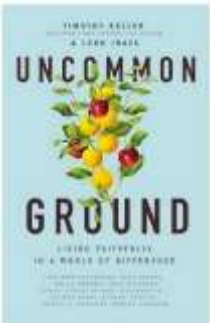
To replenish our food pantry every day we need your help every week. There are collection boxes near each entrance to the Church. Keep in mind that many of the people using this pantry have limited cooking facilities. Ollie's, Dollar Tree, and Aldi's are good places to find foods at good prices. Cans with pull tabs when possible and no glass containers! Thanks for your support! <https://www.littlefreepantry.org/>



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.

Book Club



The book club will meet Thursday, September 24, at 11am at the River Road Coffee House on the north side of the square in downtown Newark. You are welcome to join us for food and fellowship as we discuss a book by Timothy Keller and John Inazu called Uncommon Ground, Living Faithfully in a World of Difference. The book is available online.

Bible Discovery Zone Sunday Classes Starting Sept. 20

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

Bible Discovery Zone Children’s Church

During the 10:30AM Worship Service

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

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

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

285 W. National Dr • stjohnsnewark.org • 740-323-2407

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-Torrie
Musician/Radio Host
Son of Mel Torrie



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"

Find us on your favorite digital audio and streaming platform



Look for new episodes coming soon!

St. John's UCC • www.stjohnsnewark.org • 740-323-2407

NIGHT of Inspiration

with Dr. Robert A. Schuller

October 2, 2026

7:00PM

at

St. John's UCC

285 W. National Drive, Newark

The evening's keynote speaker and a friend of Rev. Swisher's for almost 30 years, Dr. Robert A. Schuller, is the former Senior Pastor of the Crystal Cathedral, New York Times Best-selling author and current Pastor in Newport Beach, Ca. He is also the President and CEO of Comstar Media.

Be ready for a faith-filled, grace-filled night of worship, bringing people together from all over the region.



Dr. Robert A. Schuller
Sr. Pastor Newport Beach, CA



Dr. Robert A. and Donna
Schuller



Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Swisher
Sr. Pastor at St. John's UCC

★ JOIN US ★

THE
**AM KEVIN
CLUB**
Show

WITH
DR. STEVE SWISHER

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

★ **LIVE FROM NASHVILLE** ★



11:00 AM LIVE



General Prayers: Charlie Bruah,
Rev. Dr. Winfield Strout, Eli Taylor, Carl
Kochendorfer, Trisha Boehmer, Delores Williams,
and Jerry Goodman

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

Media Worship Team:

Sound & Video:

8:00 am: Mike Dooley

10:30 am: Ken Kroah/Julie Kroah

THIS WEEK'S GLANCE



Sunday: September 20, 2026

**Seventeenth 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

Monday:

6:30 pm Church Council Meeting

Tuesday:

12-1:00 pm LifeWise Academy

Wednesday:

6:00 pm Crystal City Chorus

Thursday:

11:00 am Thursday Book Study,
UNCOMMON GROUND,
Living Faithfully in a World
of Difference by Timothy
Keller and John Inazu at
River Road Coffee on the
Square

12:30-1:30 pm LifeWise Academy

7:15 pm Choir Practice

Sunday: September 28, 2026

**Eighteenth Sunday
after Pentecost**

8:00 am Outdoor Drive-In Service

9:00 am Youth & Adult Sunday

School Classes

10:30 am Sanctuary Service – Choir
Sings

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



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!

Attendance Report for Sunday, September 13, 2026

8:00 a.m. - 24 10:30 a.m. – 40

Sunday, September 13 Live Stream Views – Error

Finances for the Month and Year to Date

General Fund Income

August

Year to date

Congregation giving (Faith Promise)

8,857.94

70,189.16

Income from Foundation Fund

11,500.00

92,000.00

Monthly Income from Emerson Miller Fund

3,758.33

30,066.64

Month & YTD Total Income

24,948.80

198,536.32

General Fund Expenses

30,402.46

209,620.57

Over/Under Month & YTD

(5,453.66)

(11,084.25)

() = Negative

