

CONTACTS

Phone 859-431-1818
 Email stjohnsucc@stjohnsuccnewport.org
 Website www.stjohnsuccnewport.org
 Facebook St. John's United Church of Christ–Newport, KY

PROGRAM

	LOCATION	TIME
Coffee Fellowship Time	Fellowship Hall (L.L.)	9:00 a.m.
Worship	Sanctuary	10:00 a.m.
Infant, Toddler, Preschool & School Age Child Care	South Hallway	9:30 a.m.

CHURCH STAFF

POSITION	PERSON	CONTACT
Designated Pastor	J. Martin Westermeyer	Shaman4@zoomtown.com
Pastor of Visitation	John Robson	Jmarrobson@gmail.com
Director Of Music/Organist	Michael Sullivan	Michael.Sullivan@stjohnsuccnewport.org
Associate Director of Music	Dobin Park	Pianist0587@gmail.com
Office Administrator	Kelli Taylor	Kelli.Taylor@stjohnsuccnewport.org
Director of Communication & Outreach	Kyle Taylor	Kyle.Taylor@stjohnsuccnewport.org
Financial Administrator	Chris Baker	Financialadmin@stjohnsuccnewport.org


CHURCH LEADERS

PERSON	POSITION	CONTACT
Kyle Taylor	Church President	859-394-5256
David Stamm	Church Vice President	859-322-2426
Pat Goins	Church Secretary	859-250-2830
Vickie Kennedy	Church Treasurer	859-653-2630 text or call


Church Office Hours

Monday	9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Thursday	Closed
Friday	9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Calls will be answered off-site on days when the office is closed.



February 4, 2024
 10:00 a.m.
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany



Thought for the Day before Worship

What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.
 - Ralph Waldo Emerson

*All who are able are welcome to stand

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *“Meditation on Bread of Life”* *(Jack Goode)*

Tower Bell

Introit

Holy God, we praise your name; Sovereign God, we bow before you; All on earth your scepter claim, all the heavenly hosts adore you. Infinite your vast domain, everlasting is your reign.

***Call to Worship**

How good is it to sing praises to our God.

God is gracious and a song of praise is fitting.

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving.

Make melody to our God on musical instruments.

Our hearts will sing for joy to the living God.

Blessed are those who dwell in your house.

Let us Worship our God!

Come, Lord Jesus. May your loving Holy Spirit fill us in this time of Worship!

***Hymn #2**

“O Worship the King”

(Lyons)

***Prayer of Adoration & Confession**

Almighty God, we praise you as we come together in Worship. As Augustine proclaimed, our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you. We come to this sanctuary because we know and believe that only in spiritual proximity to you will our lives find purpose and meaning.

Please fill us with your life-engendering Holy Spirit. Not because we are worthy, but because you love us. We are grateful that we can be the hands and feet of Jesus by the presence and work of your Holy Spirit through us. May we be the loving and saving presence of the Savior to all who are imprisoned by sin and suffering.

O God, unlike your Son, Jesus, we do not care for the poor or neglected.

We sin by omission as much as by commission.

We confess that we are hard-hearted and selfish.

What do we care about the homeless, the diseased, the handicapped, those we feel have offended us, those whom we have offended, those who are not like us?

Our sins are many. Have mercy upon us, O God! Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

Hear the Good News! The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and plenteous in mercy. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us and our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Dearly Beloved, believe the Good News!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, now and forever. Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

(Creatorex)

**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.**

From the Major Prophets: Isaiah 40:21-31

“Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, who stretches out the heavens like a curtain and spreads them like a tent to live in, who brings princes to naught and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. To whom, then, will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and assert, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God”? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted, but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;

Welcoming and Leading Us This Morning

Preaching Today: Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Liturgist: David Stamm

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Choral Director: Dobin Park

Sound Technician: Robert Pettus

Greeters: David Stamm & Mike Hanson

Ushers: Steve Twehues, Ralph Schoulthies & Mike Hanson

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This Week

- Sunday, February 4:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service/Communion Sunday
- Monday, February 5:** 6:30 p.m. East Row Historic Foundation Meeting
7:00 p.m. AA & Al-Anon Meeting
- Tuesday, February 6:** 7:00 p.m. NA Meeting
- Thursday, February 8:** 9:00 a.m. Food Pantry
7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- Saturday, February 10:** 9:00 a.m. AA Meeting
10:00 a.m. Leadership Team Meeting-Library
- Sunday, February 11:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
11:30 a.m. “Souper” Bowl Sunday Luncheon

Hearing Assistance

We have wireless receivers for the hearing impaired which you may obtain from an usher.

Pastoral Care Notice

If a pastoral care need arises, please contact the church office at (859) 431-1818 and we will get a message to Pastor Marty or Pastor John Robson to contact you.

In Our Prayers

Joan Berkemeyer, Norma Biery, Flo Grey, Betty Jo Haas, Donna & Phil Hamilton, Marilyn Hanson, Melvin Hanson, Betty Hasse, Chuck Hawkins, Henry Marksberry, Bill Seibert, Ed Von Strohe, Bonnie Walter, Wendy Watts & Betty Webster

Continued Prayerful Support

Homebound members.
Those in assisted living and nursing homes.
Church Leadership Team, Ministry Teams, and all our church leaders.
Designated Pastor Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer
Pastor of Visitation John Robson

Homebound Member of the Week

Our homebound member of the week is Gayle McAtee. Take a moment this week to send her a card or give her a call as we celebrate Gayle as our member of the week!

Her address is:

Gayle McAtee
The Barrington of Ft. Thomas
940 Highland Avenue
Ft. Thomas, KY 41075

Children's Activity Bags

Activity bags for the children are located at each entrance of the church. Feel free to pick up a bag for your child (children) to work on during the worship service. When the service is done just drop the bags off at each exit so that we may replenish the bags for the following week.

Audio Recordings of Our Sunday Services

Did you miss a Sunday service or would like to hear one over again? You can get a CD audio recording of any service each week down on the table located at the North Lobby entrance. The recordings are separated by date so just look for the service you want to hear and take it home.

they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

From the Letters of Paul: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a wage, but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my wage? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might gain all the more. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to gain Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might gain those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not outside God's law but am within Christ's law) so that I might gain those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might gain the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I might become a partner in it.

Anthem

“The Perfect Wisdom of Our God “

(Townend/Getty)

The perfect wisdom of our God, revealed in all the universe
all things created by His hand and held together at His command.
He knows the myst'ries of the seas, the secrets of the stars are His,
He guides the planets on their way, and turns the earth through another day.

The matchless wisdom of His ways that mark the path of righteousness;
His word a lamp unto my feet, His spirit teaching and guiding me.
And, O, the myst'ry of the cross, that God should suffer for the lost
so that the fool might shame the wise, and all the glory might go to Christ.

O grant me wisdom from above to pray for peace and cling to love,
and teach me humbly to receive the sun and rain of your sovereignty.
Each strand of sorrow has a place within this tapestry of grace;
so through the trials I choose to say “Your perfect will in your perfect way.”

From the Gospels: Mark 1:29-39

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed by demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons, and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they

When they found him, they said to him, “Everyone is searching for you.” He answered, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also, for that is what I came out to do.” And he went throughout all Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Sermon “When Life Comes to Life” Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

***Hymn** “*Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior*” (see insert) (*Pass Me Not*)

Gathering Together in Prayer

Joys & Concerns – Silent Prayer – Pastoral Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Response

And God will raise you up on eagle’s wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of God’s hand.

Mission Moment Pat Goins

Offertory Invitation

It is well with those who deal generously, the psalmist tells us. They have distributed freely, and have given to the poor. Bring your tithes and offerings to participate in the joy of our Creator. Let your light shine so others may see your good works and give glory to God

“SOUPER” BOWL SUNDAY AT ST. JOHN’S

Join St. John’s on Sunday, February 11th as we celebrate Super Bowl Sunday with our “Souper” Bowl Event. This event will be a two-part event consisting of a food drive and luncheon following Sunday Worship.

Before worship, we will be hosting a canned food drive benefiting the Washington UCC Food Pantry to help individuals in need in our local area. We are asking everyone to bring in some form of canned food item (soup, fruit, vegetable, etc.) and place them in the baskets located at either entrance of the Sanctuary.

Then, join us following worship in Fellowship Hall where we will be hosting a light luncheon of soup, sandwiches, and desserts. Carol Thompson and Julie Ollier are leading this luncheon and will be providing some delicious recipes but they can always use our help. If you would like to help, sign-up sheets for food will be located at the entrances of the sanctuary of the church. Please sign up if you would like to bring a dessert or just come for the luncheon. Reservations are also welcomed, and you will find forms in the bulletin to do so or you may contact the church office. Forms can be placed in the offering plates on Sunday morning.

We hope you can join us as we gather for worship and fellowship while also helping our local community with this fun event. If there are any questions please contact the church office.



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY SPECIAL OFFERING BENEFITING THE BRIGHTON CENTER

St. John’s is pleased to announce that we were able to collect **\$760.00** to benefit Brighton Center to support their needs in helping others. This collection will go to help individuals in the local area who are facing difficult times. This donation will be able to help the Brighton Center continue their work which is a continuation of the work Dr. King envisioned. Again, thank you to everyone that participated in this and know that you made a difference in our community.

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 4TH

February 7th: Matthew Greenert
February 10th: Carol Haas & Michael Sullivan



February 14, 2024
Service at noon with Imposition of Ashes and Communion

LUNCH BUNCH
Wednesday, February 14th
1:00pm-2:00pm time change
Bring your own lunch
Drinks and dessert provided
We will eat lunch after the Ash Wednesday Service

END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

The 2023 end of year contribution statements were mailed out on Thursday, January 25th. If you did not receive a financial statement and feel that you should have, you can contact our financial administrator Chris Baker at: Financialadmin@stjohnsuccnewport.org or you can call the church office at (859) 431-1818 option 3 for Kelli or option 7 for Chris for more information.

Offertory

"How Blessed, How Beautiful".

(Carl Nygard)

How blessed are the lovely messengers
that preach the good news, the gospel of peace.
How beautiful, how great, how wonderful the messengers
that preach good news, that preach the gospel of peace.

For thy word, O Lord, is a lamp for my feet,
a guide to my wandering footsteps,
when your and your law I obey.

***Doxology**

(Old 100th)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost Amen

***Prayer of Dedication**

How can we thank you, O God, for the generosity you show to us, for the giving spirit you exhibit to us? We survey all that we are and all that we have, and we marvel at your beneficence. Help us count our many blessings to see what you have done. Open our hearts to give from love and gratitude, not obligation and duty. As we bring these gifts to you now, we dedicate them to the glorious work of your kingdom. May Jesus' name be praised in and through what we offer. May these gifts be a marvelous blessing to those whose lives will be touched by the good works they support. Amen.

Communion

Today we are celebrating the Lord's Supper. We believe in an OPEN Table.

ALL persons who have accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior
are encouraged to participate in the Sacrament.

***Affirmation of Faith: Apostles Creed**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the one holy universal Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Invitation

Eucharistic Prayer

Consecration of the Elements

Partaking of the Lord's Supper

Communion is Open to ALL: saint and sinner, lost and found, believer and seeker.
We partake of the bread together to symbolize our unity and community as God's people.
We shall partake of the cup individually to symbolize our solitariness
as we each stand alone before our God.

***Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)**

Loving God in Jesus Christ;

With gratitude for your holy nourishment about this table,

We dedicate:

Our lips to be the hopeful voice of Christ to the despairing;

Our hands to reach out in Christ's name to heal the broken;

Our feet to walk with Christ to visit those who are shunned;

Our bodies to be Christ's living sacrifice to break the power of death. Take us.

Empower us. Use us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***Hymn #715**

"Now Let Us From This Table Rise"

(Tallis Canon)

***Benediction**

***Choral Response**

Postlude

"Postlude on Italian Hymn"

(A. Whitworth)

WELCOME!

Welcome to this house of prayer and worship!

We pray that your experience of worship will deepen your faith and prepare you for the week ahead. We believe God's Spirit is present in our listening to the Word and our response of discipleship. In our greeting of one another we sense the presence of Christ. May you know His grace and peace today!

Please sign the guest register when it comes to your seat.



Flowers in church today are provided by the Sanctuary Flower Fund.
If you or anyone you know would benefit from the beauty and joy of the arrangement,
please feel free to take them.

Open flower dates are February 18th & 25th
To reserve your special date, please call the church office.



Trash receptacles are located at each exit for disposal of communion cups.

