

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
Chancel Choir Director	Tony Burdette	Tony.Burdette@stjohnsuccnewport.org
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.	



March 8, 2026
10:00 a.m.
Third Sunday in Lent



Thought for the Day before Worship

Trust, which is a virtue, is also a habit, like prayer. It requires exercise.
-Sue Halpern, Migrations to Solitude (1993)

*All who are able are welcome to stand

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *Prelude on the hymn tune "Jefferson"* (Dale Wood)

Tower Bell

Introit

We have come into His house and gathered in His name to worship Him.
We have come into His house and gathered in His name to worship Him.
We have come into His house and gathered in His name to worship Christ the Lord.
Worship Him. Christ the Lord.

*Call to Worship: based on Psalm 95

O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
**We shall come into your presence with thanksgiving
and make a joyful noise unto you with our songs of praise!**
O come, let us Worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker!
For we are your people, the flock that you shepherd.
We will know of your power as we listen for your voice!
Let us Worship God.

***Hymn #66** *"To God Be the Glory"* (To God Be the Glory)

***Prayer of Adoration and Confession**

We do indeed bow down before you and sing our praises, O God; you are the shepherd who tends to our needs. You gather us from among different races and cultures and blend us into a people who radiate your love. You show deference toward us as you stoop to hear both our pleas and our praise. We wear proudly the mantle of your grace and mercy and as we worship you humbly in thought, word and deed.

Trustworthy God, when we don't know how to be grateful for the path you have spread before us, forgive our complaints and encourage us to try again.

When we can't find words of praise for your abundance in our lives, forgive our quarreling and encourage us to try again.

When we can't quite believe in your faithfulness, forgive our testing and encourage us to try again.

Help us to be quick to thank, quick to praise, quick to trust, and slow to suspect your absence from us! In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**

Hear the Good News! “Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand.... But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.” Sisters and brothers, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven! 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)

From the Letters of Paul in the New Testament: Romans 5:1-11

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Welcoming and Leading Us This Morning

Preaching Today: Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Liturgist: Kyle Taylor

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Chancel Choir Director: Tony Burdette

Sound Technician: Robert Pettus

Greeters: Tom Williams & Laura Haas

Ushers: Steve Twehues, Ralph Schoulthies & Mike Hanson

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This Week

- Sunday, March 8:**

Monday, March 9:

Tuesday, March 10:

Wednesday, March 11:

Thursday, March 12:

Saturday, March 14:

Sunday, March 15:

10am Worship Service

7pm AA & Al-Anon Meeting

7pm NA Meeting
7pm East Row Historic Foundation Meeting

12pm - 2pm Lunch Bunch
7pm - 8:30pm Choir Rehearsal

9am - 12pm Food Pantry
3pm - 4pm Yoga Class Fellowship Hall

9am AA Meeting
10am - 11am Lenten Discussion Group

10am Worship Service

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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, Joan Berkemeyer, Flo Grey, Betty Jo Haas, Eric Haas, Janice Keeney, Vickie Kennedy, Ed Von Strohe, Jack Watts & Wendy Watts

Weekly Prayer List for Northern Kentucky UCC Cluster

St. John UCC; Bellevue
Allen Fluent, Interim

St. John's UCC; Newport
J. 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 Janice Keeney. Take a moment this week to send her a card or give her a call as we celebrate Janice as our member of the week!

Her address is:

Janice Keeney
10630 Marshall Road
Covington, KY 41015

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!

Anthem

"The Old Rugged Cross"

(Mary McDonald)

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross
the emblem of suffering and shame.
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
and exchange it some day for a crown.

In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
Such a wonderful beauty I see;
For t'was on that old cross, Jesus suffered and died
To pardon and sanctify me.

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true;
It's shame and reproach gladly bear.
Then he'll call me some day to my home far away,
Where His glory forever I'll share.

From the Books of the Law in the Old Testament: Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Sermon

"Trusting Faithfully"

Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

***Affirmation of Faith: from A New Zealand Prayer Book**

You, O God, are supreme and holy.

You create our world and give us life.

Your purpose overarches everything we do.

You have always been with us.

You are God.

**You, O God, are infinitely generous,
good beyond all measure.**

You came to us before we came to you.

**You have revealed and proved
your love for us in Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and rose again.**

You are with us now.

You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.

You empower us to be your gospel in the world.

You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.

You are our God. We Worship you. Amen.

***Hymn #420**

“Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee”

(*St. Agnes*)

Gathering Together in Prayer

Joys and 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

sing twice

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Offertory Invitation

Often, we have come to the well of God's love, and there has been living water to quench our thirst. Sometimes we have needed others to draw the water for us. Sometimes it is we who offer it to them. The world is full of thirsty people. Through our offerings, we provide wells and water carriers and assurance of God's love in the place where we are and far beyond our own reach.

Offertory

“Ancient Words”

(Craig Courtney)

Ancient words, ever true, ancient words, ever true.

Ancient words, long preserved, for our walk in this world,
they resound with God's own heart. O let the ancient words impart.

Words of life, words of hope give us strength, help us cope,
in this world where-e'er we roam, ancient words will guide us home.

Ancient words, ever true, changing me and changing you,
we have come with open hearts. O let the ancient words impart.

Holy words of our faith handed down to this age, came to us through sacrifice.

O heed the faithful words of Christ.

Holy words long preserved for our walk in this world,
they resound with God's own heart. O let the ancient words impart.

Ancient words, ever true, changing me and changing you,
we have come with open hearts. O let the ancient words impart.

*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

Just as our Worship of you, O God, is not confined to this place, so also our praise is not limited to certain times of seasons. Accept the offerings that we bring as a witness to your Spirit, who dwells in all that we do. May our acts of mercy and love testify to Christ's truth pervading our lives. Use what we give so that others may come into your presence with joyful songs of hope and thanksgiving. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***Hymn #426**

“Blessed Assurance”

(Assurance)

***Benediction**

*Choral Response

Postlude

“In Thee Lord Have I Put My Trust”

(J.C. Bach)