



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

February 7, 2016

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NO. 6

Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor
Mr. Aaron Yaeger, Vicar
Rev. Charles Kramer, Principal

Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181
Cell: 989-607-4566
School: 419-598-8702 Cell: 567-277-1339
Church Website: www.sjl.org

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD & MISSION SUNDAY

Guest Preacher: *Rev. Edward Naumann*

Sermon & Text: "This Is My Son" *Luke 9:28-36*

Order of Service: See printed Service Folder

Hymns: **415 ~ 948**, stz.1 ~ **839 ~ 507**, stz.1,4 ~ **434** stz.3 ~ [Communion: **414,829**] ~ **937**

Adult Choir: "Beautiful Saviour" and "Let Us Break Bread Together"

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

The Psalmist wrote: "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the House of the Lord.'" We are happy to have you with us, whether someone invited you or you came by yourself. We are glad to share this House of the Lord with you. 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

- ✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘ Maggie Weller & Tyne Rosebrock, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Elmer & Pat Maassel, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Harold Behrmann & Richard Elling, *Visitation* ✘
- ✘ Denny Bockelman, Jeff Buchhop, Dave Myles, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Kathy Behnfeldt, Pat Maassel, Anita Badenhop, Deb Durham, *Altar Guild* ✘

ADULT BIBLE CLASS will be dedicated this morning to a presentation by **Rev. Edward Naumann** about the work he will be doing in South Asia to establish a seminary for the training of pastors. Please join us!

THANK YOU to **Larry Mahnke**, **Loren Maassel**, and **Dean Maassel** for their efforts this winter in keeping the church and school parking lot cleared of snow. They all three donate their time and equipment to get this job done after each snowfall. So far, we've been lucky compared to last year's snowfall! God is good! Thank you for being willing servants here at St. John!

In God's House This Week

Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM 1:00 PM	Communion Service Sunday School; "Time To Spare"; Presentation by Rev. Naumann 4-H Meetings (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Mon.	7:00 PM	PTL Meeting; <i>LifeLight</i> Bible Study
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:00 AM 10:00AM 5:30 PM 7:00 PM	Chapel led by Pastor Niermann; Offering – <i>Hearts For Jesus</i> Exercise Class <i>LifeLight</i> Bible Study B-ball: Gr. 7&8 Girls; 6:30 PM Gr. 7&8 Boys @ St. John - Defiance Church Council Meeting
Wed.	5:30 PM 5:45 PM 7:00 PM 8:00 PM	Lenten Supper (<i>serving until 6:30 PM</i>) Junior Confirmation Class (<i>5:45 – 6:45 PM</i>) Ash Wednesday Lenten Service ; Offering: <i>Worship For Shut-Ins</i> Acolytes: <i>Caleb Bockelman & Colin Johnson</i> Greeters: <i>Steve & Linda Miller</i> Ushers: <i>Denny Bockelman, Jeff Buchhop, Dave Myles</i> Altar Guild: <i>Kathy Behnfeldt, Pat Maassel, Anita Badenhop, Deb Durham</i> Adult Choir: "Remember You Are Dust" Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	9:00 AM 10:30AM	Exercise Class Women's Lenten Bible Study (<i>and again tonight at 7:00 PM</i>)
Friday -	Sunday	NWOLL Basketball Tournament at St. Paul - Napoleon
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 1:00 PM	Worship Service w/Communion following <i>Java Joy</i> ; Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare" NWOLL Tourney Championship at St. Paul - Napoleon
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Stephen Niermann</i> , St. John Lutheran – Napoleon

It's Mission Sunday!



This morning we welcome **Rev. Edward Naumann** as our guest mission pastor and preacher. Please take a few moments to read his biographical information on the Prayer Card enclosed in today's bulletin.

If you would like to support Rev. Naumann in his important work in South Asia, there are many options for doing so listed on the back side of the same Prayer Card. In addition, we will receive a door offering after worship this morning that will be a one-time special gift from our congregation in support of his ministry.

During the Adult Bible Class this morning, Rev. Naumann will have a presentation offering us more details about his ministry in South Asia. Please join him as we thank God together for the advance of His kingdom across the face of the earth.

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

- ❖ Our Shut-Ins: *Stan Moll, Norma Damman, Don Dickmann, and Lucia Delventhal*
- ❖ *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
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, residing at the Orchards of Northcrest - Napoleon
- ❖ *Helen Norden*, residing at Greenbriar Assisted Living in Birmingham, AL
- ❖ Servicemen and women *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Kyle Elling, Emily Schroeder,* and *Connor Gerken*
- ❖ *Delores Badenhop*, recuperating at The Lutheran Home following her surgery
- ❖ *David Niebergall*, now in hospice care for his failing health due to cancer
- ❖ *Hannah Dietrich*, as she is studying in Spain for college requirements

***LifeLight* Bible Study –The Holy Trinity**

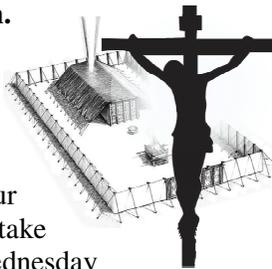
Many folks believe that the doctrine of the Holy Trinity was strictly a New Testament revelation, especially connected with baptism “in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” (Matt. 28:19) But it’s not so. The Holy Trinity is revealed to us also in the Old Testament, as for example when God said, “Let *us* make man in *our* image.” (Gen. 1:26). Join us as we dig into the Old Testament to discover God’s revelation of Himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



LifeLight Bible study meets on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m, and Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. The schedule for this month: February 1-2, 8-9, and 22-23.

***Midweek Lenten Services* begin this Wednesday – 7:00 p.m.**

After you’ve fattened up on a paczki or two on Shrove Tuesday this week, begin your Lenten season on **Ash Wednesday** in the Lord’s House. This year’s theme is, “**Tabernacle – Putting the Pieces Together.**” It will be a fascinating look at ancient Israel’s first house of worship. As we put together all the pieces of that mobile temple, a clear picture will emerge of our Lord and Savior who “tabernacled” among us in human flesh, that He might take our place in death and secure for us eternal life. Join us for worship each Wednesday during Lent at 7:00 p.m.



Each Wednesday evening, the LYF will be hosting a Lenten Supper in the fellowship hall. Your free-will donations will help them go to New Orleans this summer to the National Youth Gathering. Supper starts at 5:30. *This week’s menu includes: Chicken sandwiches, hotdogs, chips, dessert, and drinks.*

LADIES QUILTING PARTY is planned for all day Monday, Feb. 15. 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.

A BIG THANK YOU goes out to *Lowell Petzoldt, Dave VonDeylen, Larry Gerken, Rich Elling, Karen Gerken, and Sunday Griffith*, who were all members of the Call Committee. These members worked many hours, sent many emails, and made lots of phone calls over the past year and a half in an effort to fill the Principal/7&8 Grade Teacher position. I feel confident that God put the right people in the right spot at the right time for this Committee to be successful. Thank you all for everything you did as members of this Call Committee. *Signed, Brad Rosebrook, School Board President*

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES NEXT SUNDAY

- **Leviticus** – Pastor Niermann will resume the study of this ancient book of the Israelites as we take a look at the various sacrifices God commanded Israel to make in the tabernacle, and how these pointed forward to the coming of Christ. We'll meet in the north fellowship hall.
- **Marriage and Family** – Vicar Yaeger will lead a Bible Study in the south fellowship hall, especially for our Sunday School parents and anyone else interested. We'll look at such topics as: Foundations of Marriage and Family in Creation; Biblical Intimacy, Exercising Faith and Love, More Than Romance, and Leaving a Legacy for the family.

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS: Just like last year, we will be taking orders for various flowers to purchase “in memory of” or “in honor of” someone special in your life. Order forms are inserted in today's bulletin and extras are on the narthex table. Drop your order form and payment to **St. John Lutheran Church** into the container at the narthex table or return to the church office. **Order deadline is Monday, Feb. 29th.**

WOMEN OF FREEDOM LENTEN BIBLE STUDY: A women's Lenten Bible Study – “Overflowing Abundance,” is being planned on Thursdays at 10:30 AM and 7:00 PM during the Lenten season. We will be digging into the scripture to see a compelling picture of our compassionate Savior. Please join us beginning Feb. 11th! Sign up at the table in the narthex.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 1/31/16	\$7,030.00	\$88.00	\$358.00

ATTENDANCE: 1/31/16 Service: 262

SUPER BOWL SUB SALE TODAY! It's finally here! Super Bowl Sub Sunday!

Stop by the kitchen to pick up your order after church today. There are a limited number of extras available for sale too, so if you still want to purchase subs, stop by the kitchen. Cost is \$3 per sub. **Checks can be made out to St. John LYF.** Thank you for supporting our Sr. High LYF!



LYF NEWS: From Super Bowl Subs to a Super Bowl Party 2016 at *Carey & Sharon Damman's* today from 6:00 PM – your curfew. Plan to come, bring snacks, and root for your favorite team!

Not into football??? There will be other games and activities going on as well. Carey needs help with splitting wood... Hope to see you at 6 p.m. today!

Future LYF events at church are: *Mon., Feb. 15th from 4:30 – 6:00 PM Jr. High LYF Meeting*
Sun., Feb. 21st from 4:30 – 6:00 PM Sr. High LYF Meeting

LENTEN SUPPERS – SOUPS NEEDED! Do you have a famous soup recipe? Sr. LYF is looking for anyone who would like to help us with soups for Lenten suppers this season by preparing your favorite soup recipe. Last year, the soups were a big hit and we want to continue it again this year. We are looking to do either one or two different soups each week. If you are interested in helping, please contact Sarah Bartok at sbartok@sjl.org or call her through the church office at 419-598-8961.

NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK – If you missed the WNDH 103.1 radio spots that the St. John Alumni taped for NLSW, they can be heard by going to the www.sjl.org website, scroll down on the right side to the Lutheran School's Week Messages, and click on any of the messages shown. We would like to thank former St. John students, *Amy Rosebrook, Chris Niermann, Jason Rohrs, Jen Zachrich, Justin Hesterman, Kathy Gobrogge, Kyle Niermann, Lindsey Thompson, and Nathan Wiechers* 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 various broadcasts here at the school.

2015 THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS: Great news from our local Thrivent Rep. Doug Kossow! There are Thrivent Choice Dollars (*a very sizable amount*) from 2015 that have not been designated by members of our congregation. Even though it's 2016, these 2015 dollars can still be designated until March 31, 2016. Next Sun., Feb. 14th, Doug & Mary Kossow will have a table set up in the side hallway to assist those Thrivent members to designate their Choice Dollars to the church, school, or preschool. Not sure if you have Choice Dollars to designate? Stop by their table to find out! If you are not able to stop that day, you can call Doug's office in Ridgeville Corners at 419-267-0113 to designate your dollars. Thank you!

2015 CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT – It's time to start getting your reports ready for the 2015 Church Annual. The officers of the different organizations are asked to write up a summary of the year's activities along with a financial report if there is one. If you need your offering contribution information prior to the distribution of the Annual Report, please call Financial Trustee, *Kathy Behnfeldt*, at 419-598-8682. **Please turn your reports in to Joyce Wiechers ASAP.**

THE FAITH ONCE FOR ALL DELIVERED TO THE SAINTS...Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: 3rd Century Martyr Saint Valentine, Ash Wednesday, The Lenten Season, The Gospel of John, Martin Luther & the Warburg Castle and more. You can listen at your convenience at www.issuesetc.org and on the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

PTL MEETING: The next PTL Meeting will be held on Mon., Feb. 8th at 7:00 PM in the fellowship hall. Soup & Pie results as well as other business at hand will be discussed. Please plan to attend!

ST. JOHN SCRIP CONTINUES: You may begin ordering SCRIP again. Please turn those orders in on Wednesdays, with payment to *St. John School PTL Scrip Program*. The gift cards will be sent home the following week on Tuesday. Payment must accompany orders. Any questions about SCRIP can be directed to SCRIP Coordinator Kristyn Honemann at 419-966-0207 or email at honemann@embarqmail.com.

Vacation Bible School 2016 – Believe it or not, it’s time to think about VBS. This year the theme of the CPH curriculum is one that we know a thing or two about in these parts – “Barnyard Roundup – Jesus Gathers His People Together.” At this time we would like to identify a VBS director (or maybe co-directors) to work with Pastor in making some of the initial plans. Please speak with Pastor Niermann if you are interested in serving the children in this way.



KINDERGARTEN CLINIC & ELIGIBILITY CHANGES for students entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2016! The K-clinic will be held on Tuesday, April 12th beginning at 12:45 PM. There WILL BE Kindergarten class until 11:30 AM on April 12th. **Napoleon Area Schools and St. John Lutheran 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 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 2015 (*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.*

ST. JOHN CHURCH LIBRARY – Stop in and check out the growing number of books available in the church library, located in the hall next to the sanctuary. To borrow a book, just take it with you, and then return it to the basket when you’ve finished reading. A complete list of the books can be found by clicking on the "Book Inventory" link on the library page of our church's website.

RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP FUNDRAISER: The Stewardship Board is offering “for sale” the Ultimate Cloth® as a fundraiser. These are a MiraFiber® technology cloth that cleans with water only. See Karen Norden (419-267-3477) for more information and pricing. This will be an on-going fundraiser for the Right Hand of Fellowship gift matching campaign.

4-H CLUB ORGANIZATION: The Gerald Busy Fingers and Freedom Royal Farmers 4-H Clubs along with the Cloverbuds will be having their first 4-H meeting for 2016 today at 1:00 PM at St. John Lutheran Church & School. Returning members please watch your emails for more information. If you are interested in joining 4-H or the Cloverbud Program, please contact one of the Advisors of these groups. Gerald Busy Fingers Advisors are Bethann Gerken, Becky Michaelis, Stefanie Hilvers, and Kaylee Wentworth. Freedom Royal Farmers Advisors are Pat Wiemken and Amanda Podach. Cloverbud Advisors are Tim Bower and Jennifer Gerken.

CHICKEN PIE DINNER – The Ridgeville American Legion Post #454 will host their annual Chicken Pie Dinner on Sun., Feb. 21 with serving from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Dusty Bibles often lead to dirty lives.

“Darkened in their understanding...they have given themselves over to sensuality. You, however, did not come to know Christ that way.” (Eph 4:18-20)