



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

February 2, 2014

VOL. 79

NO. 5

Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor  
Miss Mary K. Rettig, Principal

Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181  
School: 419-598-8702 Home: 419-966-6160  
Church Website: [www.sjl.org](http://www.sjl.org)

### THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD

Sermon & Text: "The Law Must Be Upheld" *Luke 2:22-24*

Order of Service: *Divine Service, Setting One (LSB pg. 151)*

Hymns: **410 ~ 519** (Communion: **619, 712, 981**) ~ **981**

Adult Choir: "Praise to the Lord with Hearts & Voices" and "Until We Meet Again"

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### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

*Welcome to St. John Church. We thank God for this time together! We pray that the grace of God will heal your hurts; that the strength of God will give you courage to face the work before you; and that the peace of God will keep you secure and steady in Christ Jesus. Please help us get to know who you are by introducing yourself to our pastor and by filling out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you. Simply pass it to the center aisle during the offering this morning. Thank you!*

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### **SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING**

- ✠ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✠ Lexi Woods & Lydia Schroeder, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Lois Arps & Evelyn Rohrs, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Harold Behrmann & Richard Elling, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Carey Damman, Craig Drewes, Scott VanValkenburg, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Kathy Behnfeldt, Pat Maassel, Anita Badenhop, Deb Durham, *Altar Guild* ✠

### Engage Bible Study/Movie Series

Jesus told teaching stories, or parables, about regular people and everyday things that His disciples would be familiar with. But He did so to reveal deep, spiritual insights about them and their world in order to lead them into great truth about Him.



Likewise, the real stories you'll encounter in the **Engage** Bible study will challenge the way you think and may even question the way you feel, but with a profound purpose. Through short movies, Bible study and discussion, you'll learn more about yourself, those around you, and the profound love God has for you through His Son.

**Please join us this morning for a cup of coffee and our first movie, titled 'KINGS.'** Loneliness is a big problem in people's lives, and just being with other people or in a crowd is not necessarily the cure. Happily for us, our Savior has a cure. Join us.

**In God's House This Week** Online church calendar: [www.DynaCal.com/sjl](http://www.DynaCal.com/sjl)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Today	9:00 AM 10:15AM 6:00 PM	Communion Service Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "Time To Spare" Super Bowl Party
Tue.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class in gym School Board, Stewardship Board, and LWML Meetings
Wed.	10:20AM 6:15 PM 6:30 PM 6:45 PM 7:45 PM	Late Start-up ( <i>Teacher In-service at 9:00 AM</i> ) Jr. Confirmation Class ( <i>6:15 – 7:30 PM</i> ) St. John School Open House & Registration ( <i>until 7:30 PM</i> ) Adult Hand Bell practice Adult Choir practice
Thurs.	6:30 AM 9:00 AM	Men's Bible Breakfast at Hill's Restaurant Exercise Class in gym
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:15AM 1:00 PM	Worship Service w/Communion following <i>Java Joy</i> ; Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "Time To Spare" 4-H Meetings ( <i>See bulletin note</i> )
Mon.- Sat.	7:20 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. John Holyer</i> , St. Paul Lutheran, Napoleon

**MATTERS FOR PRAYER** – Please keep these people in your prayers:

- Our Homebound Shut-Ins: *Stan Moll, Marian Fitzenreiter, and Donald Landry* dealing with various health issues
- Pauline Dishop and Marie Damman*, residing at The Lutheran Home
- Magdalena Volkman*, residing at Heartland Nursing Home, Wauseon
- Lucy Rosebrock*, residing at GlennPark of Defiance
- Marian Buchhop and Annalou Brodman*, residing at Country View Haven
- Helen Norden*, residing at Greenbriar Assisted Living, Birmingham, AL
- Sue Landry*, recuperating at Twin Rivers Nursing Home, Defiance, after hospitalization
- Servicemen and women*, Justin Atkinson, Kyle Elling, Jason Rohrs, and Emily Niermann
- Arnold Bischoff and Don Dickmann*, recovering at Golden Living Center – Northcrest
- Edwin Rosebrock*, at home dealing with health issues at this time

**LWML MEETING RESCHEDULED**: Our rescheduled LWML Meeting will be on Tues., February 4<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00 PM. There will be a Bible Study based on Psalm 145 which can be found in the Quarterly located on the narthex table. Pick up a copy and come to the meeting. All women of the congregation are invited.

**CHURCH WEBSITE UPDATED**: If you have been trying to view the church bulletin, calendar, or listen to a sermon over the past few months, and have been unsuccessful, we have good news. The website should be fixed now! So log onto [www.sjl.org](http://www.sjl.org) and give it a try again! Please let us know if you are still experiencing problems, so we can help you out.

**NEW LOCK/KEY SYSTEM IN PLACE** – Yesterday the new electronic lock/key system was turned on. This system has been installed for the security of our students. It's going to take some getting used to for everyone, so please remember --- patience is a virtue! Here's what you need to know about the system.



- Old keys will no longer function, except in the narthex entry doors at the carport.
- Firewall doors from the church to the school will also be electronically locked.
- New electronic key fobs will permit access only during certain hours as programmed.
- Only staff key fobs will work during school hours. All others must enter the school through the gym entrance and use the buzzer system.
- Service people and organizations will receive keys fobs programmed for certain hours.
- Any member who needs a key fob will be able to acquire one for \$5.00 in the church office. Users need to be aware that their key activity will be logged by the computer.

**THE 2013 CHURCH ANNUAL** – There are still a handful of reports that have not been turned in by the respective officers or coaches. *Please have them turned in as soon as possible.* Also if there are any address and phone number changes, please let *Joyce Wiechers* know ASAP. Thank you to those who have already turned in your reports.

**2013 END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS** – The 2013 offering envelope contribution totals (green sheets) are available this morning on the table in the narthex. These will also be printed in the Church Annual. We hope this helps those members in need of this information for tax purposes. If you have any questions on your yearly contributions, please call *Karen Rosebrock*, at 419-592-1150.

**2014 IS AN ANNIVERSARY YEAR FOR ST. JOHN!** 145 years ago, in August of 1869, our congregation was founded. We are planning to celebrate this anniversary on August 17 of this year. In addition, we want to prepare a 145<sup>th</sup> Anniversary edition of a congregational portrait directory. Would you consider serving on a committee to make these plans? Please indicate your willingness by speaking with congregational president *Craig Drewes*.

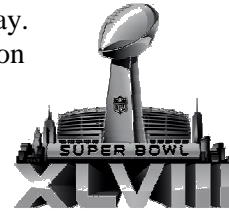
<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	<b><u>Home Fund</u></b>	<b><u>Synod &amp; Missions</u></b>	<b><u>Building Fund</u></b>
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 1/26/14	\$4,227.00	\$58.00	\$378.00

**ATTENDANCE:** 1/26/14 – 130

**ADD'L memorial for Norman Fitzenreiter:** St. John Building Fund - \$25.00

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE** is planned for grade levels PS-8 on Wed., February 5<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 to 7:30 PM, for families who would like to come and look at our school and discuss the possibility of sending their child(ren) here for their education. If anyone in the congregation might know of prospective students for Grades PS-8, please be sure to pass this information on to them. There will also be refreshments furnished by the School Board.

**SUPERBOWL PARTY TODAY** – “It’s not complicated,” the AT&T commercials say. “Bigger is better.” So the Superbowl on a 15-foot screen is better than the Superbowl on a 50-inch screen! That’s one reason you’ll want to join us for our first annual **St. John Superbowl Party** today at 6:00 pm. We’re going to clear out the north end of the fellowship hall so you can bring your favorite lawn or folding chair and watch the game with your friends from church! And if you’re only moderately interested in the game, the other end of the fellowship hall will be set up for fun and socializing --- please bring decks of cards or your favorite board games. It’s fun for all!



- **SNACK POTLUCK** – no Superbowl Party is complete without snacks, so we’re planning a “Snack Potluck.” Bring a snack to share, and remember there are plenty of outlets for plugging in crock pots, etc.
- **BEVERAGES & CONCESSIONS** – The LYF youth in partnership with the boosters is planning to have beverages and limited concessions, including popcorn; proceeds to the LYF.
- **FOR THE CHILDREN** – If the kids aren’t interested in the Superbowl, don’t let that keep you away. The LYF is planning a movie for them and some gym activities.

**PTL MEETING:** The next PTL Meeting will be held on Mon., Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the fellowship hall. Soup & Pie results as well as other business at hand will be discussed. Plan to attend!

**NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK** – Lutheran Schools are driven by a commitment to the Gospel. They meet or exceed state and national academic standards, and have educators who model visionary, servant, and spiritual leadership. The LCMS has 1,376 Early Childhood Centers; 871 Elementary Schools; and 88 High Schools hearing the message of salvation in Christ Jesus daily. So if you missed the WNDH 103.1 radio spots that the students taped for NLSW, they can be heard by going to the [www.sjl.org](http://www.sjl.org) website, scrolling down to the Lutheran School’s Week Messages, and clicking on any of the 7 messages shown. They are also linked to the “Kids Page” on the website. We would like to thank students, *Paul Sausser* (Kindergarten); *Aleeah Brown* (Gr. 1&2); *Lily Wagner* (Gr. 3&4); *Ella Griffith*, *Tyne Rosebrock*, *Cody Damman* (Gr. 5&6); and *Lydia Schroeder* (Gr. 7&8) for taking the time to compose these messages in support of Lutheran Schools Week. We also thank *Dave Kleck* from WNDH radio for conducting the live broadcast from the school on Thurs., Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>.



**SANCTUARY STAINED GLASS EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE** – After discussion through the years, the council moved last Tuesday evening to assemble an exploratory committee to look into the possibility of installing stained glass windows in the sanctuary. The committee’s task would be to explore various stained glass options and costs, and report its findings to the voters. If you would like to serve on this committee, please speak with congregational president *Craig Drewes* or *Pastor Niermann*.

**ST. JOHN SCRIP:** Beginning January 2014, SCRIP orders will be placed once a month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month. The next “turn in date” for SCRIP orders is Wed., Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>. These cards will be available the first part of that next week. Contact *Karen Gerken* at 567-454-0087 with any questions about Scrip.

**LADIES QUILTING PARTY** is planned for all day Monday, Feb. 17. There will be blanket knotting for those that do not wish to quilt. We will start at 9:00 AM. All ladies of the congregation are invited. You can come and stay all day or just part of the day; whatever fits your schedule.

**KINDERGARTEN CLINIC & ELIGIBILITY CHANGES** for students entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2014! The K-clinic will be held on Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> with afternoon sessions. If numbers warrant, the clinic sessions will be at 12:30 PM and 1:45 PM. There WILL BE Kindergarten class until 11:30 AM on April 1<sup>st</sup>. **Napoleon Area Schools and St. John Lutheran have changed the eligibility date for entering Kindergarten beginning with the 2014-15 school year. The new eligibility is: A child must be five years old on or before August 1, 2014 to enroll in Kindergarten.** Items needed for our St. John clinic are: An original and/or certified copy of their birth certificate; a physical dated after August 2013 (*if available*); immunization records; Social Security number; child custody documents if applicable; and the baptism date/baptismal certificate, or dedication date. *NOTE: If your child is enrolled in our Preschool program, we already have the items listed above and you will not need to bring them the day of the clinic.*

**4-H CLUB ORGANIZATION**: The Gerald Busy Fingers, Cloverbuds, and Freedom Royal Farmers 4-H Clubs will be having their first 4-H meetings on Sun., Feb. 9 beginning at 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. 4-H membership is open to anyone in Gr.3 – to age 19 and Cloverbuds is open to anyone in Gr.K-2. For more information about joining 4-H or the Cloverbuds please contact any of the following Advisors: *Bethann Gerken, Becky Michaelis, Kaylee Wentworth, Heather Bostelman, or Jennifer Gerken* (for Gerald Busy Fingers) and *Pat Wiemken* (for Freedom Royal Farmers).

**'BREAD FROM HEAVEN'** – Contributions can be given at any time: monetary gifts can be given to the *Good Neighbor Fund* (note it on your envelope), and **food gifts such as canned fruit (peaches, pears, pineapple), cereal, mac & cheese, jelly, spaghetti's, tuna, and canned chicken are desperately needed.** Any and all contributions are always greatly appreciated. Food items can be placed in the box near the archives display.

**THE LUTHERAN HOUR** – The Lutheran Hour Ministries can be heard on several radio stations in our area. They cover many interesting topics relevant to today's issues. Broadcasts can be heard Sundays on: Holland's WPOS 102.3 at 7:00 AM; Archbold's WMTR 96.1 at 7:30 AM; Defiance's WONW (AM)1280 at 10:30 AM; Napoleon's WNDH 103.1 at 12:00 PM.

**"WORSHIP FOR SHUT-INS"** – As of 2/03/13, Worship for Shut-Ins moved to a new station and time. It will now air on Buckeye cable channel 167 at 11:30 AM on Sundays. Don't get Buckeye cable? You can go to [www.worshipforshutins.org](http://www.worshipforshutins.org) and watch from your computer, or by connecting us to your local Public Access station in your community (*i.e. – Napoleon, Defiance*). If you have a relative or friend who is homebound, hospitalized, or recovering from a recent surgery, you may suggest this 30-minute LCMS worship service to them.

**BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS** need to be turned in to the office by Wednesday of each week in order to be included in the Sunday bulletin. Please make a note of this. Thank you!

**USE OF THE FELLOWSHIP HALL** – If you would like to use the Fellowship Hall for any occasion or would like to borrow tables or chairs, on a certain date this year, **please contact the church/school office at 419-598-8961 or 419-598-8702.** In addition to calling the office, you may want to check the online church calendar at <http://www.dynacal.com/sjl/>.

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** For anyone wishing to place flowers on the altar for Sunday worship, please contact *Mabel Bischoff* at 419-598-8757. Remember that it is your responsibility to call Mabel either way; if you would like the Ladies Aid to order the flowers or if you are going to take care of ordering the flowers yourself. This will alleviate any confusion.

**OHIO ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN:** The Ohio Division OGT is located in the north end of the Culligan Water Conditioning building on Independence Drive in Napoleon. Someone is usually there to receive items on the first Tuesday of the month from 9:00-11:00 AM. If you need to drop off items at another time, please contact *Nancy Helmke* (419-758-3539), *Diann Meyer-Grieser* (419-267-3485), *Vicki Grieser* (419-445-2986), or *Harold Behrmann* (419-598-8311) and they will be happy to meet you and open the facility to receive your donations! PLEASE do not drop off items at the warehouse when it is closed. Thank you!

**BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION, AND POP TABS:** Our school collects *Box Tops For Education*, and aluminum pop tabs all year long. *Box Tops For Education* is an ongoing PTL fundraiser earning 10¢ per box top for the PTL; and pop tabs are collected for the Ronald McDonald House in Toledo. There are collection boxes in the school office for each of these. **NOTE: Please turn in your Labels For Education and Box Tops For Education labels in separate Ziploc bags or envelopes.**

**TURN YOUR OLD USED CELL PHONE INTO A GIFT FOR THE POOR AND FOR YOUR CHURCH!**

Informed sources tell us that the average American household has 5 to 6 old unused cell phones lying around. Now you can put those phones to good use AND keep them out of the landfills. Bring them to church and deposit them in the large white box in the narthex. They will be forwarded to a company that sorts them and prepares them to be given to poor families for emergency use, and sends us a check. Old cell phones range in value from \$1 up to \$50.



**PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST:** The Napoleon Fire & Rescue Association invites you to their Annual Pancake & Sausage Breakfast at the fire station on Sun., Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> with serving from 7:00 AM – 1:00 PM. See flyer on bulletin board for more info!

**CHICKEN PIE DINNER** – The Ridgeville American Legion Post #454 will host their annual Chicken Pie Dinner on Sun., Feb. 16 with serving from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. See flyer!

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

***Definition of a Christian: Under new management.***

*“But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.” (Eph. 2:13)*