

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.	



May 11, 2025
10:00 a.m.
Fourth Sunday of Easter



Thought for the Day before Worship

*Too often we who are followers of Christ have become lost in our own brand of religion,
our own visions of Messiah and the kind of life Christ will bring.
We need to follow, again, the voice of the Savior and walk the pathways Jesus leads.*

*All who are able are welcome to stand

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

"Morning Prayer"

(George Frederick McKay)

Tower Bell

Introit

Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise:
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim, for the world's salvation bled-
Jesus Christ, the King of glory, now is risen from the dead.

*Call to Worship

Let us celebrate the Lord!

Let us renew our spirits!

Come, all who need healing, and receive hope!

**We bring our concerns for the earth, for nations,
for our community, for loved ones, for your challenges.**

Let us be of one body, one mind, and one spirit as we pray, sing and celebrate God!

*Hymn #123

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

(Crusader's Hymn)

***Prayer of Adoration and Confession**

We thank you, God, for the assurance of safety that comes to us, your followers. Like sheep of your fold, we trust your strength and your goodness to guide us past danger and death and lead us to you. All the days of our lives will be lived in grateful praise. Even to those who seek your Son, Jesus Christ, there is much mystery about faith. We find it hard at times to live without perfect clarity. We want to be told now, plainly and clearly, all there is to know. Remind us that if we but listen for the sound of your voice, your words will provide us the answers we need. When we are troubled and solutions seem beyond our reach, help us to know you grasp us in your protective hand. Assure us that your care for us is imperishable. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**

Hear the Good News! The Lord is good! The steadfast love of the Lord endures forever and the Lord’s faithfulness is to all generations. We are the Lord’s people and the sheep of God’s pasture. Dearly Beloved, believe the Good News!
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, now and forever. Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

**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.**

(Creatorex)

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name’s sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.

Welcoming and Leading Us This Morning

Preaching Today: Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Liturgist: Laura Haas

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Choral Director: Dr. Dobin Park

Sound Technician: Robert Pettus

Greeters: Laura Haas & Tom Williams

Ushers: Steve Twehues, Ralph Schoulthies & Mike Hanson

Music reprinted under OneLicense.net A-722754

This Week

- Sunday, May 11:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service/Mother’s Day
- Monday, May 12:** 7:00 p.m. AA & Al-Anon Meeting
- Tuesday, May 13:** 7:00 p.m. NA Meeting
- Wednesday, May 14:** 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. Lunch Bunch
- Thursday, May 15:** 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Yoga Class Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- Saturday, May 17:** 9:00 a.m. AA Meeting
- Sunday, May 18:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service/Graduate Recognition

✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚

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

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

Judy Adams, Kathy Bere, Joan Berkemeyer, Norma Biery, Yvonne Daniels, Judy Eads, Flo Grey, Betty Jo Haas, Marilyn Hanson, Melvin Hanson, Chuck Hawkins, Jean Morrow, Ed Von Strohe, Wendy Watts & Marty Westermeyer

Weekly Prayer List for Northern Kentucky UCC Cluster

St. John UCC, Bellevue
Allen Fluent, Interim

St John's UCC; Newport
Martin Westermeyer, Interim

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 Bonnie Walter. Bonnie's birthday is Saturday, May 17th. Take a moment this week to send her a card or give her a call as we celebrate Bonnie as our member of the week!

Her address is:
Bonnie Walter
100 Carmel Manor Drive
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.

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!

Scripture Lesson: Revelation 7:9-17

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!"

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat, for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Anthem

"O Love"

(Elaine Hagenberg)

O love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O Joy that seeks me through the pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow thru' the rain
And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be.

Scripture Lesson: John 10:22-30

At that time the Festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me, but you do not believe because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, in regard to what he has given me, is greater than all, and no one can snatch them out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

***An Easter Affirmation**
We are an Easter-faith people.
The resurrection of Jesus Christ comes to us:
 As a spring festival coinciding with the earth’s rebirth,
 As a revelation in scripture of God’s intentions,
 As a central meaning of human existence.
Yet, the resurrection of Jesus Christ comes to us:
 As a puzzle, an intriguing mystery,
 As contrary to the apparent facts of life and death,
 As impossible to have happened, much less to happen still.
Still, the resurrection of Jesus Christ comes to us:
 As the ways of God which are beyond our ways,
 As a deeper, different reality than we imagine,
 As a possible reality.
Thus, we are Easter-filled people:
 Living the hope of new life,
 Expecting signs of renewal in ourselves and others,
 Believing that the mystery of God is a mystery of forgiving love.
In joy, with power, through faith, we are becoming God’s Easter people.
 Thanks be to God!! Amen.

*Hymn #440

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

(Bradbury)

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.

MEMORIAL DAY ROLL OF REMEMBRANCE

If you are a church member and would like to add a member of your family to update our Military Roll of Remembrance for Memorial Day 2025, please contact the church office. The deadline for names is **Wednesday, May 21st**. Our Memorial Day Service will be held on **Sunday, May, 25th**.

Please note that names featured in previous years will be included again, and there is no need to re-submit them. Thank you!



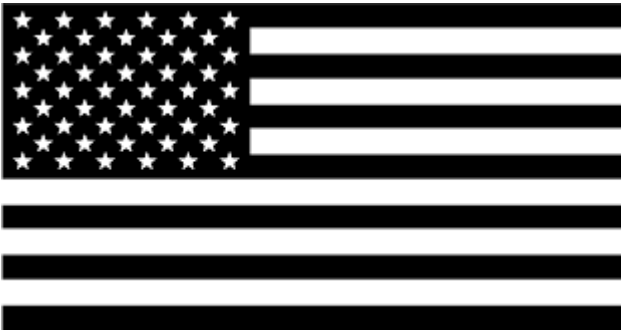
HONORING OUR HEROES: FLAGS AVAILABLE FOR MEMORIAL DAY

As Memorial Day approaches, we pause to remember and honor the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country. Their courage, dedication, and love for freedom will never be forgotten.

In tribute to these fallen heroes, small American flags will be available at our church on **Sundays, May 18th and 25nd**. We invite members of our congregation to take a flag and place it on the graves of their loved ones who served and gave their all in defense of our nation.

This simple yet powerful gesture is a way for us to show our gratitude, reflect on their legacy, and keep their memory alive in our hearts and community.

Let us come together in prayer and remembrance during this sacred time.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We have an opportunity to engage in a mission by serving dinner at the Henry Hosea House in Newport, Ky. We tried to set up a regular schedule for our church, but unfortunately at this time they have so many regulars that it isn't possible. However, they do need help on Friday May 30th from 3:30-6:00 PM. We would need seven (7) volunteers to make this happen. All you need to do is serve on the food line and provide a warm, welcoming smile to the people who come for dinner. If you and a family member or friend would be willing to do this, please contact Kelli in the church office. Thank you. The Leadership Team.



The Easter Season calls us to love one another.

Our church food pantry is in need of personal hygiene products and cleaning supplies. During this Easter season we are asking you to consider donating items or making a monetary donation that the Leadership Team will spend on items. Below is a list of what is needed. Any number of goods or amount of money that you are able to contribute will be much appreciated by those who turn to our church in their times of need.

The collection will begin after Easter Sunday and continue through Pentecost Sunday, June 8th. We'll have boxes to collect items at the entries to the sanctuary.

List:

Toiletries – toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, deodorant, bar soap, lotion.

Cleaning Supplies – paper towels, dish liquid, laundry detergent, all-purpose cleaner, disinfectant, scrubbing sponges, cleaning cloths.



GRADUATE RECOGNITION

During worship on **Sunday, May 18th** St. John's will be recognizing the graduates in our midst. If you know of someone graduating from High School, College, University or another academic institution, please contact the church office to let us know. **Last day to submit names is Monday, May 12th.** Thank you!

Response

Psalm 143:1 306

Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

WORDS: Psalm 143:1
MUSIC: George Whelpton, 1897

HEAR OUR PRAYER
Irr.

Offertory Invitation

We partake daily of God's abundance. Sometimes we appear to be thieves and robbers, diverting to our own use what God entrusts to us for the benefit of all. We are stewards of riches we do not own. We are managers of talents we did not create. We are gifted with time to invest for our Creator. Let us offer our best, our all, in renewed dedication.

Offertory

"How Can I Keep From Singing"

(Craig Courtney)

My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night He giveth.

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am His! How can I keep from singing?

***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**
We give thanks to you, God of all bounty, for the gifts with which you sustain and nourish us. In response to your extravagant generosity, we offer you our time, our abilities, our abundance, and our commitment, that what you have begun in us may be brought to fruition in your time. Help us to live as people transformed into your faithful disciples. It is in Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

***Hymn #607** *“Happy the Home Where God Is There”* *(St. Agnes)*

***Benediction**

***Choral Response**

Postlude *“Voluntary in G”* *(John Stanley)*

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 May 25th.
To reserve your special date, please call the church office.

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 11TH

May 10th: Robert Hasse
May 15th: Flo Grey
May 17th: Dave Coppage & Bonnie Walter

ANNIVERSARIES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 11TH

May 13th: Julie & Charles Croley (36 years)



ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS

For online giving, please scan the QR code.

MOTHER’S DAY

To celebrate Mother’s Day, flowers will be available for every woman, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and mother-to-be at the end of the service today. Flowers will be handed out at each exit as you leave. Happy Mother’s Day to all the special women in our lives!!

LUNCH BUNCH

Wednesday, May 14, 2025
12:00 p.m.-2:00p.m.
“Game Board Day”
Lunch will be Provided
Sloppy Joe sandwiches with sides
Drinks & Desserts Provided