



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

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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 AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Making the Good Confession" *Matthew 10:5a, 21-33*

Order of Service: *Matins (LSB pg. 219)*

Hymns: 555, stz.1-6 ~ [Baptism: *Borning Cry, 588*] ~ 659 ~ 941 ~ 555, stz. 7-10

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome in the name of the Lord. We pray that through this time of stillness and song, prayer and proclamation, you may experience the Spirit of God at work in your life. If you do not have a local church home, we extend a warm invitation to you to become a part of our church family. Simply 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. Your presence is a blessing to us.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Bethann Gerken, *Pianist* ✠ Madison Bostelman & Ashton Niese, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Don & Karan Niebergall, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Eldor & Rozella Gruenhagen, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Tom VonDeylen, Doug Dietrich, Neil Badenhop, Roger Lulfs, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Marietta Damman, Deb Wachtman, Sharon Badenhop, Nancy Short, *Altar Guild* ✠

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are placed in recognition of the 25th Wedding Anniversary of Peter & Karen Gerken on Tues., June 27th. We rejoice with Pete & Karen over this milestone anniversary and can only wish them many more happy, healthy years together. Congratulations!



BAPTISM THIS MORNING – This morning we rejoice to witness the Baptism of **Bodie William Cowell** into the family of God. **Bodie** is the son of **Bobby & Kara Cowell**. He was born on June 6th at the Fulton County Health Center in Wauseon. **Bodie's** baptismal sponsors are Kyle Sausser and Aaron & Lindsay Gerken. His grandparents are **Larry & Cheryl Sausser** and **Kenny & Sandi Cowell**. We pray that the good work God begins this day by water and Word will be brought to completion on the day of Jesus Christ! Congratulations on this day of your rejoicing!

In God's House This Week		<i>Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl</i>
Date	Time	Activities
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 Meeting Board of Elders
Thurs.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Thursday Evening Worship
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM

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

- ❖ Shut-Ins: *Norma Damman, Renetta Homan, Stan Moll, Delores Badenhop, Don Dickmann*
- ❖ *Delora Winkelman, Marian Buchhop, and Anna Brodman*, at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Lucia Delventhal*, at Fulton Manor, Wauseon
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, residing at the Ohio Veteran's Home, Sandusky
- ❖ Armed Services: *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, Connor Gerken, Seth Handy*
- ❖ *Shirley Sonnenberg*, dealing with health issues
- ❖ *Melba Elling*, recuperating at Genacross Lutheran Home following a recent fall

ORDINATION OF FORMER VICAR AARON YAEGER – It's an exciting time for our former vicar *Aaron Yaeger* and his wife *Diana* and their children as they make their move to Lynchburg, Virginia and settle in for the ministry of the Word in that community. *Aaron* has been called to serve as pastor at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Lynchburg. He will be ordained into the holy ministry and installed as pastor on Sunday, July 23rd at 4:00 p.m. Let's shower these special people with our words and greetings of love and prayer. If you would like to send your greetings, the address is: **Rev. Aaron Yaeger ♦ Our Savior Lutheran Church ♦ 2940 Link Road ♦ Lynchburg, VA 24503**



<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 06/18/17	\$6,832.00	\$209.00	\$310.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday (6/15/17) Service: 41 Sunday (6/18/17) Service: 168

COMMUNED in June: 318 members; 10 guests

PORTALS OF PRAYER BOOKLETS for the next quarter, *July, August, September*, are on the desk in the back of the church. There are also large print booklets available for anybody to pick up.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY – Growing Together in Grace!

- **TODAY - FROM WHERE DID THE DIFFERENT RACES COME?** Fifty-four years ago, Martin Luther King Jr. said, “*I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.*” Yet all these years later, racial tensions seem to be on the rise in America. Why does race divide us? What is the origin and extent of the differences between the races? What does the Bible have to say about it? Join Pastor Niermann this morning in the fellowship hall for the Bible study series, *Big Questions, Biblical Answers*. We’ll watch a video on the subject and discuss.
- **JULY – FROM ALEXANDER CAMPBELL TO MARTIN LUTHER:** *Vicar Keller’s Journey to the Lutheran Church*. Many of you know that Vicar Keller came to the Lutheran Confession as an adult. Some of you have heard portions of his journey, but he has not told all of it. During the Adult Bible Hour in the month of July, he will explain his background and how he came to the Lutheran Church and to the right teaching on important doctrines such as baptism, the Lord's Supper, and Original Sin. In his attempt to prove the Lutherans wrong, he became a Lutheran. On this 500th anniversary of the Reformation, as always, it is important for us to hear stories such as this, and be reminded of the blessed heritage that is ours in the pure and right teaching of the Word of God. In addition, Vicar Keller is asking if there are theological topics that you would like covered that would be seen through his former lens and how Scripture explains them.

FURNITURE LOANED TO VICAR - If you loaned an item of furniture to the vicar and would like to have it back, please confirm this with *Pastor Niermann* or *Vicar Keller*.

STAINED GLASS FROM THE OLD CHURCH – The word is that there are a few members of the congregation who have pieces of stained glass from the windows in the old church. If you are willing to part with these, we could incorporate that glass into the new stained glass windows that are currently being planned and built. This would provide a beautiful and interesting link to our history. Please speak with Pastor Niermann if you have some of that old glass you’d like to contribute.

- **Stained Glass Window Progress** – Emails were received this week from *Sue Hurst* updating us on the progress of the first stained glass window. She writes: “We have the window all leaded but not yet soldered. The soldering “glues” it together. In another few days we will have it soldered together so it will be free standing and we can see what it looks like with the sunlight behind it. That is the most exciting part for me.”

LUTHERAN SCHOOLS ARE DIFFERENT? Lutheran schools teach God’s Word. Kids have deep questions about the Bible. They want to pray about their sick uncle and their family trip, and they like to sing beautiful songs about Jesus. To find out more information about St. John Lutheran School, please call 419-598-8702.

ARCHIVES DISPLAY: Two very special teachers are currently being highlighted in the Archives Display case for everyone to check out. *Lowell Petzoldt* celebrates 41 years in the teaching ministry, all of which have been here at St. John School. *Bonnie Niermann* celebrates 15 years as our Kindergarten teacher. Be sure to stop by and reminisce at the tribute to both of them.

CELEBRATING
150
YEARS

IT'S TIME TO FORM A 150th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE! In about a year and a half, we will turn the calendar to the year 2019 – the year our congregation will celebrate the 150th anniversary of its founding in 1869. It's an anniversary we will want to celebrate in many ways with joy and thanksgiving. If you would like to be part of the anniversary committee, please speak with Pastor Niermann, and we will have our first meeting this fall.

LYF COLOR FUN RUN/WALK FUNDRAISER – Join our Junior and Senior High LYF youth as they host their Color Fun Run/Walk on Sat., July 8th beginning at 1:00 PM. Come run or walk around the designated route on the church grounds and get covered with lots of different colors. Food and water will also be available and is included in the price. The price to participate is \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children. Please, no pets during the race and throughout the course. Sign up for the event on Facebook or email Sarah Bartok at sbartok@sjl.org. See “color” flyers in the hallway too!

SJL FUNDRAISER – THEME CHOSEN: Put this on your calendars...Plans are in motion for the **1st Annual “Soar With the Eagles” St. John Lutheran School Fundraiser to be held at the Ridgeville American Legion Hall on Fri., Nov. 10, 2017.** There will be a meal, along with a live and silent auction. Stay tuned for more information as plans are firmed up for this upcoming event.

ST. JOHN SCHOOL POSITION OPENINGS – St. John Lutheran School is seeking several people to fill the following positions that will be open for the 2017-18 school year.

- **Computer and/or Music Instructor** – This individual is responsible for computer instruction and/or classroom music one day per week for Grades K thru 8. This is a paid position.
- **School Cook** – This individual is responsible for preparing and serving daily lunches for the students and staff, and submitting reports in regard to the lunch program at St. John. This is a paid position.
- **Gr. 7&8 Science Teacher** – This individual is responsible for instructing the 7th & 8th grades in the area of general science. This is a paid position.
- **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 PM. This is a paid position.

If you are interested in more information on any of these positions, please speak with Principal Kramer or the chairman of the School Board, Sunday Griffith.

SAVE THE DATE: The *10th Annual Stephanie Lynn Kossow Memorial Golf Outing* will be held on Sat., July 22nd, with a 1:00 PM shotgun start. Registration forms now available on the narthex table!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

It wasn't the apple – it was the pair.

“Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned.” (Rom. 5:12)