

CONTACTS

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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.



May 24, 2026
10:00 a.m.
Eighth Sunday of Easter
Memorial Sunday Remembrance



Thought for the Day before Worship

*Faith, hope, and love are powerful forces available to believers;
forces which can help, heal, and transform the world for the glory of the Lord.*

*All who are able are welcome to stand

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

"This Is My Song"
(Amy Golden, cello; Kendra Franke, flute)

(Harold DeCou)

Tower Bell

Introit

There's a sweet, sweet spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the spirit of the Lord.
Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet Heavenly Dove,
You're right here with us filling us with Your love.
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived,
When we shall leave this place.

*Call to Worship: based on Psalm 118:24, 29

This is the day that the Lord has made,

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good,

for God's steadfast love endures forever!

Let us rejoice and Worship God on this day made for us!

*Hymn #569

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

(CWM Rhondda)

O God, our strength in ages past and hope for time to come, we look to you for more than strength to survive. We count on you for thriving strength. We receive from you fanciful enthusiasm: energy to live with a song in our hearts and dancing in our feet; even when, especially when, there is no music. Source of our refuge and strength, as we enter your sanctuary you guide the way our footsteps should go. You protect us from paths that often imperil us; you shield us from situations we should not pursue. As we pause to ponder your bountiful goodness, may your comforting presence precede us this day. Hear our words of praise and thanksgiving as we respond to your counsel and care.

*Assurance of Grace

Dearly Beloved, believe the Good News!

*Gloria Patri

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

(*Greatorrex*)

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD, and he gathered seventy of the elders of the people and placed them all around the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders, and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

Welcoming and Leading Us This Morning

Liturgist: Laura Haas

Chancel Choir Director: Tony Burdette

Sound Technician: Robert Pettus

Greeters: Darlene Knepshield & Wendy Watts

Ushers: Steve Twehues & Mike Hanson

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This Week

Monday, May 25: Memorial Day-Church Office Closed
7pm AA & Al-Anon Meeting

Tuesday, May 26: 7pm NA Meeting

Thursday, May 28: 3pm - 4pm Yoga Class Fellowship Hall

Friday, May 29: 3:30pm-6:30pm Henry Hosea House Volunteer Day

Saturday, May 30: 9am AA Meeting
10am - 11am Bible Discussion Saturday

Sunday, May 31: 10am Worship Service



GO IN PEACE, SERVE THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD!

In the Holy Quiet of this hour, their names surround us and they live with us in blessed memory. Amen.

“America the Beautiful” (Katharine L. Bates)

“Amazing Grace” (Virginia Harmony)

***Benediction**

We ARE God’s people; children of the living God. We have been led into freedom through Christ. God the Creator has written His name upon our hearts. As we grow in God’s likeness, we CAN make a difference. Destiny may find the world through our responses and our service. Go and serve the Lord in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Postlude “Fanfare on America” (Murray Bradshaw)



We thank Kendra Franke, Amy Golden and David Golden for sharing their beautiful gift of music this morning.



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.



The greenery at the pulpit and baptismal font are provided by the church.

Open flower dates are June 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th
To reserve your special date, please call the church office.

Anthem “A Prayer for Our Time” (Joseph Martin)

Our God, to Thee we pray. Heal our nation, Lord, today.
God of mercy, grant us courage. Give us peace.

When evil draws its angry sword and seeks to sever freedom’s cord,
when death and darkness shake our faith in God’s unfailing pow’r to save,
Eternal Father, ever be our courage in the time of need.

When war is waged by faceless foes who battle peace with fiery blows,
when storms of hate and fear assail, our Father’s mighty arm prevails,
Eternal Father, ever be our refuge in the time of need.

There is no tyrant who can stand against our sure Defender’s hand
No threat or danger can defeat the strong and righteous Prince of Peace
Eternal Father, ever be our fortress in the time of need. Amen.

Scripture Lesson: New Testament Reading Corinthians 12:3b-13

Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says “Let Jesus be cursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Sermon “No One Left Behind “ Vickie Grey Kennedy

***Affirmation of Faith: UCC Statement of Faith, Second General Synod, 1959**

**We believe in God, the Eternal Spirit,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and our Father,
and to his deeds we testify:
He calls the worlds into being,
creates man in his own image
and sets before him the ways of life and death.
He seeks in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.
He judges men and nations by his righteous will
declared through prophets and apostles.
In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord,
he has come to us and shared our common lot,
conquering sin and death
and reconciling the world to himself.**

He bestows upon us his holy Spirit,
creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,
binding in covenant faithful people of all ages,
tongues and races.
He calls us into his church
to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,
to be his servants in the service of men,
to proclaim the gospel to all the world
and resist the powers of evil,
to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table,
to join him in his passion and victory.
He promises to all who trust him
forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,
courage in the struggle for justice and peace,
his presence in trial and rejoicing,
and eternal life in his kingdom which has no end.
Blessing and honor, glory and power, be unto him. Amen.

*Hymn #522 *“Shall We Gather at the River”* *(Hanson Place)*

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

Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me,
Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.

Offertory Invitation

God has fed us, and we have not noticed. God fills our lives with good things, and we take the credit. God’s gifts are so numerous we cannot count them. Now is the time to declare by our giving that we are grateful. Now is the time to claim the mission God entrusts to us as we express our thanks.

Offertory *“Blades of Grass and Pure White Stones” (Orin Hatch/Christopher)*

Blades of grass and pure white stones shelter those who’ve come and gone.
Just below the emerald sod are those who’ve reached the arms of God.
Buried here with dignity, endless rows for all to see.
Freedom’s seeds in sorrow sown, ‘neath blades of grass and pure white stones.

Blades of grass and pure white stones cover those who left their homes,
To rest in fields, here side by side, lest we forget their sacrifice.

*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

As all blessings come from you, O God, we thank you for what you have given us. We thank you for our jobs and for work that is meaningful and beneficial to our families and community. We dedicate these tithes and offerings to your service, and pray that we may grow in faith, giving more of our time, talents, and lives where you direct us. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

*Hymn #74 *“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”* *(Melita)*

Time of Remembrance

Memorial Day Roll of Remembrance

Lord of Life,
We enter into this season of Memorial Day surrounded by such a cloud of witnesses. We acknowledge, first of all, the men and women who are currently serving in the Armed Forces and we pray for their safe return. We also acknowledge that there are women and men who will not return, as we grieve their passing in the daily news. We pause to honor their service and their sacrifice.

(Silence)

We also pause this hour to give thanks for all the men and women who have served in the nation’s armed services. Those who have not served cannot fully imagine the experience of war, but we do know war’s aftermath and the toll that it can take on the human heart.

This weekend we remember and acknowledge loss, and so we remember those whom we have loved and lost. We hold their names and their faces in our heart. We recall the gifts they gave to us through the strength of their being, the depth of their love, the courage of their dying, and the fullness of their living.