



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom
Worship • Stewardship • Mission

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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

EASTER SUNDAY – The Resurrection of our Lord

- **7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service:** *Printed order of service*
Sermon & Text: "He is Arisen and We Shall Arise" *1 Corinthians 15:20-22*
Hymns: 474 ~ 457 ~ 903 ~ 482 ~ 525 ~ 461 ~ 477
Choirs: Adult Choir – "He Is Risen, Hallelujah," "Crown Him Lord This Easter Day,"
and "He Is Not Here"; Adult Bell Choir – "Fanfare for Easter"
- **9:30 a.m. Easter Festival Service:** *Printed order of service*
Sermon & Text: "Earthshaking News!" *Matthew 28:1-10*
Hymns: 457 ~ 466 ~ 633 (Communion: 469, 475, 477) ~ 488 ~ 465
Adult Choir: "Crown Him Lord This Easter Day," "He Is Risen, Hallelujah!"

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS *CHRIST IS RISEN – HE IS RISEN INDEED! We greet those who are visiting with us today in the name of our Risen Savior. We are gathered as a community of Christians. Our center is Jesus Christ. We are here to know again the touch of His forgiving and healing hand. 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!*



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- 1st Service: ✘ Jacob Gillen & Lexi Woods, *Acolytes* ✘
✘ Abigail Weller, *Crucifer*; Holly Weller, *Banner Bearer* ✘
2nd Service: ✘ Lexi Woods & Mitchell Kruse, *Acolytes* ✘
✘ Jacob Gillen, *Crucifer*; Brady Gerken, *Banner Bearer* ✘
- ✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘
✘ Delbert & Marian Damman, *Visitation* ✘
✘ Lois Arps & Evelyn Rohrs, *Greeters* ✘
✘ Dave Badenhop, Denny VonDeylen, Jerry Short, Dan Wiechers, *Ushers* ✘
✘ Linda Riefers, Marian Damman, Ruth Mahnke, Mabel Bischoff, *Altar Guild* ✘

In God's House This Week		<i>Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl</i>
Date	Time	Activities
Today	7:00 AM 8:00 AM 9:30 AM	Easter Sunrise Service; Offering: <i>Synod & Missions Fund (both services)</i> Fellowship Breakfast for everyone – Freewill Offering! (Till 9:15 AM) Easter Festival Service with Communion
Mon.	7:00 PM	NO SCHOOL – Easter Break 145 th Anniversary Committee Meeting
Tue.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class in gym LWML Society Meeting (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Wed.	8:30 AM 6:15 PM 6:45 PM 7:45 PM	OAA Testing for Gr. 3-8 (<i>Reading</i>) Junior Confirmation Class (6:15 – 7:30 PM) Adult Hand Bell Practice Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	8:30 AM 9:00 AM 4:00 PM	OAA Testing for Gr. 3-8 (<i>Math</i>) Exercise Class in gym Confirmand Mini-Retreat, Lord's Supper (<i>until 7:00 PM</i>)
Fri.	8:30 AM	OAA Testing for Gr. 5-8 (<i>Science</i>)
Sat.	9:00 AM	Confirmation Banner Making (<i>until 11:50 AM</i>)
Sun.	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:30AM 1:00 PM 3:00 PM 4:30 PM	Early Worship Service Sunday School; Adult Bible Class; “ <i>Time To Spare</i> ” Late Worship Service 4-H Meetings Open House – 50 th Wedding Anniversary of <i>Larry & Pat Mahnke</i> LYF Meeting in <i>Miss Rettig's</i> classroom
Mon.- Sat.	7:20 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: Rev. Joshua Schmidt, St. John Lutheran, Defiance

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

- Our Homebound Shut-Ins: *Stan Moll, Marian Fitzenreiter, and Donald & Sue Landry*
- 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 *Anna Brodman*, residing at Country View Haven
- Helen Norden*, residing at Greenbriar Assisted Living, Birmingham, AL
- Servicemen and women*, Justin Atkinson, Kyle Elling, Jason Rohrs, and Emily Niermann
- Edwin Rosebrock*, at home dealing with health issues at this time
- Casen Lawrence*, as he has had on-going seizures resulting in hospitalization
- Florence Jones*, recuperating at home following a pacemaker implant
- Norma Damman*, rehabbing at Henry County Hospital following a fractured hip

BIBLE STUDY & SUNDAY SCHOOL ARE CANCELLED TODAY and will resume next Sunday.

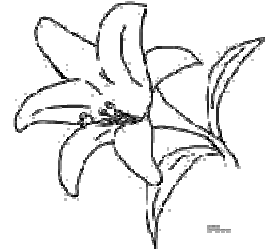
ALTAR FLOWERS are placed today in celebration of the 65th Wedding Anniversary of *Donald & Delores Badenhop* which happens to be on Mon., April 21st. These flowers are given by their family who congratulates them and wishes them many more happy years of marriage. Congratulations Don and Delores and Happy Easter!

FAMILY BEGINNINGS: *Aaron & Ashley Crall* would like to announce the arrival of their first child, a little boy, *Avery James*, born on Tuesday, April 8th at Henry County Hospital. All are doing well and adjusting as a new family. Congrats to the Crall's!

CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

**This is the feast of victory for our God, for Christ, who was slain,
has burst His three-day prison!**

We give thanks to God for everyone who has made this day such a joyous celebration of our new life in the risen Savior – the musicians and choirs, altar guild and acolytes, greeters and ushers, those who supplied breakfast food and those who prepared it, and all who had a hand in preparing the church for this day. Today we pull out all the stops to celebrate. **Let the good news of Easter ring forth within these walls and be sounded forth by us in our world – Christ is risen indeed!**



EASTER BREAKFAST – The Easter Breakfast will be served between the two services this morning from 8:00 to 9:15 AM. The menu is: *Scrambled eggs and ham, French bread, coffee cake, doughnuts, rolls, cookies, coffee and juice.* There will be a freewill donation (with Thrivent Matching Funds) which assists the LWML in their Adopt-A-Seminarian program and also Christian Growth.

EASTER OFFERINGS – Offerings on Easter morning that are not specifically designated on the offering of the envelope will be applied to the Synod & Missions Fund.

EASTER FLOWERS – Those who bought Easter flowers to beautify the sanctuary for Easter are listed in the bulletin insert today. You may take your flowers home after the Easter Festival Service (2nd Service) today. Thank you once again!

NEW SUNDAY SCHEDULE BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY

Beginning next Sunday, April 27 we will have a new morning schedule that includes two worship services with Sunday School between. The new schedule will be:

- 8:15 a.m. Early Service
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School / Time to Spare / Bible Study (45 minutes)
- 10:30 a.m. Late Service

NEW ARCHIVES DISPLAY: With the upcoming celebration of our church's 145th Anniversary, the Archives committee has collected pictures & information from the first 75 years of the church's history and placed it in their display cases. The pictures are of past pastors, past teachers, the old church and the old school. We even found Miss Schick's whistle and pictures of track teams and baseball teams. Stop by and check it out!

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP – The co-chairmen for all three groups of annual church cleaning would like to thank everyone who helped with this year’s cleaning. We appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedules to help with this project. We had good turnouts and everything looks great!

THANK YOU – Many, many thank you’s to those who spring cleaned the kitchen and fellowship hall. I love all the “shine.” Also, thank you for all the donations of food and goodies to the school lunch program. The students and I appreciate every bit of it. God’s blessings to you all, *Liza Gerken*

NEW SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES

The Means of Grace – (*This study is intended to fill in a little time as we prepare for our next bigger study, “The Screwtape Letters” - see below*). God seems to have a fondness for doing His greatest work through the most ordinary means – with mud He healed the blind; with a word from His mouth he raised the dead; with wood and nails He redeemed the world. And now with water, bread and wine He comes to us, simply but powerfully.

The Screwtape Letters – In this classic book by C.S. Lewis we meet Screwtape, a fictitious devil with vast experience in the art of temptation. In a series of 31 letters, he teaches his craft to an apprentice devil by the name of Wormwood. It is a fascinating and eye-opening look into the craftiness of our enemy as he works tirelessly to draw us away from our Savior.



This Bible study will be modeled as a book club. Everyone is encouraged to purchase a copy of this book (used copies are available on Amazon.com for a few dollars), or download the free Kindle edition at <http://www.epubbud.com/book.php?g=UH6Q68D3> (this link is available at [sjl.org](http://www.sjl.org)). Each week we will read a few of the letters, then come together on Sundays to discuss what we’ve read, and to compare it with God’s Word. This is a classic piece of literature that every Christian ought to read. Get your copy ordered or downloaded soon.

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 145th Anniversary edition of a congregational portrait directory. Would you consider serving on a committee to make these plans? Please indicate your willingness at today’s voters’ meeting or speak with congregational president Craig Drewes. *Our first meeting will be Monday, April 21 – please note the change!*

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	<u>Home Fund</u>	<u>Synod & Missions</u>	<u>Building Fund</u>
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 4/13/14	\$7,798.00	\$258.00	\$613.00

ATTENDANCE: 4/13/14 – 308

GRANDPARENT’S DAY: A reminder that Grandparent’s Day at St. John School for Grades K-8 will be held on **Friday, May 9** from 12:30 - 3:00 PM. *Lunch is not included.*

IS IT TIME FOR A ST. JOHN GARAGE SALE? The idea came up at Church Council about having a combined garage sale. We haven't done this for a number of years, and we all have accumulated 'stuff' that we could do without, so the timing seems right. Since the mats are already in the gym for the school musical, we thought a June date would be good. **However, we need someone to take a leadership role and assemble a team to coordinate this effort.** If you would like to step into this role, please speak with Pastor Niermann or president Craig Drewes.



CHURCH LIBRARY – The church library, located in the hall next to the sanctuary, is growing to contain a lot of excellent books that will edify your faith. The books in this library have been screened to assure that they are true to the Word of God and can be trusted to be theologically sound. Please check out the selection. To borrow a book, just take it with you, then return it to the basket when you've finished reading.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE VICAR – It won't be long until we welcome a Vicar into our midst, probably mid-August. To get ready for his ministry among us, there are number of things we need to get accomplished.

1. **Office** - A temporary partition wall will section off about 8 ft. of the room currently used for quilting.
2. **Apartment** – We need to locate an unfurnished apartment (preferably two bedrooms to accommodate a few children) in or near Napoleon. Once we know who our Vicar is and his situation, we will have time to pull some items together if necessary to furnish what he will need. Please speak with Pastor Niermann if you know of any apartments that would be suitable for a Vicar and can be occupied starting August 1.
3. **Support** – Together we all need to get used to the idea of a second church staff member and what that means for the finances. Along with exciting possibilities comes additional responsibilities, and we pray that everyone will be forthcoming in their financial and prayer support for a Vicar's ministry among us.



LWML MEETING: *Mite-y Socks* are still available on the narthex table so pick up your *Mite-y Sock* today! Pick up a copy of your Quarterlies from the table in the narthex. The next LWML Meeting will be on **Tues., April 22nd** starting at 7:00 PM. The Bible study will be "Hope and a Future." All ladies welcome to attend!

LADIES NIGHT OUT: The Stewardship Board is hosting a Ladies Night Out fundraiser for the "Right Hand of Fellowship" gift matching campaign. This will be held on Mon., May 5th from 6:00-8:30 PM in the fellowship hall. This will be a fun-filled evening for all the ladies to enjoy! Invitations were mailed so sign up to come on the signup sheet at the narthex table.

OPEN HOUSE: There will be an Open House celebration for Larry & Pat Mahnke's 50th Wedding Anniversary hosted by their family on Sun., April 27th from 3:00-5:00 PM in the south end of the fellowship hall. All are welcome to come and wish Larry & Pat congratulations, visit with relatives and friends, and have some light refreshments.

S.T.O.P. PENNY DRIVE – The PTL Spring Penny Drive at St. John School has begun. This will run thru Fri., May 9th. The classroom collecting the most pennies will be treated to a pizza party. All other classrooms will get an ice cream party. Save those pennies and give them to one of our students or turn your pennies in at the school office. **NOTE: *Since starting this fundraiser in October 1992, the PTL has now raised \$15,639.06 for the school. Save Those Old Pennies!***

BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION, AND POP TABS: Our school also 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. They too have expanded their sponsors, so be sure to check over your grocery items carefully so you don't miss any box tops. The pop tabs collected all go to support 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. Do not combine them.*** Thank you!

CHURCH HISTORY BOOKS – If at any time during the year you need a gift for a current or former member of St. John, why not consider one of our Church History Books. This book is full of interesting facts about St. John's and is available in the church office at a cost of \$12.00.

“WORSHIP FOR SHUT-INS”: “Worship for Shut-Ins” has joined the WLMB-TV40 line up. 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. So tune in to WLMB-TV40 on Sundays at 6:30 AM and get your Sunday started off right!

THE LUTHERAN HOUR – The Lutheran Hour Ministries can be heard on several radio stations in our area. Broadcasts can be heard Sundays on: 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.

4-H MEETINGS – The Gerald Busy Fingers 4-H Club, the Freedom Royal Farmers 4-H Club (Grades 3-12), and the Cloverbuds (Grades K-2) will be having their next meeting on Sun., April 27 at 1:00 PM at St. John Lutheran School.

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN BENEFIT - The Ohio Division OGT is sponsoring a Drive-thru Beef Brisket Dinner on Sun., May 4th at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1075 Glenwood Ave., Napoleon, from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM (*or until they run out*). Freewill donation with Thrivent Matching Funds.

HOSPICE BAZAAR: The 8th Annual Hospice of Henry Co. Bazaar will be held on Wed. and Thurs., May 14 & 15 at the Napoleon American Legion. All live auction donations must be received by May 1st. They are accepting donations of silent auction items, handmade wooden items, craft or needlework items or baked goods and pies for the day of the bazaar. See flyer for all the details!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Easter is more than something to dye for!

“...whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.” (Matt. 10:39)