



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

July 24, 2016

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NO. 30

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

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### TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Abraham's Chutzpah and the Privilege of Prayer" *Gen. 18:17-33*

Order of Service: *See printed Service Folder*

Hymns: 779 ~ 772 ~ 770

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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. If you have no church of your own, we invite you to make this your home church. If you are a visitor, 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.*

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

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠ Lydia Babcock & Maggie Weller, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Elmer & Pat Maassel, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Eldor & Rozella Gruenhagen, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Carey Damman, Craig Drewes, Scott VanValkenburg, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Diane VonDeylen, LouAnn Rosebrock, Jeannette Bostelman, *Altar Guild* ✠

**NEW ADDITION:** Joe & Krista Howard, are very happy to announce the birth of their third child, a baby boy named *Nolan Damman*, born to them on Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at Fulton County Health Center. Siblings Maxton and Graceyn are eager to be "helpers" for mom and dad. Congrats to the Howards!

**BIBLE STUDY** will be held this morning in the north end of the fellowship hall. We will continue our study of *Leviticus*. This ancient book is filled with laws regulating the religious and civil life of God's people, Israel. Though many of the regulations no longer apply in this time of Christ, they greatly enrich our understanding of Christ. Today we dig into the tenth and final chapter of this study about the holy days and years appointed by God for His people. As with all things in *Leviticus*, these holy times and seasons point us to Jesus Christ who fulfills them all. Come discover God's Word!

<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	Worship Service Adult Bible Class
Mon.	5:30 PM	<i>Bread From Heaven</i> Food Pantry distribution
Tue.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM 7:30 PM	Exercise Class Shepherd Committee Board of Elders
Wed.	7:00 PM	Book Club Discussion Group ( <i>see bulletin note</i> )
Thurs.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Thursday Evening Worship
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 11:30AM	Worship Service Adult Bible Class Vicar Yaeger Farewell Potluck Luncheon ( <i>see bulletin note</i> )
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Dale Kern</i> (retired)

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

- ❖ Our Shut-Ins: *Norma Damman, Don Dickmann, Lucia Delventhal, and Renetta Homan*
- ❖ *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
- ❖ Servicemen, *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Kyle Elling, and Emily Schroeder*
- ❖ *Vernon Kruse, Mary Rettig, and Dan Wiechers*, recuperating at home now
- ❖ *Connor Gerken*, serving in the military and now deployed to the Middle East for 6 months
- ❖ *Stan Moll*, for successful hip surgery from a fall he took recently

**FAREWELL TO VICAR YAEGER – Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup>**

A year sure does fly by, and it's time to send Vicar Aaron and his family back to the Fort Wayne seminary for his final year of preparation and study for the holy ministry. Here are things to note:

1. **Vicar Aaron's final sermon** at St. John will be on Thursday evening, July 28<sup>th</sup> and Sunday morning, July 31<sup>st</sup>.
2. **Potluck Dinner** – On Sunday (July 31<sup>st</sup>) after the service and Bible Study, we will reconvene in the fellowship hall at 11:30 a.m. for a farewell potluck for the Yaegers. **The Women of Freedom will be providing the meat dish.** Anyone planning to attend is asked to bring a side dish and/or a dessert. Don't forget your appetite too!
3. **Moving the Yaegers** – We will load the Yaegers belongings into trailers on Sunday evening, July 31<sup>st</sup>. The following Monday morning, Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>, we will move them back to Fort Wayne. **Volunteers needed!** There will be little to nothing to move to Napoleon for the new vicar.

**OFFICE HOURS:** Please note the church office hours during the month of July. They are Monday thru Thursday: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Please call 419-598-8961 to guarantee someone will be here.

## NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

The youth of our congregation who attended the **National Youth Gathering** in New Orleans have returned to us safely, thank the Lord! They are deeply appreciative of the entire congregation's support that made their trip possible. We pray that this event will have a long and lasting impact upon the lives of all the youth who attended, as they stand and live in Christ alone! Hopefully, in the not-too-distant future, the youth will have a report for us.



<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 7/17/16	\$7,456.00	\$93.00	\$413.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday (7-14-16) Worship Service: 57; Sunday (7/17/16) Service: 151

NEW VICAR PREPARATIONS – One the second Sunday of August we will receive and install our new vicar, **Mr. Michael B. Keller** (*he goes by Brent*). As we prepare for Brent, Hanne, and Annalise's arrival here in Freedom Twp. there are a few things we need to do to get prepared.

1. **A place to live** – Church Council has approved renting an apartment for the vicar in Napoleon.
2. **Furnishings** – Thank you to everyone who has provided items to furnish the vicar's apartment. **The main item we still need is a set of dining table chairs.** Since we have duplicates of some items, the Keller's may not be able to use everything. If you brought something that they may not need, please be prepared to let us know what to do with it.
3. **Pantry items for the new vicar** – During the coming weeks we will be gathering necessary items to help the new vicar and family get started in their apartment. Suggested items include: non-perishable foods, toilet paper, infant diapers and wipes, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc. Please drop off items in the designated spot in the narthex.
4. **New Vicar Installation and Reception** – **The new vicar, Brent Keller, will be installed on Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup> in the morning service.** After the service we'll take up a little offering for the Keller's to help them get started, then gather in the fellowship hall for a welcome reception. Please join us as we welcome and receive our new vicar!

BOOK CLUB SUMMER READING – This summer we are reading "*House of Living Stones*" by Katie Schuermann. It's the story of the people of Zion Lutheran Church in the little town of Bradbury. The backdrop this delightful novel is the hiring of a new choir director that sets in motion a chain of events that turns the life of his congregation upside down. You will laugh as you read the antics of Zion's members, and perhaps even see a little bit of yourself in some of the characters. All of our SJL copies have been claimed, but you can still order a copy from CPH.org (\$12.99) or from Christianbook.com (\$9.99) --- just type the title in the search box.



- **SJL BOOKCLUB DISCUSSION** – Nancy Short has graciously invited us to her house for a **book club discussion of this book this Wednesday, July 27<sup>th</sup>.** Join us at 7:00 p.m. The Short's address is 1513 County Road 17, Wauseon (between Fulton County roads A and B).

**BYLAWS PROPOSED CHANGES** – Recently a committee has been at work reviewing and revising the congregation’s bylaws. A copy of their proposed changes is available today in the narthex. Most of the proposed changes are minor and are for the sake of consistency or to bring the bylaws in line with current congregational practices. A brief statement of rationale is included with each proposed change. The proposed changes have been presented to the Church Council and will be considered at the next Voters’ Assembly meeting. The four most substantive changes are:

1. the addition of a sentence under the Church Council responsibilities that addresses a process for the periodic review and revision of the bylaws;
2. the addition of language that allows the first Voters’ Assembly each year to take place in January *or February*, so that year-end financial reports have adequate time can be fully prepared and audited in time for that first meeting;
3. the addition of a sentence clarifying the president’s *ex officio* status;
4. the addition of a paragraph under Board of Stewardship authorizing the Board to maintain accounts as deemed beneficial and to submit records of all accounts to the audit process.

In addition, the cemetery regulations have undergone significant revision, again, mostly for clarification. These changes, along with updated prices, have already been approved the Church Council and are available to you for your information.

**OUTDOOR SERVICE INFO** – Don’t forget to mark your calendar, for the annual **Outdoor Service on Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>** (*the Sunday before the new school year begins*). We will worship at 10:00 a.m. that morning across the road next to the old school building. Please bring a chair with you, and reserve parking around the old school for those who need it most. This year we will celebrate Holy Communion at this service, so we will maintain an aisle for people to approach the Lord’s Table. It would be helpful if we could balance the congregation on both sides of that aisle.

**WHY SEND YOUR CHILD TO ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL?** Our classrooms have a low student to teacher ratio. That means that students have a higher percentage of caring teachers. If you are interested in more information about the preschool through eighth grade education at St. John Lutheran School please call 419-598-8702 or e-mail us at [ckramer@sjl.org](mailto:ckramer@sjl.org).

**PROJECT CONNECT** – There are many free booklets in the rack in the narthex. Be sure to check for some good reading. Some titles are: “*Why Do Bad Things Happen To Me,*” “*Has God Abandoned Me,*” “*Dealing with Depression,*” “*Coping with Cancer,*” “*Who Is Jesus,*” “*Just Stress?*”, “*Overcoming A Painful Childhood,*” “*Where’s God in All of This?*”, “*Why Should I go to Church?*” and many more. These booklets are furnished through the Lutheran Hour Ministries.

**LARGE PRINT & CHILDREN’S ACTIVITY BULLETINS** are available today on the table in the narthex. The Children’s Bulletins are coordinated with the Bible texts for each Sunday, and provide activities that tie in with the weekly themes. Pick one up today for your child.

**COUNCIL MINUTES** – This is just a reminder that council meeting minutes are not published until they are approved a month later. If you would like to read about the most recent council meeting, an unofficial and unapproved copy of the minutes is available for viewing in the church office, usually within a week after the meeting.

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL POSITION OPENINGS** – St. John Lutheran School is seeking persons to fill the following positions that are currently open for the upcoming school year. If interested in any of these positions and you would like more details, please speak with *Principal Kramer* or new Board Pres., *Sunday Griffith*.

- **Freedom's Flock Care Provider** – This individual is responsible for the care of the students in our after-school program each day from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. This is a paid position.
- **School Janitor** – This individual will be responsible for all the janitorial duties involved with the functioning of the school. This is a paid position.
- **School Cook** – This individual will prepare daily lunches for the students and staff, as well as overseeing the operation of the lunch program at St. John School. This is a paid position.

**UPCOMING SCHOOL DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- ✓ **Annual School Cleaning** has been set for **Mon., Aug. 1 and Wed., Aug. 3 starting at 5:00 PM** both nights. Please read the Parent Participation Policy in FastDirect with all the details about family requirements for School Cleaning. The carpets will be cleaned on Tues., Aug. 2.
- ✓ **Parent's Meeting** – On **Mon., Aug. 22 at 7:00 PM** there will be a Parent's Meeting with children in Grades K-8 held in the Fellowship Hall. Parents will be informed about student expectations in the classrooms. All parents are encouraged to attend this informational meeting.
- ✓ **School Fundraiser** – The Magazine & Cookie Dough Sales for Grades Preschool thru 8 will begin on **Mon., Aug. 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM**. It will run through Wed., Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>. The cookie dough will be delivered on Tues., Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>.

**SPORTS PHYSICAL FORMS:** Those St. John students in Grades 4 – 8 must complete an Emergency Medical Authorization Form in order to participate in the sports programs offered at St. John. **Only students entering Grades 7 & 8 are required to have a sports physical.** Forms are available in the "School Info" rack outside the school office and also thru the FastDirect Communication system.

**AREA EVENTS:**

- **Homemade Ice Cream Social** hosted by Zion Lutheran Church, Ridgeville Corners, OH today with serving from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. Free will donation! See flyer!
- **Ridgeville American Legion Blood Drive** will be at the legion hall on **Mon., July 25<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 – 6:00 PM**. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-RED-CROSS. Walk-ins are always welcome and encouraged!
- **The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Stephanie Kossow Memorial Golf Outing** will be held on **Sat., July 30<sup>th</sup>**, with a 1:00 PM shotgun start. Registration forms available on the narthex table!

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

**I pray only on days that end in 'y'!**

*"Pray without ceasing." (1 Thess. 5:17)*