



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 Co. Rd. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

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NO. 18

Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor
Mr. M. Brent Keller, Vicar
Rev. Charles Kramer, Principal

Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181
Cell: 940-390-3065
School: 419-598-8702 Cell: 567-277-1339
Church Website: www.sjl.org

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sermon & Text: "You Are to be Holy" 1 Peter 1:17-25

Order of Service: *Prayer & Preaching (LSB pg. 260)*

Hymns: 918 ~ 483 ~ 565

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

The Lord calls all of us to a new way of living under His wonderful grace in our Savior. If you are our guest this morning, it is a pleasure to have you worshipping with us. 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 or register your name in the Guest Book in the Narthex.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✠ Madison Bostelman & Gavin Gerken, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Dan & Deb Wachtman, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Jim & Linda Meyer, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Carey Damman, Craig Drewes, Scott VanValkenburg, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Linda Riefers, Marian Damman, Ruth Mahnke, Mabel Bischoff, *Altar Guild* ✠

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are placed in loving memory of our daughter, sister, and best friend, Stephanie Kossow, who we lost 9 years ago tomorrow, May 1st. As the years go by, we still miss her each and every day. Prayers to Doug, Mary, Tyler, and Logan at this time.

PASTOR NIERMANN IS AWAY this morning. He is preaching for the 60th anniversary celebration of his home congregation, Our Redeemer Lutheran in Iowa City, Iowa.

CONFIRMATION STUDENTS – Please take note of the following:

- Mini-Retreat on the Sacrament of the Altar – this Thursday, May 4th at 3:30 p.m.
- Preparation for Questioning – on Saturday, May 6th at 10:00 a.m.

In God's House This WeekOnline church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare"
Mon.	7:00 PM	<i>LifeLight</i> Bible Study; Adult Instruction Class
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:00 AM 10:00AM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM	Chapel led by <i>Pastor Niermann</i> ; Offering: <i>Dominican Republic Missions</i> Exercise Class in gym <i>LifeLight</i> Bible Study VBS Staff Meeting Stewardship Board and School Board Meetings
Wed.	10:20AM 7:00 PM	Late Start-Up due to Teacher In-Service at 8:30 AM Adult Choir Practice; Stained Glass Window Committee Meeting
Thurs.	6:30 AM 9:00 AM 3:30 PM 7:00 PM	Men's Bible Breakfast Exercise Class in gym Confirmation Mini-Retreat on Sacrament of the Altar Thursday Evening Worship
Fri.	12:30PM	Grandparents' Day for Grades K thru 8
Sat.	10:00AM	All Confirmand Preparation for Questioning
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 11:30AM 6:30 PM	Communion Service and Teacher / Staff Anniversary Recognition Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare" Teacher / Staff Anniversary Potluck Movie Screening – <i>Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World</i>
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Eric Moquin</i> , St. John Lutheran – Sherwood

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

- ❖ Shut-Ins: *Norma Damman, Renetta Homan, Florence Fitzenreiter, and Delores Badenhop*
- ❖ *Delora Winkelman, Marian Buchhop, and Anna Brodman*, at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, residing at the Ohio Veteran's Home, Sandusky
- ❖ Servicemen, *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, Connor Gerken, and Seth Handy*
- ❖ *Annetta Rosebrock, Evelyn Rohrs, and Shirley Sonnenberg*, all dealing with health issues
- ❖ *Don Dickmann*, moved to the Orchards of Northcrest for rehab
- ❖ *Lucia Delventhal*, at Fulton Manor, Wauseon, for rehab
- ❖ *Ron Germann*, at home recuperating from knee surgery this past week

DID PEOPLE AND DINOSAURS LIVE ON EARTH TOGETHER? The old "Flintstones" cartoon showed people interacting with dinosaurs all the time. The family even had a pet dinosaur named "Dino." Could there be a kernel of truth behind this? Join us for the adult Bible study this morning as we continue our study of Christian apologetics. What's the real evidence for when dinosaurs lived? Is there evidence that man lived on earth at the same time? Is there evidence in the Bible? The vicar will be leading this study today, beginning with a video on the subject. Come one, come all!



RESCHEDULED STAFF & TEACHER ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION: With due respect to the entire Petzoldt family in regard to the passing of Renee's father on Thurs., April 20, the Teacher & Staff Anniversary recognition has been rescheduled. **The date for the service and potluck has been moved to Sun., May 7th.** The worship service will be at 9:00 AM and the potluck will be at 11:30 AM. Those being recognized include the following individuals: *Rev. Charles Kramer* – 40 years; *Mr. Lowell Petzoldt* – 40 years; *Mrs. Bonnie Niermann* – 15 years; *Joyce Wiechers* – 10 years (*as church & school secretary*). Of note, the School Board will be furnishing pulled pork from Brookview Farm Meats. Please bring a side dish or two to pass.

THE STAINED GLASS WINDOW COMMITTEE will meet this Wednesday evening, May 3rd at 7:00 at Steve & Sue Hurst's studio (located on Road U between 21 and 21A).

2016 CHURCH ANNUAL is available on the desk and table in the narthex following the service today. Thanks to everyone for your information submitted to be included in this report.

LifeLight BIBLE STUDY meet this Monday evening and Tuesday morning.

The Parables of Jesus - We know that we are saved by faith alone, and that this is done through the working of the Holy Spirit. And what means does the Spirit use to create and sustain this faith? Of course, it is through the Word and Sacraments. This week, we hear the words of Jesus admonish us through parables to build our lives upon him, to constantly hear his word, and to pray with faith that our God hears and answers every one of our prayers.

JAVA JOY COORDINATOR NEEDED - Java Joy on the second Sunday of each month has been a real blessing, but the individual who has coordinated it in the past needs to step away from that task. We're looking for a replacement. The task is fairly simple. It would mean watching the Java Joy sign-up list to make sure someone is signed up for each second Sunday. If no one is signed up, it would mean approaching people to ask if they would consider hosting. If you are interested to serve in this way, or for more information on what this task entails, please speak with Rosella Gruenhagen or Pastor Niermann. Thanks for thinking about it!



MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST – After His resurrection, Jesus invited His disciples to breakfast (*John 21:12*), and He still invites His disciples! On the first Thursday of each month, get your day off to a great start with good food and friends and God's Word, the Bread of Life! **This coming Thursday, May 4th, we will meet at 6:30 a.m. at Hill's Restaurant in Napoleon.** Won't you please join us?

ARCHIVES DISPLAY: The Archives Committee members have put up a display of past Confirmation classes ranging from 1937 (*80th anniversary*) to 2012 (*celebrating their 5th anniversary*). Come and check it out in the showcases in the hallway by the church. We are sure you will find a familiar face in the display.

LUTHERAN WITNESS RENEWAL – It's time to renew your subscription to the Lutheran Witness for the year. To subscribe or renew your subscription, **simply place \$16.00 in an envelope**, along with your name and address, and place it in the Sunday collection plate or bring it to the church office. **Deadline for subscriptions is May 15th**.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 04/23/17	\$5,351.00	\$129.00	\$325.00

ATTENDANCE: Sunday (4/23/17) Service: 192

THURSDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICES will begin on Thurs., May 4th at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary. Once school is out for the summer, we will move these services into the north end fellowship hall. Our Thursday evening worship services will be held each week through October 26. Holy Communion will usually be on the Thursday evenings prior to regular Communion Sundays.

SUMMER MISSION TRIP – SIGN-UP DEADLINE IS TODAY! We are planning a summer mission trip to New Orleans. The area has not fully recovered from the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, and has been hit by severe storms and floods since then. Informational leaflets about this trip and its costs are available in the narthex next to a sign-up sheet.

NEW MOVIE SCREENING

Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World

Martin Luther triggered a seismic upheaval that rocked the western world in the 1500s—with an impact that continues to reverberate to this day. This new film tells the great adventure story of his life. At the same time, it examines his quest for truth—questions we all must face—including "Who am I?" "What is my purpose?" and "How do I get right with God?"



Now you can see this compelling new movie at a special screening right here at St. John NEXT SUNDAY, May 7th at 6:30 p.m. The movie has received high marks for its content, production and message. In addition to the movie that evening, there will be concessions and door prizes of some fun Luther memorabilia. We are also inviting the community and our circuit brothers and sisters to join us for this event. Mark your calendar, and watch for more information.

Please see the special insert in today's bulletin for more information, and use it to invite someone to come with you! (*This is a Thrivent Action Team event*)

FIELD DAY OF FUN AND FELLOWSHIP: On Friday, May 12 at 9:15 AM, we will be hosting a combined school field day with St. John – Defiance. This is for students in grades K thru 8. St. John – Defiance is organizing most of the events for the day, but there are a few items we are in need of for some of the events. We will need 6 tricycles and 6 wagons. If you are able to loan us either of these items on May 12th, please FastDirect Joyce Wiechers or call the school office at 419-598-8702. A hotdog, chips, fruit, and bottled water lunch will be provided by St. John – Freedom. We would also like to have several St. John parents volunteer to help with this combined school field day on the 12th.

WHY NOT CONSIDER ST. JOHN? Saint John Lutheran School offers preschool to 8th grade Lutheran education. Students are taught the Word of God. In addition all the other subjects are taught. Students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of athletics. Bus transportation is available to students in all the local school districts. If you have any questions about enrollment or would like a tour of the school please call the church office for an appointment.

GRANDPARENT'S DAY: A reminder that Grandparent's Day at St. John School for Grades K-8 will be held on **Friday, May 5** from 12:30 - 3:00 PM. *Lunch is not included.*

PRESCHOOL'S GRADUATION will be **Wed., May 17th** at 6:00 PM in the fellowship hall. There will be a short program followed by light refreshments.

ST. JOHN SCHOOL POSITION OPENINGS – St. John Lutheran School is seeking a few people to fill the following positions that will be open after this school year.

- **Computer Instructor** – This individual is responsible for computer instruction one day per week for Grades K thru 8. This is a paid position.
- **Music Instructor** – This individual is responsible for classroom music instruction one day per week for Grades K thru 8. This is a paid position.
- **Volleyball Coach** – We received word that Chelsea Mouch will not be returning as our volleyball coach next year. Please contact AD Brad Rosebrook at 419-966-3099 as soon as possible if you are interested in volunteering as volleyball coach.

If you are interested in more information on the Computer and/or Music Instructor positions, please speak with Principal Kramer or the chairman of the School Board, Sunday Griffith.

PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT – The St. John Lutheran Preschool is now accepting enrollment applications for 2017-18 school year. Anyone interested in enrolling your child in our preschool program should contact the school office at 419-598-8702 to request an enrollment packet and/or turn in their registration form.

S.T.O.P. PENNY DRIVE – The PTL Spring Penny Drive at St. John School continues thru Fri., May 5th. The classroom collecting the most pennies will be treated to a pizza party. All other classrooms will get an ice cream party. Save those pennies and give them to one of our students or turn your pennies in at the school office. ***NOTE: Since starting this fundraiser in October 1992, the PTL has now raised \$17,227.67 for the school.*** Remember to **Save Those Old Pennies!**

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.**

GREAT MOTHER'S DAY GIFT – The “Recipes and Remembrances” cookbooks from PTL would surely make Mom smile. They have a very nice collection of great recipes in them. This is a PTL fundraiser and copies available today at the table in the side hallway. The cost is \$10.00. If writing a check, please make it payable to: *St. John PTL*. We hope you enjoy making all the “goodies” in the cookbook. Thank you for supporting the PTL!

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. 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 and get your Sunday started off right!

OHIO ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN: The Ohio Division OGT is located in the north end of the Culligan Water Conditioning building on Independence Drive in Napoleon. Someone is usually there to receive items on the first Tuesday of the month from 9:00-11:00 AM. If you need to drop off items at another time, please contact *Nancy Helmke* (419-758-3539), *Diann Meyer-Grieser* (419-267-3485), *Vicki Grieser* (419-445-2986), or *Harold Behrmann* (419-598-8311) and they will be happy to meet you and open the facility to receive your donations! PLEASE do not drop off items at the warehouse when it is closed. Thank you!

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.

RIDGEVILLE FIRE DEPT. AUXILIARY will be hosting a Drive Thru Chicken BBQ on Sun., May 21st at the Ridgeville Fire Station. Serving begins at 11:00 AM until gone. Menu consists of: *½ Chicken* (Brookview), *Potatoes*, *Coleslaw*, *Roll*, and *Butter*. Freewill offering. Come and support your local Fire Dept. Sponsored by Ridgeville Fire Department Auxiliary.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

“All the earth with joy is sounding: Christ is risen from the dead!” (LSB 462:1)

“Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music.”

(Psalm 98:4)