



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

August 23, 2015

VOL. 80

NO. 34

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

Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181  
Cell: 989-607-4566  
School: 419-598-8702 Cell: 419-966-6160  
Church Website: [www.sjl.org](http://www.sjl.org)

### THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon Title & Text: "Dirty Hands, Clean Heart" *Mark 7:1-13*

Order of Service: *Morning Prayer (LSB pg. 235)*

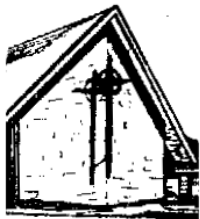
Hymns: 570 ~ 915 ~ 563

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### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

*Welcome! We are here at the Savior's invitation; therefore let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, receiving mercy and finding grace to help in every time of need. But above all, we invite you to come to worship with us at any time. If you are a visitor, please introduce yourself to the pastor as you leave the worship service this morning.*

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

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠ Anna Gerken & Emily Bostelman, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Dave & Sara Myles, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Eldor & Rozella Gruenhagen, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Denny Bockelman, Jeff Buchhop, Dave Myles, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Linda Riefers, Marian Damman, Ruth Mahnke, Mabel Bischoff, *Altar Guild* ✠

### BABY ARRIVALS :

- ❖ *Greg & Jenna Kehnast* would like to announce the safe arrival of their daughter, *Lakyn Grace Kehnast*, on Tues., Aug. 18<sup>th</sup> at Fulton County Health Center. All are doing fine, and big sisters, Brynnleigh and Braelyn are so excited for a little sister. Grandparents, Denny & Deb Damman are sure to give her lots of lovin' too! Congratulations!
- ❖ *Nick & Yajaira Kruse* welcomed a son, *Chase Daniel Kruse*, last week on Tuesday, Aug. 11<sup>th</sup> at Henry County Hospital. All are home and getting settled in. Big brother, Brayton, will be the best playmate for Chase as he grows. Grandparents, Vern & Diana Kruse will be there for back up when needed. Congratulations to the Kruses!

**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 10:20AM	Worship Service Adult Bible Class
Mon.	5:30 PM 7:00 PM 8:00 PM	<i>Bread From Heaven</i> Food Pantry distribution (until 6:30 PM) Preschool Parents' Meeting in fellowship hall Archives Meeting ( <i>NOTE TIME CHANGE</i> )
Tue.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Board of Elders
Wed.	8:20 AM 8:35 AM	First Student Day of School Opening Chapel Service
Thurs.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Thursday Evening Praise
Fri.	6:30 PM	Wedding Rehearsal – <i>Miller / Szabo</i>
Sat.	3:30 PM	Wedding Ceremony – <i>Blake Miller / Brittni Szabo</i>
Sun.	10:30AM 10:20AM	Outdoor Worship Service at the Old School property Adult Bible Class
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 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 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

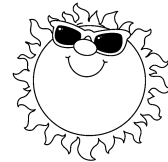
**OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE 2015** is next Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

We will gather outdoors in the old school yard for our annual outdoor service.

Bring your favorite lawn chairs, and please reserve the closest parking around the old school for those who need it most. The service will be followed by a

BRATWURST LUNCH in the fellowship hall – bring a 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!**



**AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED** – Again this year, the Stewardship Board is planning a ***Right Hand of Fellowship*** fundraising auction in connection with the outdoor service next Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup> (proceeds to be matched). Please be thinking about items you might be able to donate. A table has been set up in the narthex to receive any items you'd like to donate to the auction.

## Sunday School / Christian Education

It's time to gear up for another season of Christian education at St. John. Some exciting things are happening! Sunday School grades K-6 will begin using the 'Cross Explorations' curriculum that will have them rotating to three sites...

1. **ENGAGE** ~ 10:15-10:25 a.m. in the sanctuary  
Combined opening worship for all students, grades K-6
2. **EXPLORE** ~ 10:30-10:45 a.m. in two classrooms  
The Bible lesson for the day (K-3 in 1-2 classroom; 4-6 in 5-6 classroom)
3. **EXPRESS** ~ 10:50-11:05 a.m. in the fellowship hall  
Students join their parents for activities that reinforce that day's lesson

While the students are in ENGAGE and EXPLORE, all adults and Sunday School parents are invited to sit down with Pastor in the fellowship hall for an adult version of that day's lesson. Then the children will join the parents and adults for the EXPRESS part of the schedule to share some intergenerational, parent-child time doing an activity that reinforces the day's lesson. Meanwhile, preschool, junior and senior high classes will continue their normal schedule. Here's the calendar of what's coming...



- **Sunday, Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> - Outdoor Service;** Lesson One of 'Cross Explorations' will be covered during the service, and student leaflets and 'Explore More' cards will be distributed to the students
- **Sunday, Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>** - Labor Day weekend, no Sunday School
- **Sunday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>** - Regular Sunday School classes begin

**WILLING SERVANTS ARE STILL NEEDED** to staff the Sunday School. Speak with Pastor Niermann or sign up in the narthex!

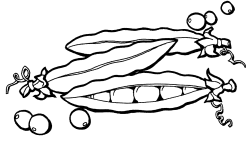
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**SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY** – On Sunday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> Vicar Yaeger will begin a new Bible study series in the north fellowship hall on Lutheran Spirituality. The first study is titled, "Cross." How do we understand the suffering we experience in our Christian life? Should we avoid it? Or embrace it? What do Baptism and temptation have to do with suffering? Come hear what Jesus has to say to us in the study, '**Cross: We Suffer With Jesus.**'

**ARCHIVES COMMITTEE MEETING:** The Archives Committee would like to schedule a meeting on Mon., Aug. 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 PM in the fellowship hall.

**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.

**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!

**FINANCIAL FACTS:**

	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 8/16/15	\$6,010.00	\$80.00	\$390.00

**ATTENDANCE:** Thursday Evening Service: 32; 8/16/15 Service: 165

**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.

**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.

**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 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 your assistance. *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!

**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*

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

**Prayer – the ultimate wireless connection!**

*“Call to me and I will answer you.” (Jeremiah 33:3)*

## **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.