



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

August 16, 2015

VOL. 80

NO. 33

Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor  
Mr. Aaron Yaeger, Vicar  
Miss Mary K. Rettig, Interim Principal

Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181  
989-607-4566  
School: 419-598-8702 Cell: 419-966-6160  
Church Website: www.sjl.org

### TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "What Kind of Life Does Jesus Give?" *John 6:51-69*

Order of Service: *See printed Service folder*

Hymns: 726 ~ 625 ~ [Communion: "Blessed Jesus, Living Bread," 526,642] ~ 696

\*\*\*\*\*

### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

*Now is the hour of worship. God speaks to us and we listen and respond with our hymns, prayers and praises. Together we bless the Lord whose purpose is to save us and keep us in His faithful flock. He is The God of Grace and The God of Glory. If you are visiting with us today, 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 this morning.*

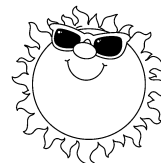
\*\*\*\*\*



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

- ✠ Maggie Weller & Emily Bostelman, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Clara Meyer & Phyllis Silveus, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Delbert & Marian Damman, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Denny Bockelman, Jeff Buchhop, Dave Myles, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Linda Riefers, Marian Damman, Ruth Mahnke, Mabel Bischoff, *Altar Guild* ✠

**OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE 2015** – On Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup> we'll gather outdoors in the old school yard for our annual outdoor service. Worship that day will be held at 10:30 a.m. followed by a congregational meal in the fellowship hall. The meat will be provided for this meal – just bring as side dish, salad or dessert to share if you can. Following the meal there will be an auction to raise funds for the Right Hand of Fellowship campaign. **Be sure to join us for this special congregational event!**



**ARCHIVES COMMITTEE MEETING:** The Archives Committee would like to schedule a meeting on Mon., Aug. 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the fellowship hall.

<b>In God's House This Week</b>		<i>Online church calendar: <a href="http://www.DynaCal.com/sjl">www.DynaCal.com/sjl</a></i>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare"
Tue.	9:00 AM	Exercise Class
Thurs.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Thursday Evening Praise
Fri.	9:00 AM	Staff Meeting
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Adult Bible Class; Classrooms open (till 11:00 AM); Pay school fees; Preschool Open House (till 12:30 PM)
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Theodore Rellstab</i> , St. John Lutheran, Holgate

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

- ❖ Our Shut-Ins: *Stan Moll, Marian Fitzenreiter, Donald Landry, and Norma Damman*
- ❖ *Pauline Dishop, Marie Damman, and Delora Winkelman*, at The Lutheran Home, Napoleon
- ❖ *Magdalena Volkman*, residing at Heartland Nursing Home, Wauseon
- ❖ *Anna Brodman and Marian Buchhop* residing at Country View Haven
- ❖ *Helen Norden*, residing at Greenbriar Assisted Living, Birmingham, AL
- ❖ Servicemen *Justin Atkinson, Kyle Elling, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, and Connor Gerken*
- ❖ *Don Dickmann*, recuperating at The Orchards of Northcrest – Napoleon
- ❖ *Melba Elling and Henry Gerken*, mourning the loss of their brother, Waldo Gerken

**OFFICE HOURS:** The church/school summer office hours will be Monday thru Friday: 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM. If making a special trip, please call (419-598-8961) to guarantee someone will be there.

**WOMEN OF FREEDOM:** The Women of FREEDOM will not be meeting in August. Our next meeting will be Thurs., Sept. 10. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend!

<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 8/09/15	\$7,080.00	\$184.00	\$1,316.00

**ATTENDANCE:** Thursday Evening Service: 40; 8/09/15 Service: 167

**WHERE CHRISTIANITY MEETS CULTURE...**Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL. This week's subjects include: The 2016 Presidential Race & Social Issues, Does the Bible Support Abortion Rights?, The Hook-Up Culture, The Marvel Movies & the Apostle's Creed, Christians & Minecraft and more. You can listen at your convenience at [www.issuesetc.org](http://www.issuesetc.org) and on the new LPR mobile app.

**VICAR SHOAFF'S ADDRESS:** For anyone wishing to send *Vicar Shoaff & Emily* a note or just communicate with them, here is their new mailing address: 1912 Vance Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN 46805. You can also email them at [ReedShoaff@gmail.com](mailto:ReedShoaff@gmail.com).

## **WILLING SERVANTS STILL NEEDED FOR OUR NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL MINISTRY**

“**CROSS EXPLORATIONS**” (*CE*) is a curriculum and a new model for Sunday School (grades K-6) published by *Concordia Publishing House*. Instead of traditional classrooms, *CE* places students into two groups (grades K-3 and 4-6) who rotate to three different sites called **Engage** (a worship opening), **Explore** (the day’s Bible lesson) and **Express** (activities related to the day’s lesson).

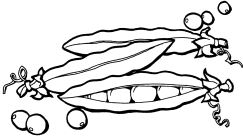


We would like to form at least three *CE Teams*, who would then lead the Sunday School on a rotating basis. Each team would consist of...

- **One ENGAGE Leader** – leads all students, grades K-6, in an opening worship from approximately 10:15 to 10:25 a.m. (including hymns, songs, readings, etc.)
- **Four EXPLORE Leaders** (a leader and a helper for each group) – lead the day’s Bible lesson from 10:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. (materials similar to what we’ve been using).
- **Two EXPRESS Leaders** – collaborate to lead the activities in the gym related to the day’s lesson from 10:50 to 11:05 a.m. Activities may include crafts, games, or skits.

You can sign up in the narthex to volunteer. **Or if you’re still not sure and want to learn more, join us for our initial meeting this morning after worship in the fellowship hall.** Also be sure to look over the sample materials in the narthex. If you’d like to volunteer on a *CE Team*, you can sign up at the display table in the narthex, and feel free to up for more than one team.

**SHARE THE BOUNTY - GARDEN PRODUCE SHARING** – If your garden is producing more than you can eat, how about sharing the bounty with your friends in faith here at St. John. Each Sunday there is a table under the carport where you can place any food you bring. Share what you have, and also take what you can use. It’s a great way for us to share the bounty of God’s good gifts!



**AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED** – Again this year, the Stewardship Board is planning a *Right Hand of Fellowship* fundraising auction in connection with the outdoor service on Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup> (proceeds to be matched). Please be thinking about items you might be able to donate. We will begin collecting those items in August.

**LWML FALL RETREAT** – The Fall Retreat will be held on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, at St. John Family Center, Stryker, from 9:00 – 2:00 PM, with registration beginning at 8:30 AM. Registration fee is \$12.00 which includes lunch. Registration forms are available on the table in the narthex. Sign up deadline is Friday, Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>. See flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

**COLLEGE STUDENT ADDRESSES:** If your son or daughter has or will soon be heading off to college, please notify the church office so we can have a record of where they are attending. This way we will be able to mail them the church newsletter. This will be our means of keeping them informed on church happenings. You can either call the church office or e-mail [jwiechers@sjl.org](mailto:jwiechers@sjl.org).

**YOUR FAMILY TREE:** Through the years, some people have wondered about their family ancestry. Who were they and where did they come from? Perhaps you have already searched old records at the court house, checked birth and death certificates, checked your family Bibles or searched on ancestry.com.

Like many of us here in Freedom Township and in Henry County we come from a line of German lineage. In September 2014, there were eight Rabe family members who did their Rabe ancestry search in Germany over five full days in the Visselhovede area. For more than a year prior to the trip, Lester Rabe's sister, Lori Esch from Lebanon, Ohio made contact with a gentleman named *Walter Homann* who lives in Walsrode, Germany. He was a godsend and thrives on family genealogy. Well, *Walter Homann* is coming to stay with Lester & Janice Rabe on Mon., Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> for one week. If you have any interest in finding more information on your family members who lived around Visselhovede Germany, perhaps Walter can help. Walter works for a nominal fee to cover his time and other expenses. He speaks High German, so we have found an interpreter to help with the communication barrier! If interested, talk to *Lester* or *Janice Rabe* or call them at 419-598-8801 and they'll see if Walter can help you with your family ancestry too.

**COLLECTING STAMPS:** The LWML is collecting stamps "For Missions." A box is on the table in the narthex. Here is what you do: Cut the stamps from the envelopes allowing ¼ inch margin or more around the stamp. The stamp may not be damaged and the perforations around the stamp must be perfect. You need not trim the stamp; we have someone who trims and sorts the stamps. Do not remove stamps from envelopes, albums, and older postcards. An "old" postcard is usually from 1930 or before. The most valuable stamps are commemorative, foreign, and stamp denominations larger than 46 cents. It only makes sense that you purchase and use commemorative stamps for your personal mailing. When purchasing stamps, ask the post office staff for commemorative stamps. Colorful and large stamps are desirable. Collecting stamps is an easy way to participate in a mission project sponsored by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

**SAVE THE DATE!** Come one, come all, to the Arts & Craft Show to be held here at St. John on Sat., Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. The money raised will go toward the Right Hand of Fellowship campaign. Please contact *Diane Norden* or *Jackie Ripke* with questions. More information to come as it draws near.

**VOLLEYBALL SEASON:** *Chelsea Mouch* will be our grades 4-8 volleyball coach this season. Volleyball will be open for all girls involved in St. John Lutheran Church and School along with St. Augustine, Napoleon. If interested in participating please send a reply to this message or email to [wagner24920@gmail.com](mailto:wagner24920@gmail.com). Coach Mouch is looking for assistants. If you or someone you know is interested please text *James Wagner* at 419-722-8847.

Throughout the season we will be looking for parents and family members to assist with volleyball activities, this may include line-judging, scoreboard, concessions, and helping at the St. John Freedom Volleyball Invitational in October. Thank you for any and all assistance you provide this season. *James Wagner, AD*

**PARENT HANDBOOKS:** The 2015-16 Parent Handbooks is now posted and available via the new FastDirect Communication network. Handbooks will only be printed for those St. John families that do not have internet access via computers, cell phones, i-Pads, etc. Simply go to [www.fastdir.com/stjohnfreedom](http://www.fastdir.com/stjohnfreedom) and click on “Links” at top of page.

**SCHOOL REFERRAL LETTERS & CARDS** – We are again offering “School Referral Discounts” to all school families encouraging them to help “market” St. John Lutheran School to their friends and neighbors. The referral letters and cards (*purple and teal*) are available in the school office for any St. John member that may wish to help “market” our school within the community. We look forward to growing God’s kingdom through St. John Lutheran School.

**SCHOOL AND PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE** – The St. John School will be holding an open house on Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00 – 11:00 AM for Kindergarten thru Gr. 8. Preschool open house will also be on the 23<sup>rd</sup> but will run from 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM. Everyone is welcome to come, parents and children. Come and meet the teachers and check out the classrooms!

**FREEDOM’S FLOCK** – St. John’s after school program will begin at 3:00 PM on the first day of school, August 26. The paid staff person will be *Karen Riefers*. Mrs. Riefers will be in charge Monday thru Friday. Please contact Karen Riefers to pre-register your child(ren) and pay the \$15 per family registration by August 26 if possible. You can also access the Freedom’s Flock Handbook and Registration/Medical forms on FastDirect. If any adult or student (16 or older) would like to volunteer to also help with the program, you may contact Karen at 419-598-8686.

**PTL COOKBOOKS** – “Recipes and Remembrances,” our PTL cookbook contains fantastic recipes from dearly departed ones we remember with love and fondness. Many still living but now in their later golden years have also left us “secret family recipes!” Get copies now for extended family members, your children and grandchildren who don’t attend our church, the newly married and those going off to college. They are available on the table in the side hallway.

Remember all those listed below and many more who have contributed to the 1992 and 2011 editions (*both are contained and reprinted together in this one cookbook*) for only \$10.

*Irma Koppenhofer, Carolyn Plassman, Arlene Leonhart, Elnora Rsebrock, Phyllis VonDeylen, Florence Gunter, Jo Rettig, Anna Damman, Jean Williams, Hazel Riggs, Norma Behnfeldt, Lillian Ruetz, Evelyn Freet, Olga Bockelman, Martha Gruenhagen, Laura VonDeylen, Mildred Vajen, Irene Bickel, Joan Badenhop, Henrietta Huner, Ruth Hogrefe, Jan Norden, Helen Fredricks, Margaret Miller, Dorothy Gerken, Arlene Adams, Lu Wachtman, Myrna Wines, Dorothy Maringer, Judi Fleyle-Caver, Carolyn Sharbeck, Jane Green, Carmen Wiechers, and Irene Ruff*

✘ ✘ ✘

#### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

#### **To avoid getting burned, be sure to bask in the Son.**

*“For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”*  
(2 Corinthians 4:6)

## **SCHOOL NOTES:**

- ✓ **1st DAY OF SCHOOL** for St. John is Wed., Aug. 26 , with classes beginning at 8:20 AM. Students arriving after that time will need to report to the school office.
- ✓ **OPEN HOUSE** – (PS, Gr.K-8) On Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00 – 11:00 AM for Kindergarten thru Gr. 8. All classrooms will be open and we invite parents and students to come in and bring in their school supplies. Preschool open house will also be on the 23<sup>rd</sup> but will run from 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM. Everyone is welcome to come, parents and children.
- ✓ **PRESCHOOL PARENTS MEETING** – There will be a Preschool Parents Meeting on Mon., Aug. 24 beginning at 7:00 PM in the fellowship hall. This will include an overview of the FastDirect Communication information system we have implemented at St. John.
- ✓ **SCHOOL OFFICE** will be open on Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00 – 11:00 AM for anyone that wants to pay their enrollment fee and purchase supplies from the book store. Payment of fees can also be mailed to St. John Lutheran School, 16035 County Road U, Napoleon, Ohio 43545. The office will also be open from 8:30 – Noon on Mon., Aug. 24 and Tues., Aug. 25 for payments. **Also return any St. John Library books from last school year at this time.**
- ✓ **OPENING SERVICE** will be Aug. 26<sup>th</sup> at 8:35 AM in the church. Following the service, *Interim Principal Mary K. Rettig* will welcome our new students. Once back in their rooms the children, by classrooms, will have the opportunity to purchase school supplies from our book store if they have not already done so. **All are welcome to attend this Opening Service!**
- ✓ **LUNCH MENUS** – These will be available on FastDirect Communication.
- ✓ **MEAL TICKETS** will be sold August 26, the first day of school. Meal ticket prices have increased. They are: PS 4/5 - Gr. 4 - \$2.50, Gr. 5-8 - \$2.75. We have put Preschool and Grades K-4 together for one price, and Grades 5-8 for one price. Extra milk is 50¢. The adult meal price increased to \$3.00 and \$3.50 w/milk. Meal tickets may be purchased for any amount of days each week or for the entire month.
- ✓ **BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP** – St. John Booster membership for the 2015-16 school year are: \$20.00 for husband and wife; \$10.00 for single. Make checks payable to *St. John Boosters*.
- ✓ **SCHOOL PICTURES** will be taken by *Emilie Parsons* of Emilie's Photo Design this year and are scheduled for Thurs., Sept., 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM for the 4/5-year old Preschool class and Gr. K-8; and Fri., Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM for 3-year old Preschool class and anyone absent on Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>. Order forms will be sent home shortly after school starts.
- ✓ **EMERGENCY PROCEDURE AND EARLY CLOSING FORMS(yellow)** will be available on a table outside the school office as a handout on Sun., Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup>. They can be completed and turned in with your fees that Sunday or turned in to the school office by the first day of school. Write all family members on one card.
- ✓ **STATE FUNDS(light blue)** is to be filled out by parents, one per family, listing the names of your children and their grade level. We need to keep this in our files every year as required by the State of Ohio. Return this light blue card the first day of school.
- ✓ **SCRIP PROGRAM** will be offered again this school year. Anyone willing to help the PTL with this fundraiser can contact *Kristyn Honemann* at 419-592-0643.