

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
587 Mt. Vernon Road
Newark, Ohio 43055

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The Newark Christian

Serving God's Transformation of Licking County

Church Office Hours:

Monday – Friday

8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Phone: 740-366-4961

Email:

**secretary.newarkcentral
@gmail.com**

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

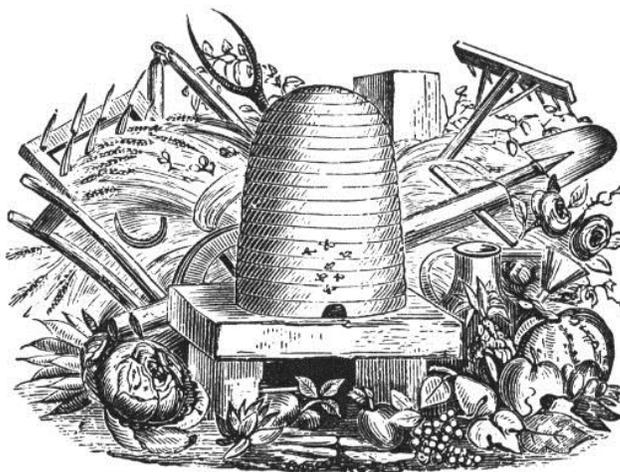
newarkcentralchristian.com

Our mission:

- *To lead people to faith in Jesus Christ*
- *To work through the Holy Spirit, and*
- *To understand through the Holy Bible.*

We seek to:

- *Grow in knowledge,*
- *Cultivate the grace of Christ,*
- *Strengthen the unity of all Christians, and be*
- *Always moving towards the Kingdom of God.*



**Community Thanksgiving Service
Sunday, November 23 – 7:00 pm**

**Outdoor Live Nativity
Saturday, December 20 - 6:00 to 9:00 pm**

**Christmas Eve Children's Worship
Wed., December 24
4:30 pm worship with communion**

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Wed., December 24 – 7:00 pm music;
7:30 pm worship with communion**

Finance & budget matters – 2014 through 2015

Harvest time is here, and most of the crops are in (drat that early snow!), with winter and the turn of the year upon us.

In planning for next year, we've had a good fall stewardship education program, with "Make the Pie Bigger!" as our 2014 theme. Folks got to look at "pie charts" of where and how the congregation uses the gifts we bring to then share out God's good news to our community.

The budget will be ready for the annual congregational meeting on the first Sunday of December, after both the 8:30 & 10:30 services on the 7th. We vote on our slate of officers & leaders into a new year, and have the financial numbers in front of us to review as well.

One element that may not be a visible to the casual viewer is that, while we had strong giving, enough to match our expenses as a church body, in most months, the two months we significantly did not were January and July! In those months, we spent more than we had come to the counters.

On the other hand, in January and July (or more to the point, in February and August!), we had the same ol' bills and obligations we do in every month, plus a few annual expenses. It's understood that when the roads are icy on a Sunday morning, attendance will drop, and when the beaches call and families go on the road, vacations will have you worshiping in distant places.

What we do need to remember as a congregation is that even as we want the church to be here 24/7, so the bills come 24/7. When we're not in worship, and not sharing an offering, the church's work in Christ's name continues.

So if you can make sure to give the cart an extra push as we end the year, or if you realize you "missed" a few offerings you'd normally have given, December is a great time to get those in so we can close out the year square!

And if you don't have offering envelopes as a reminder of that regular giving, and would like a set of your very own, there's a slip you can fill out at the Welcome Center and we will have them right to you! Many thanks to everyone who has helped us build the ministries of Newark Central to where they are today.

Snow Policy

It's that time of year again! The Church Office and Medical Loan Closet will echo the Newark City Schools snow response, since that simplifies the communications question with our members and friends from Utica to Thornville. If Newark schools are on a 2 hour delay or closed, the Medical Loan Closet and Church Office will generally do the same. If you're planning on coming in, please call to check first. We sure don't want anyone to take chances on the road!

Thanks to everyone...

....for your cards and prayers. And especially to Pastor Jeff for coming over to the hospital before my surgery. I really appreciate it. It's nice to know I'm being thought of. Wanda Williams

Yarns about keeping others warm

Our Knitters & Crocheters will soon be featured in the Saturday Newark Advocate for their work in keeping people warm! They've made a total of 28 blankets so far this year. Fourteen were adult sized, six child sized, and two baby sized. Of the 28 blankets made, four have already been dispensed to some very deserving families. They sent one adult sized and two child sized blankets to the church in Mississippi. A beautiful adult sized blanket was also lovingly given to Linda Jewell before she moved to North Carolina.

Cub scouts

Cub Scout Pack 11, Licking District, Simon Kenton Council, is now officially chartered to Newark Central!

They are having their meetings, both full pack gatherings and den meetings (by grade level) on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall and/or the Jane Plummer Room. We think Doc Plummer would be pleased!

Cub Scouting starts with Tiger Cubs in First Grade, and runs through Wolf, Bear, and finally two years (mostly) of Webelos Scouts, before transitioning to Boy Scouts in the spring of Fifth Grade.

Call the church office for more info!

Thanks from North Carolina

I would like to say a huge "Thank you!" to everyone who helped me pack up all my belongings to move to NC. I also could not have done it without the help of three dear ladies who escorted me down and took me on a little adventure through Mayberry and Mt Pilot. Although I am so happy to be here with Lacey & Brett and my new granddaughter, Olivia, I am going to miss all of you terribly. I will never forget the love and kindness that I have experienced. I am still looking for a house to rent and will send my new address as soon as I have one. I expect to have many visitors from Ohio! Love, Linda Jewell

BOWLING FOR BISCUITS! CHRISTMAS PARTY

For every pin we knock down, the Men's Fellowship class will donate 25 cents to the Licking County Food Pantry. Fun, fellowship and surprises!

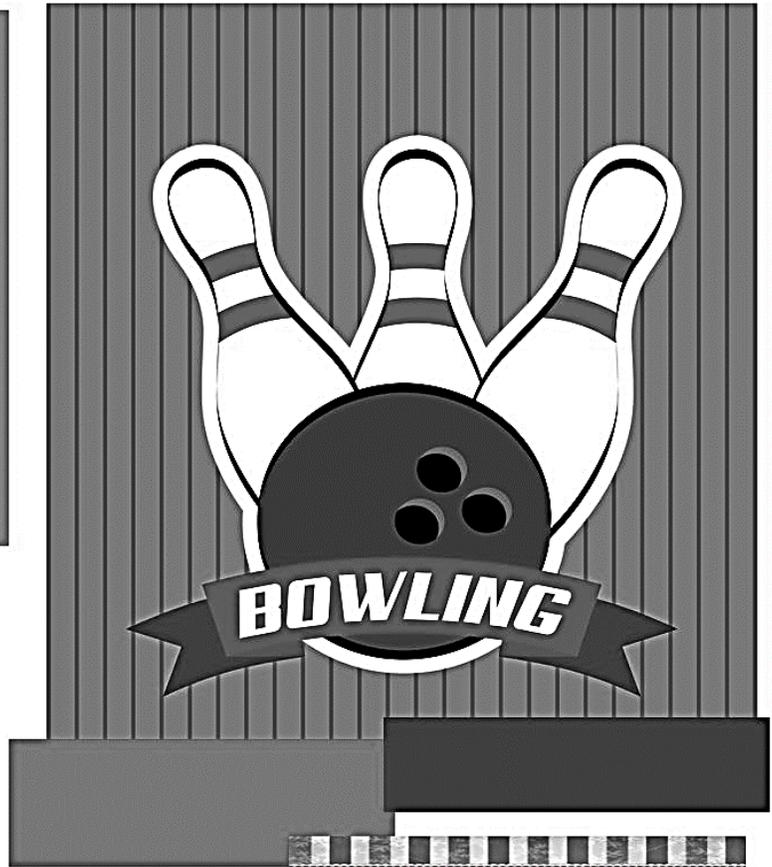
Sunday Dec. 21 | Noon–2 PM | All Church Youth Park Lanes| Meet us or ride in the church van* FREE and lunch provided— Pizza and salad! Parents can drop off and pick-up

* You must have a parental permission slip on file to ride on the van

Please call the church office if you plan on attending.

Strike Out Hunger This Christmas.

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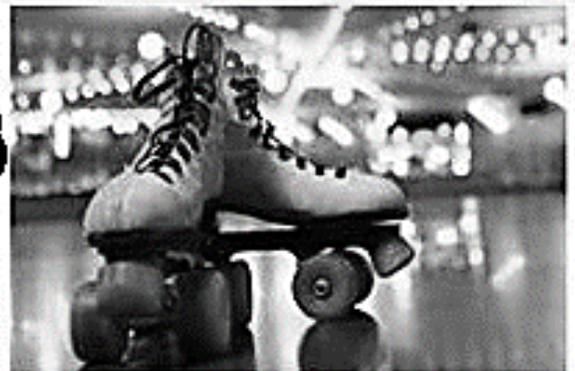
Christian Skate Night

Roll-a-Way Skating Rink

DEC. 15th

Third Monday from 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Newark Central kids only pay for in-line skates and snacks; entry fee and regular skates are covered.



6:15 at church for van rally, and leave the rink at 8 pm to return to church parking lot at 8:15 pm.

Help needed with the Live Nativity

We'd love for you to participate in the Live Nativity this year. It is Saturday, December 20 from 6 – 9 pm. There are no lines to memorize, just follow the prompts from the Christmas story, which is recorded. There will be a sign-up sheet on the Welcome Center or call Ron or Carol Thompson at 892-2219. We need two sets of characters to take alternating shifts. One shift will be on the hour and one on the half hour. We need adults, youth and children. Hope you can be part of this fun and important event or come to the parking lot and enjoy the presentation. Invite your friends and neighbors!



Please join us

Our annual Christmas Tea will be on Sunday, December 14 at 3:00 pm. It will be held in the Fellowship Hall and is open to all women of the church. We will be having devotions and then a musical presentation from the Licking County Christian Academy. We'd love to have you join us!

Advent study -- "A Family Christmas"

Every year for Advent our Wednesday night "Route 66 Bible Study" shifts over to a special study in preparation for the Christmas season.

After taking the Wednesday before Thanksgiving off (of course), we will have a special program at 6:00 pm on Wednesdays:

- December 3
- December 10
- December 17

The theme is "*A Family Christmas*" and the message is, as always, the reason for the season, Christ himself, but the medium is the movies – and how we tell stories about Christmas, and how those stories told in and through family life help us see Christ born into our communities.

So on Dec. 3, we'll see some clips from "Holiday Inn" and "White Christmas," then on Dec. 10 a feature called "A Star in the Night," and finally on Dec. 17 a portion of "It's a Wonderful Life." The video part of each night will be about 20-25 minutes long, after our usual time of prayer & fellowship starting at 6, then discussion around the tables of themes about family, and Jesus, Mary, & Joseph.

Come for one or come for all! Each is one hour long, and there's a rumor that most of them will conclude with cake, or who knows what surprises might be in store?

And these nights would be a wonderful "invite a friend" opportunity.

East End Food Pantry needs

Our friends with the co-operative food pantry along E. Main St. here in Newark, for whom we roll out the market basket in the narthex every third Sunday, are heading into the holiday season like all the rest of us.

Their shelves can always use staples like soup, peanut butter, pasta, and canned meats – those are year-round needs!

Right now, they'd like to ask us for a special push on canned fruits and vegetables. So just to help you remember: it would be just "peaches" if your next trip to the grocery included some cans of fruits & vegetables. It will only cost you a few "beans" to put good food in pots & kettles in the Newark area.

Peaches & beans, friends! Let's fill that cart.

Christmas Offering for Regional Ministries

In December, we will have envelopes on the Welcome Center for designated gifts to the Christian Church in Ohio.

The year end offering for the regional church goes entirely to the work of the Christian Church in Ohio, from Camp Christian in staffing and maintaining year-round as well as summer programming, to regional support for congregations in the "search and call" process for ministerial leadership, and for establishing new congregations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), which is very active right now in Franklin & Delaware Counties to our west, along with in the Dayton & Cleveland areas.

Please prayerfully consider a gift to the regional Christmas Offering as we close 2014.

"The Tragedy Of War Is That It Uses Man's Best To Do Man's Worst" (on sign in Vietnam)

As I was preparing my Veteran's Day cards I thought about this picture [of sign noted above] that Bob took in his company area in Cu Chi, Vietnam. Sadly, it says it all.

Thank you for your service, Veterans at Central Christian, and for providing my freedoms. Whether you served in combat or at the ready, you served. I appreciate freedom & don't take it for granted.
Sincerely, Claudia Weaver

Manger scenes needed

During the evening of the Live Nativity, on December 20, we will be displaying various manger scenes in the Fellowship Hall. Please consider bringing your manger scene to display. All are welcome, from the traditional to the farfetched. We've even had a cat based one in previous years! There will be bowls beside each manger scene for people to vote on their favorites. All money donated will go to the Salvation Army. Please have your manger scenes here at the church by that Saturday morning. If you have any questions, please see Marsha Kohler.

Thank you

To Pastor Gill and to all who took part in the memorial service for Martha Evans. We cannot thank you enough for making a difficult day so meaningful for us. From Pastor Gill's leading the service, to all those who helped with the lovely meal, the music, or any other way in front or behind the scenes. Thank you! The Evans Family

ANGEL TREE PROJECT

The Outreach Committee is once again sponsoring a Salvation Army Angel Tree at Central this Christmas season. Beginning Sunday, November 23, there will be a tree in the narthex with tags containing the names of needy children in Licking County.

In order to make it more affordable for those selecting these tags, half the tags will contain children's names and "wish list" items for those children. The other half of the tags will contain the same children's names with their clothing sizes. We suggest you purchase at least an outfit for each child you select. You are free to choose both tags for a child or only one tag. Remember, the items listed are only suggestions. You do not need to purchase every single item on the tag. **ONCE YOU HAVE SELECTED YOUR TAG OR TAGS, PLEASE SIGN YOUR NAME ON THE SHEET(S) AT THE WELCOME CENTER AFTER THE NUMBER SHOWN ON THE TAG OR TAGS YOU HAVE SELECTED.** This is very important as it lets us know who to contact in the event all tags are not returned.

After you have shopped for your child, please put your purchases in a bag or box and tie or tape the Angel Tree tag to the bag or box so we will know which child is to receive your gifts. There is a code number on the tag you choose which will identify your child. The letters "A", "B" and "C" after the tag number indicate multiple children in a family. If you have multiple bags be sure that each bag is identified with this code number. **GIFTS ARE NOT TO BE WRAPPED.** Please return them to the church by no later than **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7.** They will then be boxed and taken to the Salvation Army for distribution to the appropriate families.

Thank you very much for your help in making Christmas a little brighter for the less fortunate in our county. God Bless You All!!



Dianne Cline, Outreach Committee Chair

Daily Scripture Readings (Weeks 47 - 49)

Nov	24	Acts 17:1-18:18
	25	1 Thess. 1-5
	26	2 Thess. 1-3
	27	Acts 18:19-19:41
	28	1 Corinth. 1-4
	29	1 Corinth. 5-8
Dec	1	1 Corinth. 9-11
	2	1 Corinth. 12-14
	3	1 Corinth. 15-16
	4	2 Corinth. 1-4
	5	2 Corinth. 5-9
	6	2 Corinth. 10-13
	8	Romans 1-4; Acts 20:1-3
	9	Romans 5-8
	10	Romans 9-12
	11	Romans 13-16
	12	Acts 20:4-23:35
	13	Acts 24-26

(Taken from "Read the Bible for Life" year-long outline)

Looking Ahead....

Sunday, November 23 – “The Cross Centered Life”
1 Corinthians 1:18-25; 1 Corinthians 1:26-2:3

Sunday, November 30 – “Mercy & Grace”
Romans 9:6-16; Romans 9:19-26

Sunday, December 7 – “Christmas & Easter & Christmas”
Philippians 2:1-4; Philippians 2:5-13

Sunday, December 14 – “Not By Bread Alone”
II Timothy 3:1-7; I Timothy 3:14-17

Sunday, December 21 – “As It Was In the Beginning”
John 1:1-9; Revelations 21:1-6

Sunday, December 28 – “Once You Were No People”
I Peter 2:1-6; I Peter 2:9-10

* The first text is only read at the 10:30 service.

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Christmas Blessings

On Christmas Eve the Crothers and Schmitt families will again sponsor our meals to the community. We cook, box and deliver meals to those in our community who may be in need of a hot meal on Christmas Eve (meals on wheels does not deliver on that day). Most of our meals go to the Senior citizen apartment buildings. Last year we were honored to fix 700+ meals. We expect our numbers to be higher this year. We need help in delivering the meals. It doesn't take long, the routes are very well spelled out and normally you will be taking several meals to one location. Anyone is invited to help; being able to drive and take along a helper is a bonus. If interested in helping, please be at the Fellowship Hall between 11 and 11:15 am on Wednesday, December 24. We will leave with meals by 11:30 am. If you have questions please call: Judy Schmitt (403-1754) or Steve Crothers (438-4777) Blessings to all this Christmas season! God Is Good, All the time! Judy Schmitt