

## NEWARK CHURCH OF CHRIST

Clinton Avenue & Dr. Eugene Lawton Way  
Newark, NJ 07108  
newarkchurchofchrist.net



Our 2026 THEME...  
**MAKING JESUS OUR FOCUS,  
OUR FINISH and OUR FIX IN 2026!**  
Hebrews 12:2

Volume 64  
Number 1  
**Sunday, January 4, 2026**

## MAKING JESUS OUR FOCUS, OUR FINISH and OUR FIX IN 2026!

Greetings in the Lord, brother and sisters,

Our Theme is **"WITH GOD ON OUR SIDE, WE CAN THRIVE IN 2025!"** (Philippians 3:13, 14). The Apostle Paul while in Philippi (a city named after the father of Alexander the Great) — is incarcerated — Why? You may ask? Because he preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ — But he is not crying — in Christ he is thriving — **"And this I pray, that your love abound (grow—increase—expand—thrive)—yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment."** (1:9). He is not pouting—but in Christ, he is praying— **"Always in every prayer of mine for you all making requests with joy."** (1:4) He is not discouraged— but in Christ, he is encouraging— **"Rejoice in the Lord always, and again, I say rejoice."** (4:4). He is not depressed because of his surroundings— and since he is in Christ others are impressed— by how he handles stress— **"But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the FURTHERANCE OF THE GOSPEL."** (1:12)— i.e., I DID WHAT I DID—SO THAT THE GOSPEL MIGHT THRIVE—Some are preaching out of envy and strife to add affliction to his incarceration— **"BUT OTHER OF LOVE, KNOWING— THAT I AM SET FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE GOSPEL."** (1:17). Paul is saying— NO MATTER WHAT THE MOTIVES OF OTHERS MIGHT BE—WITH GOD ON MY SIDE— I CAN THRIVE— NO MATTER WHAT COMES MY WAY—AND I DROPPED BY TO TELL SOMEBODY— "WITH GOD ON OUR SIDE—WE CAN THRIVE IN 2025!!!"

Preacher what do you mean by THRIVE? To thrive— means to prosper—be fortunate—or successful—To thrive—means—to grow—develop vigorously—to flourish—**TO THRIVE MEANS: WITH GOD ON OUR SIDE—WE CAN—BLOOM, BLOSSOM, DEVELOP, FLOURISH, GROW, PROSPER, SUCCEED, ADVANCE, INCREASE, RADIATE, RISE, BEAR FRUIT, GO AHEAD, GET BIGGER, GO TO THE NEXT LEVEL, BE BLESSED, BE FAVORED!**

Let me highlight my text—so that I can make this theme relevant—to you—professionally and personally— **"<sup>13</sup>Brethren, I COUNT NOT myself to have apprehended: but THIS ONE THING I DO, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, <sup>14</sup>I PRESS TOWARD the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in CHRIST JESUS."** There are three **"I"s** I see in the text— **"I COUNT NOT"**—WITH GOD ON OUR SIDE, WE CAN SURVIVE IN 2025! **"THIS ONE THING I DO"** —WITH GOD ON OUR SIDE, WE CAN REVIVE IN 2025! Finally, **"I PRESS TOWARDS THE MARK"** WITH GOD ON OUR SIDE, WE CAN THRIVE IN 2025! Be Blessed!  
- Dr. Jerry G. Houston

**YOU CAN CONNECT TO OUR WIFI  
ANYWHERE IN OUR BUILDING** at any of the **NCOCGWIFI** user names.  
The password is **Acts2:38**



### THE NEWARK CHURCH OF CHRIST

### GOOD RESOLUTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR

1. **I will go to church each week** and to Bible classes on Thursday night.
2. **I will win at least one lost person to Christ** during this year. (Luke 4:17-20) **Lift the Saviour Up!**
3. **I will not rob God in my giving this year, but I will give as I have been prospered.** (Malachi 3:8)
4. **I will read and study the Bible daily.** Spread the Word!
5. **I will go to Bible School every Sunday!**

### Church Office

973-374-4563

### Fax

973-374-6704

### Church Calendar

Sunday  
Bible School  
10:00 am

### Worship Service

11:00 am

### Thursday Bible Classes

6:00 pm

Follow us on  
Social Media



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**NEWARK\_COC**

&



at  
**NEWARK  
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

We offer a free  
Bible Correspondence Course.  
Call our office for  
more info.

A Friendly  
Christ-Centered,  
Bible-believing  
Church



**THE FOODBANK ITEM IS A CAN OF GREEN BEANS FOR THIS MONTH.**



**SICK LIST AT HOME—**

Curlie Hooper, Sharon Carter, Romni Ellis, Erma Sanders, Rayfield Sanders, Shea Parker, Patricia Mills, Hattie Burney

**HOSPITALS—** Fitzgerald Lawton—Ashbrook Care & Rehab, 1610 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains NJ; Fannie Broughton—White House Nursing Home, 560 Berkeley Ave., Orange NJ, Tonya Wesley—UMDNJ, Newark NJ

**ORDER OF WORSHIP  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026**

Service Administrator  
Announcements  
Invocation  
Song Leader  
Scripture  
Prayer  
Sermon  
Administer/Prayer Requests  
Response Assistant  
Lord's Supper/Offering  
1—TJ Wood, 2—C. Holley, 3—J. Lauredent 4—R. Bendolph  
Leadership Announcements  
Benediction  
Attendance Manager  
USHERS IN MAIN LOBBY—K. Williams, P. Saint Pierre, C. Lacey  
USHERS IN OVERFLOW AUD.—N. Saint Pierre, D. Carter, A. Bygrave  
USHER IN ELEVATOR ENTRANCE—C. Holley

Luis Arias  
Andre Hart Sr.  
Pascal Saint Pierre  
Donald Chisolm  
Isasah Pernell  
Gregory Hunt  
Jerry Houston  
Andre Hart Sr.  
All Available EIT  
Adam Kar  
Weston Paton  
Clarence Holley  
Janet Wilfong

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**Multimedia**

Joshua Saint Pierre, David Kahiga, Luis Arias

**SAVE THE DATE, 56<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NORTHEASTERN YOUTH CONFERENCE**

The dates are **Fri-day—Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>—April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026**, hosted by Newark Church of Christ. Stay tuned for more information.

**THE NEXT SUNDAY LADIES BIBLE CLASS—**

**"SUBSTANCE"** with sister Mikki Taylor, will meet **Sunday, January 11, 2026** in the church fellowship hall immediately following the morning service. The cost for the **prix-fixe lunch is \$5.00 per sister**. Please see sisters Lacreasha Chamba or Daphne Best by January 4th, to make your payment. All sisters are encouraged to attend this Bible class.

**THE SICK VISITATION MINISTRY** will be visiting **Autumn Lake Healthcare**, 234 Chestnut Street, Union NJ on this **Tuesday, January 6th at 2pm**. Sister Terry Davis is in charge.

**THE YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY VISION BOARD PARTY**

The date is this **Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup> 2026, 6:00—9:00 PM** at the **Newark Church of Christ** in the Fellowship Hall. The cost is **\$10.00 per person** which covers supplies & refreshments. Please **RSVP to Aiyona Wood or Terrence Best Jr. by Sunday, January 4th, 2026**.

**NAOMI'S CIRCLE SISTERS BRUNCH**

The date is **Saturday, January 24, 2026, 11:00am—3:00pm** in the church dining hall. Naomi's Circle is designed to equip and empower women to serve in various capacities within the church through mentorship, training and spiritual development. This is a ticketed event designed as a Ministry Service job fair for Newark sisters only. The cost is **\$15.00 for buffet-style brunch** and you must **register on Eventbrite by Saturday, January 17, 2026**. Flyers are available in the front foyer.

**NEW DISCIPLES' DINNER**

The date is **Sunday, January 18th, 2026 at 2pm**, downstairs in the church fellowship hall. This is designed for the **58 persons who were baptized or placed membership with this congregation in 2025**. This dinner is **complimentary for disciples** who are new to this congregation and **\$20.00 per person for all others**. The deadline to register is Sunday, January 11th.

**RESPONSES ON LAST SUNDAY** Elliot Mitchell, A. Bygrave, M. Thompson, B. Richardson, G. Bethea and N. Cross were restored. G. Jones, C. Paton, L. Jenkins, K. Bleus, G. Graham, C. Lacey, J. Williams, S. Johnson, T. Whitley, B. Hall, S. Carter, O. Hart, R. Bendolph, E. Butler, D. Carter and A. Nesbitt requested prayer. **ONLINE** T. Grant, C. Williams, L. Arias, H. Smalls, C. hackman, C. Battle, V. Branch and R. Ray

**RESPONSES FOR 2025** 47 Baptized, 1002 Restorations/Prayer Requests, 11 Placed Memberships

**WELCOME VISITORS, WE ARE SUPER DELIGHTED  
TO HAVE YOU WITH US TODAY,  
COME AGAIN SOON.**

**CALENDAR OF SERVICES**

Bible School Sunday, 10:00 a.m.  
Worship Sunday, 11:00 a.m.  
Bible Class Thursday, 6:00 p.m.  
Website [newarkchurchofchrist.net](http://newarkchurchofchrist.net)

Cable Television in Jersey City  
Sunday, 7—7:30pm & Tuesday, 9—9:30pm, Channel 190

**We had 187 in attendance in the 11 am service on last Sunday, December 28, 2025**