

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.



August 9, 2026
10:00 a.m.

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost



Thought for the Day Before Worship

*Do not pray for easy lives; pray to be stronger women and men.
Do not pray for tasks equal to your power; but for powers equal to your tasks.
Then, the doing of your work will be no miracle - you will be the miracle.*

Phillip Brooks

*All who are able are welcome to stand

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

(Diane Bish)

Tower Bell

*Call to Worship: Based on Psalm 29:3-4,10-11

The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders over mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.

May the Lord give strength to God's people!

May the Lord bless the people with peace. Let us Worship our God!!

*Hymn #411

"How Firm a Foundation"

(Foundation)

*Prayer of Confession

O God, in the face of much of what life presents, we confess making little headway. When challenge comes our way, we are tempted to shrink back or find excuses. When hardships find us, the temptation is to plead faintness of spirit and give in. When unbidden graces, kindnesses, and forgiveness come our way, we lean into them stubbornly, resisting anything for which we cannot take credit.

Find in us an eagerness to test the water of your love, that we may not only confess these things about ourselves, but change them as well. In Christ's name. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**

O you of little faith, why do you doubt? Hear the Good News! Think what his world might be if there were no witnesses to the truth, no workers for peace, no leaders with deep compassion for people, nurtured by their faith. You are making a difference. Your wisdom is needed and appreciated. God saves you from your foes and delivers you from your enemies. Find gladness and joy in God’s steadfast love. 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 Poetry of the Old Testament: Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

O give thanks to the LORD; call on his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples.
Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.
Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually.
Remember the wonderful works he has done,
his miracles and the judgments he has uttered,
O offspring of his servant Abraham,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

When he summoned famine against the land
and cut off every supply of bread,
he had sent a man ahead of them,
Joseph, who had been sold as a slave.
His feet were hurt with fetters;
his neck was put in a collar of iron;
until what he had said came to pass,
the word of the Lord kept testing him.
The king sent and released him;
the ruler of the peoples set him free.
He made him lord of his house
and ruler of all his possessions,
to instruct his officials at his pleasure
and to teach his elders wisdom.

that they might keep his statutes
and observe his laws.
Praise the LORD!

Welcoming and Leading Us This Morning

Preaching Today: Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Liturgist: Steve Twehues

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Chancel Choir Director: Tony Burdette

Sound Technician: Robert Pettus

Greeters: Tom Williams & Wendy Bauer

Ushers: Steve Twehues & Mike Hanson

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This Week

- Sunday, August 9:** 10am Worship Service
- Monday, August 10:** 7pm AA & Al-Anon Meeting
- Tuesday, August 11:** 7pm NA Meeting
- Wednesday, August 12:** 12pm-2pm Lunch Bunch
- Thursday, August 13:** 9am-12pm Food Pantry
3pm - 4pm Yoga Class Fellowship Hall
- Saturday, August 15:** 9am AA Meeting
- Sunday, August 16:** 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, Judy Eads, Flo Grey, Betty Jo Haas, Eric Haas, Chuck Hawkins, Janice Keeney, Vickie Kennedy, Brenda Scharber, Family of Joan Sheanshang, Diana Stamm, Ed Von Strohe & 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 Robert Hasse. Take a moment this week to send him a card or give him a call as we celebrate Robert as our member of the week!

His address is:

Robert Hasse
500 Lakeview Drive #103
Wilder, KY 41071

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 of Paul in the New Testament: Romans 10:5-15

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?' " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Solo

"In His Presence"

(Joy Burdette - soloist)

(Dick & Melodie Tunney)

In the quiet of this hour
As we kneel before You now
I believe Your promise to be faithful.
I don't always understand
What Your perfect will demands
But I learned to trust You more.
In Your presence, Lord

In Your presence, there is comfort,
In Your presence, there is peace.
When we seek to know Your heart.
We will find such blessed assurance
In Your holy presence, Lord

There can be such sweet reward
When we wait upon the Lord
As we take the time
He gives His perfect wisdom
To be found in Him alone
All our deepest secrets known
We're surrounded by His grace
When we seek His face

In Your presence, there is comfort
In Your presence, there is peace
When we seek my fathers heart
We will find such blessed assurance
And ever open door
To know our Savior more
In the presence of my Lord

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 14:22-33

Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

Sermon “Walk on the Wild Side” Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

***Affirmation of Faith: Colossians 1:15-20 (adapted)**

**Christ is the image of the invisible God, the first born of all creation;
for in Christ all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible,
whether thrones or dominions or principalities or authorities;
all things were created through Christ and for Christ.
Christ is before all things, and in Christ all things hold together.
Christ is the head of the body, the church; Christ is the beginning,
the firstborn from the dead, that in everything Christ might be preeminent.
For in Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through Christ all things are reconciled to God, whether on earth or in heaven,
making peace by the blood of Christ's cross. Amen.**

***Hymn #345** “Jesus Calls Us o’er the Tumult” (Galilee)

**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.

NKY UCC
DARTBALL GATHERING
with a Carry In Lunch

Sunday, August 30, 12:30
at
St. John’s Newport
415 Park Avenue

Come enjoy a day of food and fellowship
with all our NKY UCC churches!
Any one who is interested is welcome
to join in a friendly game (or two) of dartball.

DRINKS:
St. John’s Newport

SIDES:
St. Paul Alexandria
Christ Ft. Thomas

MAIN COURSE:
Immanuel Bromely
(Open-faced roast beef
and turkey sandwiches)

DESSERT:
Grace Ft. Wright
St. Mark Latonia
St. John Bellevue

NKY UCC DART BASEBALL TOURNAMENT AND CARRY IN LUNCH – AUGUST 30TH

On **Sunday, August 30, 2026**, we at St. John’s UCC will be hosting the other UCC churches in Northern Kentucky at a Dart Baseball Tournament. (participation in the tournament is optional)

The meal will begin at 12:30 pm, with the tournament to follow at approximately 1:30 pm. It will be an opportunity to share food and fellowship with our sister UCC folks in Northern Kentucky. We are the hosts, and will provide drinks, paper plates, etc. The main course will be open-faced roast beef and open-faced turkey sandwiches. The flyer lists what items individual churches are to bring. If you feel motivated to provide a side or a dessert – no one will turn you down.

As I understand it, there was a team at St. John’s UCC that participated in the Northern Kentucky league that was formed in the late 1980’s and ran until 2020. If you are willing to participate, then please attend and represent St. John’s UCC-Newport in the tournament. (Pastor Marty wants to have bragging rights). If you will participate and/or bring your boards, please let Rachel at St. Mark’s UCC know at rachelswirrig@gmail.com.

As I understand it, there will be other people from the denomination (moderator, Association Minister, etc.) attending and fellowshiping with us. Please plan to share lunch and the afternoon together with other UCC folk and share in the fellowship.



A NEW OPPORTUNITY

Beginning **September 6th**, on the first Sunday of each month, St. John’s UCC located at Park and Nelson Place in Newport, is offering a Sunday School session for grades K-6 during worship. Worship on the first Sunday of the month is our communion Sunday, to which all are welcome!

Sunday worship is 10:00 – 11:00 am. Coffee Hour, a time of fellowship, precedes worship in Fellowship Hall on the lower level below the sanctuary.

Signs in the building will guide you to the Sunday School classroom.

The children’s time will be led by Mr. Matthew Shephard

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

Our spiritual ancestors followed specific instructions for their offerings. A tithe belonged to God, and sacrifices were expected. Perhaps it is our casual commitment that creates doubts and desperation within and among us. What would happen if all of us were to give in proportion to what we have received, with joy and deepest gratitude?

Offertory

“Seekers of Your Heart”

(Dick & Melodie Tunney & Beverly Darnall)

(Tony and Joy Burdette)

Until we give You first place,
until we let You begin
to fill us with your spirit,
Renew us from within,
Nothing matters nothing's gained
without your Holy presence
our lives are lived in vain.

Lord we want to know You,
Live our lives to show You
All the love we owe You,
We're seekers of your heart.

Because your heart was broken,
because You saw the need,
because You gave so freely.
Because of Calvary,
we can now be called your own;
completed creations filled with You alone

Lord, we want to know You,
live our lives to show You
all the love we owe You,
we're seekers of your heart.

***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**

Loving God, may these gifts be useful in your work of lifting the spirits of those who are feeling low – those who feel like no one cares. Use them to ease the burden of those who are being held down and held back, and who do not trust the rich and abundant life of your realm. As we offer our gifts, we offer ourselves to you. Amen.

***Hymn #505**

“All the Way My Savior Leads Me”

(All The Way)

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

(Diane Bish)

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 August 16th

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



ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS

For online giving, please scan the QR code

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 9TH

August 10th: Tara Connley & Brooks Morris

August 13th: Mike Boyers

ANNIVERSARIES FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 9TH

August 12th: Alison & Matthew Morris (20 years)

LUNCH BUNCH

Wednesday, August 12th

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

White Elephant Bingo

Veggie sticks.... Chips..... dips...

BRING YOUR OWN SANDWICH and a wrapped

White Elephant Gift to share for bingo prizes.

Drinks & Desserts Provided

ALL are Welcome! Come and Enjoy!

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

1. **Book Discussion** - Saturday August 29, 10:00 – 11:30 am

“Who Needs God” by Harold Kushner. In this book Rabbi Kushner “makes religious commitment understandable and attractive to everyone as he explores the importance of God and religious faith in our daily lives”. Whether you’ve read the book or not, you would likely enjoy the conversation.