



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

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School: 419-598-8702 Home: 419-966-6160
Church Website: www.sjl.org

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sermon & Text: "BIG" *Ephesians 5:1*
Order of Service (EARLY): *Matins (LSB Pg. 219)*
Order of Service (LATE): *See printed Service Folder*
Hymns: 685 ~ 857 ~ 966, *Sts. 1,2,5 ~ 965*
Children's Choir: *Gr. K-7 sing "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"*

WELCOME TO OUR VETERANS & VISITORS

On this Memorial Day Weekend, welcome to this service of worship in which we remember, with reverence and thanksgiving, those who gave their lives for our country. Above all, however, we would remember Him whose love includes people of all nations—our Lord Jesus who gave His life for all of us. May the remembrance of His sacrifice bring reconciliation and peace! If you are visiting with us this morning, please fill out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and pass it to the center aisle during the offering.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✠ 1st Service: ✠ Grace Norden, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ 2nd Service: ✠ Anna Gerken & Cally Bialorucki, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Ron & Elaine Hesterman, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Eldor & Rozella Gruenhagen, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Denny Bockelman, Jeff Buchhop, Dave Myles, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Lois Rosebrock, Karen Germann, Diana Kruse, Mary Kossow, *Altar Guild* ✠

GRADUATION CLASS OF 2014 – The Altar Flowers are placed today in honor of the eighth grade graduating class of St. John. The 2014 graduates are:

Conner Joseph Bialorucki
Jacob Hunter Gillen
Lydia Elynn Schroeder
Zachary Michael Towne

Aaron Michael Manning Bostelman
Alexander James Knepley
Logan S. Sidle
Alexis Skyler Woods

CONGRATULATIONS from everyone at St. John!

In God's House This Week		<i>Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl</i>
Date	Time	Activities
Today	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:30AM	Early Worship Service Sunday School; “ <i>Time To Spare</i> ” Late Worship Service; 8 th Grade Graduation Ceremony & Reception
Mon.	10:30AM	NO SCHOOL due to observance of Memorial Day Memorial Day Service at Ridgeville American Legion
Tue.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Board of Elders
Thur.	9:00 AM 11:30AM 7:00 PM	Last Student day of school Exercise Class Field Day events – Grades K-8; 1:00 PM Closing Chapel Service; Kindergarten Graduation; Academic Awards; 2:00 PM Early Dismissal Joint Ascension Day Service at St. Paul Lutheran, Liberty Center
Sun.	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:30AM 1:00 PM	Early Communion Service Sunday School; Adult Bible Class; “ <i>Time To Spare</i> ” Late Communion Service 4-H Meetings (<i>All Clubs</i>)
Mon.- Sat.	7:20 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. James Strawn</i> , St. James Lutheran, Archbold

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
- 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
- Norma Damman*, rehabbing at home following a fractured hip
- Lucy Rosebrock*, at Henry County Hospital with health complications

A NEW ARRIVAL: *Jason & Andrea Oyer* are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, *Henley Lu*, this past Wednesday, May 21st at Henry County Hospital. Mother and baby are both doing fine and big brothers, *Maddox and Stryker*, are eager to be “helpers” for mom and dad. Grandparents, *Glenn & Kathy Badenhop* are also enjoying the arrival of little Henley into their family. Congrats!

LADIES AID SCHOLARSHIPS: Here is another opportunity to encourage and help young people prepare for service to the church as pastors, teachers, lay workers, deaconesses, and parish workers. \$500 per year Ladies Aid Scholarships are available to any young person attending one of our synodical schools. Simply contact any Ladies Aid member for more details about this.

VBS NOTES – VBS 2014 is scheduled for evenings of June 8-12 (Sun. to Thurs.)

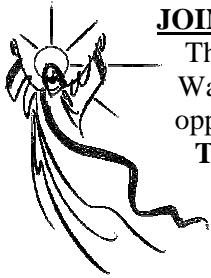
- **Staff can sign up** using the form online at www.sjl.org or pick up a form at the narthex table
- **VBS students can be registered** using the enrollment brochure in the narthex, or online by following the above link on the church website.
- **Would you SPONSOR CRAFTS for an evening?** We're looking for five individuals to sponsor an evening of crafts for the VBS students, at \$35 per evening. If you'd like to do this, use one of the craft sponsorship envelopes in the narthex and drop it in the forms box.
- **Would you help PROVIDE SNACKS?** In the narthex today is a snack shopping list of items needed. Sign up for whatever you'd like and bring it to the narthex next Sunday.

2014 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES – This morning in the late service we recognize the 2014 High School graduates from St. John and remember with them their confirmation theme. The confirmation class of 2010 included *Connor Gerken, Amber Gruenhagen, Saige Moyer, Courtney Shields, Holly Weller, and Zach Willeman*. May God richly bless these young people as they take the next step in their lives, and no matter where the path takes them, may it always be the path that leads them to their home in heaven. May Jesus always be their Way!



<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 5/18/14	\$8,502.00	\$365.50	\$555.50

ATTENDANCE: 5/18/14 – 1st Service: 124 2nd Service: 194



JOINT ASCENSION SERVICE – This Thursday, May 29

This year once again, our congregation is getting together with Emmaus, St. Luke's Wauseon and St. Paul, Liberty Center to provide an Ascension Day worship opportunity. **This Communion service will be held at St. Paul, Liberty Center on Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m.** Ascension Day marks the transformation of Jesus' presence among His people, for "He ascended far above the heavens, that He might fill all things." (*Eph. 4:10*) Please join us for this worship opportunity with brothers and sisters in Christ from around our circuit!

UPDATE ON PREPARATIONS FOR THE VICAR – Last week the Church Council appointed a task force to work on everything that needs to be done to receive and welcome Vicar ***Reed & Emily Shoaff*** at the beginning of August. Here are a few things of note:

- During July we will gather pantry items to stock their pantry before they arrive.
- Induction of Vicar Shoaff will take place in both services on Sunday, August 3rd.
- On that Sunday, we will have a reception between services that will include a baby shower – watch for more details.
- Sauder Manufacturing has graciously donated office furniture for the vicar. The building committee will be working soon to partition off the vicar's office.
- Reed Shoaff is already looking forward to getting here and serving, and plans are underway for enhancing ministry during his presence here.

SCREWTAPE LETTERS Bible Study begins next Sunday, June 1

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). 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, and we'll begin this study in a few weeks or so.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: There will be no Sunday School for the months of June, July, and August. We will resume Sunday School the first Sunday in September, which will be promotion Sunday.

TAKE THE DAY OFF...

- **Who:** Anyone who would like to spend an enjoyable, interesting, educational afternoon. Bring a friend to share the day!
- **What?** The Miami & Erie Canal Boat & Isaac Ludwig Mill with optional lunch.
- **Where?** The Providence Metro park at Grand Rapids, OH
- **When?** Thursday, June 12, 2014 – Lunch at 11:00 AM; Boat and Mill at 12:30 PM.
- **How?** Detailed flyer and sign up sheet on the table in narthex.

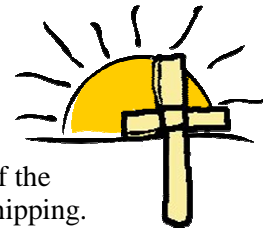
This enjoyable day is being organized by your St. John Ladies Aid. Please join us on June 12th!

PRAYER CALENDAR NOTE: Please be aware that if you would like your wedding anniversaries printed on the prayer calendars, you will have to post them each year. Just list them on the blank calendars posted on the bulletin board in the narthex throughout the year. Thank you!

SUMMER EVENING PRAISE – *Beginning Thursday, June 5*

This summer a worship service will be held each Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. The theme of worship will be that for the following Sunday. Communion will be held on the Thursdays prior to Communion Sundays.

At these services we encourage worshippers to sit forward on the pulpit side of the sanctuary so that we may lend support to one another in our singing and worshipping.



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.

INTERESTED IN A CHURCH PROFESSION? WE'D LIKE TO HELP! Recently a number of young people from St. John have pursued educational goals to prepare them for full-time service as teachers and pastors. If you are interested in a church profession (*as a pastor, deaconess, teacher, lay minister, or a Director of Christian Education, Christian Outreach, Parish Music, or Family Life Ministry*), our congregation would like to support you by offering a tuition gift. An application for this gift is available online --- type www.sjl.org/student_gift_app.pdf into your browser (*there is no link*) and fill out the application. **Deadline for fall enrollment is June 1st.**

“WORSHIP FOR SHUT-INS”: “Worship for Shut-Ins” has joined the WLMB-TV40 line up again. 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 (*note time change*) and get your Sunday started off right!

FIELD DAY: The St. John Field Day will be held on Thurs., May 29th beginning at 11:30 AM. Closing Chapel and Kindergarten Graduation will begin at 1:00 PM. We welcome any high school students (*who are done w/exams*) and seniors to come at 11:15 AM and help with Field Day. If possible, we'd like you to stay for the Closing Chapel Service too.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL AT ST. JOHN will be **Thurs., May 29th** with early dismissal at 2:00 PM. Closing Day festivities include: Closing chapel at 1:00 PM; as well as Kindergarten graduation, awards, prizes. All parents are welcome to come. This is for students in K-garten through Grade 8. Academic and Attendance Awards will be handed out as well as other awards. **Please note: This service will include Kindergarten Graduation.**

REPORT CARDS can be picked up in an envelope (*one per family*) in the narthex on Sun., June 15th. Parents of tuition students may pick up report cards the week of June 16 in the office from 10 to noon.

REGISTRATION UNDERWAY: The 7th *Annual Stephanie Lynn Kossow Memorial Golf Outing* will be held on Sat., July 26th, with a 1:00 PM shotgun start. Registration is underway and flyers are available on the table and desk in the narthex. Hope to see you there!

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE: The Ridgeville Corners Memorial Day service to remember those who served our country will be held on **Mon., May 26 at 10:30 AM** at the Ridgeville American Legion. **The Ridgeville Community Choir** will sing two anthems that morning and will practice at 9:45 AM at the Legion Hall prior to the program. Please join them if interested!

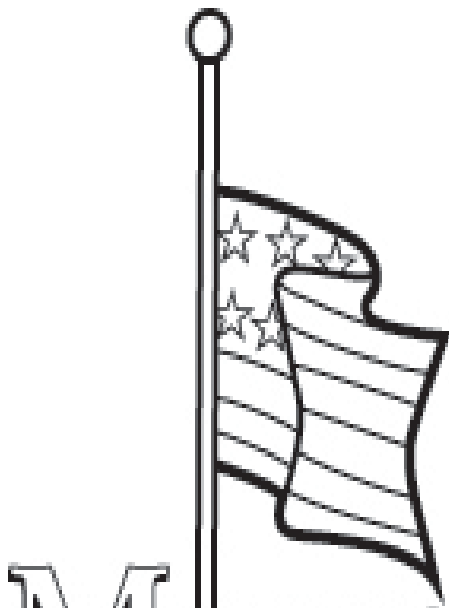
ICE CREAM SOCIAL: **St. John Lutheran Church, Stryker**, is sponsoring their LYF Ice Cream Social on Sunday, June 15th from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM at the Church Family Center. See flyer!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Smile - it improves your face value.

“A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.” (Prov. 17:22)



Memorial Day

