

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.

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	Dr. 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.



September 29, 2024
10:00 a.m.
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Prayer for the Day before Worship

Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. On the fifth and sixth days of creation, you called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air and animals on the land. You inspired St. Francis to call all animals his brothers and sisters.

*May we always praise you for all your beauty in creation.
Blessed are you, Lord our God, in all your creatures! Amen.*

*All who are able are welcome to stand

Welcome

Prelude

"Berceuse"

(George Frederick McKay)

Tower Bell

Introit

Holy God, we praise Your name;
Lord of all, we bow before You.
All on earth Your scepter claim;
all in heav'n above adore You.
Infinite, Your vast domain;
everlasting is Your reign.

*Call to Worship

We gather in this place on this day in Jesus' name to recognize all Creation.

We worship together in Jesus' name.

We sing and pray in Jesus' name. We give to and for each other and others in Jesus' name.

We reflect and consider in Jesus' name the responsibility of caring for one another and the part of creation entrusted to each of us.

We doubt and question, affirm and celebrate in Jesus' name.

And, in the fullness of this hour, we will go from this place this day in Jesus' name, to live our lives in Jesus' name in this and all places, on this and every day.

May it be so.

May it be so.

Let us Worship our Creator God!

***Hymn #71**

“Praise to The Lord, the Almighty” (Lobe Den Herren)

*Prayer of Confession

We gather this day to question our assumptions in the light of the name of Jesus, to question our assumptions about others who believe differently, live differently, look different.

We question our assumptions about ourselves - who we believe ourselves to be.

We question our assumptions about what's most real in our lives, and we question our assumptions about you, O God.

May we live not by what we assume to be, but by what you assure us is. And so, may we live by grace into love and claim the transforming of creation as privilege and responsibility; as our greatest challenge and our deepest joy. Amen.

*Assurance of Grace

Hear the Good News! Hear these comforting words: If you repent and believe in God's redeeming mercy, your sins are forgiven. Trust in God's promises and begin anew your life in God and all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Dearly Beloved, believe the Good News!

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

*Gloria Patri

(*Greatorrex*)

**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 Poetry of the Old Testament: Psalm 124

If it had not been the Lord who was on our side
—let Israel now say—

if it had not been the Lord who was on our side,
when our enemies attacked us,

then they would have swallowed us up alive,

when their anger was kindled against us;

then the flood would have swept us away;

the torrent would have gone over us;

then over us would have gone

the raging waters.

Blessed be the Lord,

who has not given us

as prey to their teeth.

We have escaped like a bird

from the snare of the hunters;

the snare is broken,

and we have escaped.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

who made heaven and earth.

Welcoming and Leading Us This Morning

Preaching Today: Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Liturgist: Kyle Taylor

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Choral Director: Dr. Dobin Park

Sound Technician: Robert Pettus

Greeters: Darlene Knepshild & Mike Hanson

Ushers: Steve Twehues, Ralph Schoulthies & Mike Hanson

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This Week

Sunday, September 29: 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, September 30: 7:00 p.m. AA & Al-Anon Meeting

Tuesday, October 1: 7:00 p.m. NA Meeting
7:00 p.m. East Row Historic Foundation Meeting

Thursday, October 3: 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Yoga Class-Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, October 5: 9:00 a.m. AA Meeting
9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. The Chosen

Sunday, October 6: 10:00 a.m. Worship Service/World Communion
Sunday/Neighbors in Need Special
Offering

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, Phil Hamilton, Marilyn Hanson, Melvin Hanson, Betty Hasse, Rona Hater, Chuck Hawkins, Karen Liden, Family of Henry Marksberry, Gayle McAtee, Ed Von Strohe, Carol Strong, Bonnie Walter, Marty Westermeyer & Peggy Westlund

Weekly Prayer List for Northern Kentucky UCC Cluster

All Cluster Churches

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 Betty Webster. Take a moment this week to send her a card or give her a call as we celebrate Betty as our member of the week!

Her address is:

Betty Webster

305 Taylor Street Room 10A

Butler, KY 41006

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.

Online Video Worship Services

You can view our online video Sunday worship services through our church website: www.stjohnsuccnewport.org, our Church's Facebook Page or YouTube Channel (just search our church's name on Facebook/YouTube) and through the Constant Contact weekly email, (just click the online worship button at the bottom of the page). Hope you enjoy the services!

From the Letters to the Entire Church: James 4:7-12

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy into dejection. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Do not speak evil against one another, brothers and sisters. Whoever speaks evil against another or judges another speaks evil against the law and judges the law, but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. There is one lawgiver and judge who is able to save and to destroy. So who, then, are you to judge your neighbor?

Anthem

"Praise the Everlasting King!"

(Lloyd Larson)

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to His feet your tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore His praises sing.
Praise Him for His grace and favor to all people in distress.
Praise Him, still the same forever, slow to chide and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!

Fatherlike, He tends and spares us; All our hopes and fears He knows.
In His hands, He gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.
Let us then adore Him, living God of love and grace!
Earth and heaven bow down before Him; all who dwell in time and space.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King! Amen.

From the Gospels of the New Testament: Mark 9:38-50

John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him, for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

"If any of you cause one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies and the fire is never quenched.

"For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good, but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

Sermon

"Working Faith: How to Be Close to God" Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

***Affirmation of Faith: Prayer of St. Francis**
“Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;
Where there is hatred, let me show love:

**Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.**

**Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
To be understood, as to understand;
To be loved as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and
It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.”
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

***Hymn** “*Won’t You Let Me Be Your Servant?*”
 (see next page)

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 (Amazing Grace)

**The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.**

Offertory Invitation

Each of us is to look not only to personal interests but also the interests of others. We come together as the church of Jesus Christ to do this. We are devoted to a mission whose benefits are not for us alone. This is our opportunity to share in important work in this community and around the world.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

St John's Congregational Meeting
Sunday, October 27th - 11:15 a.m.
Sanctuary after Sunday worship



NOMINATIONS FOR 2025 LEADERSHIP TEAM

Nominations are open for the 2025 Leadership Team. If you or another member of St. John's would like to run for a position on the Leadership Team, please contact Past President, Laura Haas to express interest. Positions available are President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Questions about each position can be asked of current members of the Leadership Team. Please contact Laura Haas with any additional questions.



TRUNK-OR-TREAT

Join us Saturday, October 19th, 2024 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. as St. John's hosts a trunk-or-treat. This event will take place in the parking lot of St. John's. We are asking members and friends to bring their cars and decorate them and pass out candy to children as they come to your car. Costumes are encouraged for both children and adults and there will be a winner for best costume. There will also be games and activities for kids to participate in as they make their way through the treat trail. Invite all of your children, grandchildren, and friends to join us for this fun event.

If you would like to participate by providing a car or hosting an activity please contact the church office or place your name on one of the sign-up sheets located in the church.

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 29TH

September 30th: Wanda Quinn

October 3rd: Barbara Coppage, David Stamm & Marty Westermeyer

October 4th: Peggy Westlund

SEPTEMBER SHOES AND SOCKS

Today is the last day we will be collecting (NEW) shoes and socks of all sizes and types to be donated to the Washington UCC community store. You can still make a monetary donation and we will gladly do the shopping for you. Mark an offering envelope with "shoes and socks", and we'll be sure to purchase items on your behalf. Thank you for participating in this community service. Your support of the important work that Washington UCC does for so many people makes a difference.

THE CHOSEN

You are invited to join a “watch and discuss” group for Season 4 of “*The Chosen*”. We will gather on the Saturdays listed below from 9:30-11:00 in the church parlor. If you have already seen this season, nothing can be better than watching it again and discussing it with others. If you haven’t seen previous seasons of *The Chosen* it will be easy for you to follow and enjoy the season. All are welcome and we welcome your family and friends too!

Saturday October 05, 9:30-11:00

Saturday October 26, 9:30-11:00,

Saturday November 09, 9:30-11:00

Saturday November 23, 9:30-11:00

Saturday December 14, 9:30-11:00

LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch Octoberfest

Wednesday, October 9th

12:00 p.m.-2:00p.m.

“Welcome All”

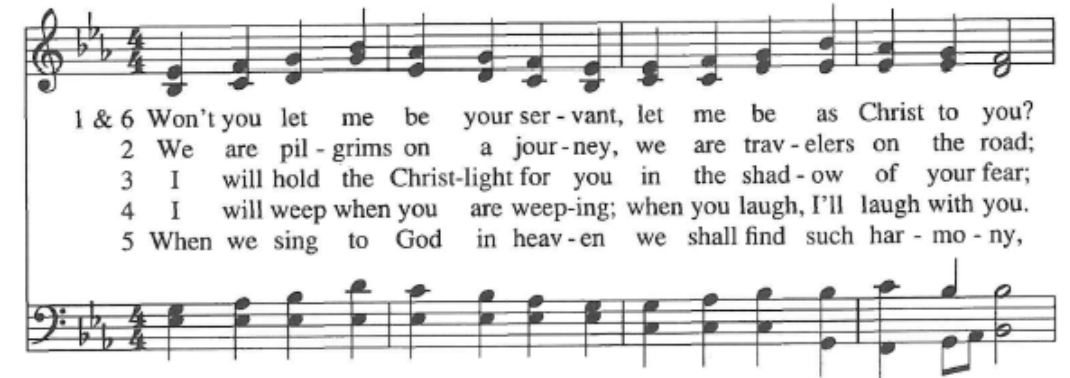
You are invited to join the Lunch Bunch in celebrating Octoberfest with Mets, brats, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes and/or cottage ham and green beans, bread, apple pie and drinks.

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?

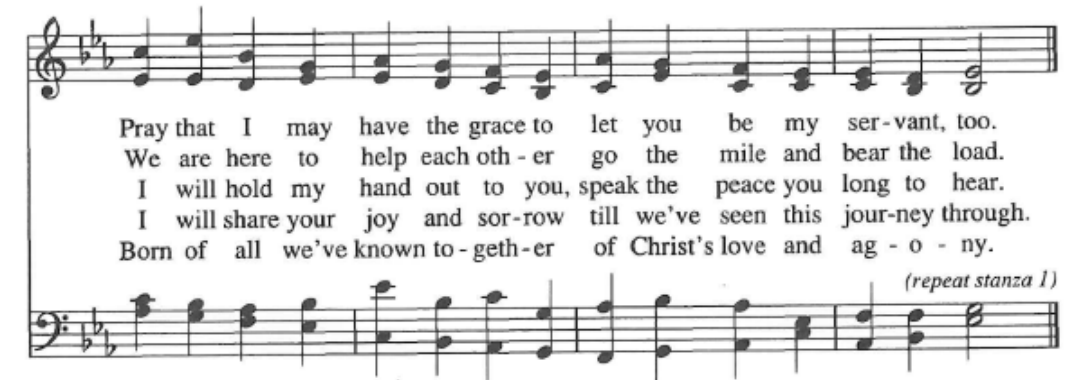
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Richard Gillard, 1977; alt.

Rom. 12:9-18; Col. 1:24-29



1 & 6 Won't you let me be your ser-vant, let me be as Christ to you?
2 We are pil-grims on a jour-ney, we are trav-ersers on the road;
3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shad-ow of your fear;
4 I will weep when you are weep-ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
5 When we sing to God in heav-en we shall find such har-mo-ny,



Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser-vant, too.
We are here to help each oth-er go the mile and bear the load.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
I will share your joy and sor-row till we've seen this jour-ney through.
Born of all we've known to-gether of Christ's love and ag-o-ny.
(repeat stanza 1)

Offertory

“The Lord’s Prayer”

(Bradley Ellingboe)

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 sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

*Doxology

(Lasst Uns Erfreuen)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Prayer of Dedication**
Who we are and what we do gives us a name, and those who know us best come to know that name. We are identified by those who know us best. So as we share of ourselves, as we give of what we have, in imitation of the one who shared himself completely - gave of all he had - we share of ourselves, we give of what we have that the name bestowed upon us might be the name of Jesus. Amen.

*Hymn #561

“Christ For The World! We Sing”

(Italian Hymn)

*Benediction

*Choral Response

Postlude

“Praise To the Lord the Almighty”

(Diane Bish)

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GO IN PEACE, SERVE THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD!

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 at the pulpit are provided by the church.
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 October 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th
To reserve your special date, please call the church office.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

World Communion Sunday is **October 6th** and offers congregations a distinctive opportunity to experience Holy Communion in the context of the global community of faith. This is when Christians in every culture break bread and pour the cup to remember and affirm Christ as the Head of the Church. On that day, we recognize that we are part of the whole body of believers. Join us on **October 6th** as we celebrate World Communion Sunday.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED SPECIAL MISSION OFFERING

In 2024, the Neighbors in Need theme is **“Mental Health Justice For All!”** This year’s focus is on Mental Health Justice. In 2015, the General Synod of the United Church of Christ passed a resolution to become WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health.
As you may recall, one-third of the offering supports Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds are used by Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations as well as supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.
St. John’s will collect this offering on **Sunday, October 6, 2024** as part of World Communion Sunday. We thank you for your support and generosity.