



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

July 16, 2017

VOL. 82

NO. 29

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

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

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Heirs" *Romans 8:1-7*

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

Hymns: 725 ~ 594 ~ 940 (*Canticle*) ~ 686

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Now is the hour of worship. God speaks to us and we listen and respond with our hymns, prayers and praises. Together we bless the Lord whose purpose is to save us and keep us in His faithful flock. He is The God of Grace and The God of Glory. If you are a visitor, we ask that you fill out a 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

- ✂ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✂ Zak Schroeder & Aden Foor, *Acolytes* ✂
- ✂ Jerry & Nancy Short, *Greeters* ✂
- ✂ Delbert & Marian Damman, *Visitation* ✂
- ✂ Carey Damman, Craig Drewes, Scott VanValkenburg, *Ushers* ✂
- ✂ Karan Niebergall, Kaylee & Ronda Wentworth, Karen Lulfs, *Altar Guild* ✂

CHANGE OF COMMUNION SCHEDULE FOR JULY –Pastor Niermann is away on vacation this week, so the schedule for Holy Communion has changed for this month. Today will not be a Communion service like it would be for a normal third Sunday. Instead, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper next week on Thursday, July 20, and Sunday, July 23.

VOTERS' MEETING: There will be a Voters' Meeting held on Sun., July 30th immediately after the church service. Items to be discussed: 1) Kindergarten Teacher position change; 2) Constitution and Policy changes. Copies of the Constitution and Policy changes are available for you to review (prior to the meeting) on the table in the narthex.

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.	6:00 PM	Girls' Basketball Open Gym (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Tue.	9:00 AM	Exercise Class
Wed.	9:30 AM 10:15AM	Women of Freedom Meeting Depart for Ladies Day Trip outing (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Thurs.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Thursday Evening Worship
Sat.	6:00 PM	PTL Outdoor Movie Night
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Donald Luhring</i> , St. John Lutheran – Defiance

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

- ❖ Shut-Ins: *Norma Damman, Renetta Homan, Stan Moll, Delores Badenhop*
- ❖ *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
- ❖ *Harold Behrmann*, hospitalized this past week at Henry County Hospital

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY – Growing Together in Grace!

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 also asking if there are theological topics that you would like covered that would be seen through his former lens and how Scripture explains them.

THIS WEEK: The Vicar will wrap up the discussion on Original Sin and the Age of Accountability. He will then begin talking about the doctrine of Salvation, Baptism, and the Lord's Supper.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS: Please note the church office hours are Monday thru Thursday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Closed on Fridays. If making a special trip, please call (419-598-8961) to guarantee someone will be here. Thank you!

LWML QUARTERLIES: The next quarter's LWML Quarterlies are available on the table in the narthex. Be sure to pick up your copy today and enjoy some good reading material.

WOMEN OF FREEDOM OUTING – On Wednesday, July 19th, we will be traveling to the Loma Linda Restaurant for lunch, followed by a visit to the Butterfly House. All church members are invited to come along! There will be a short business meeting at 9:30 a.m. **Please bring your “Mite Boxes” to this meeting.** If you are not attending the meeting, please come to the church parking lot at 10:15 a.m. to carpool to the restaurant. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex. Questions??? Please contact Nancy Glaser at 419-598-8432.

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 07/09/17	\$7,164.00	\$108.00	\$255.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday (7/06/17) Service: 58 Sunday (7/09/17) Service: 150

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 in their possession 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 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.”

SIGNS, SIGNS, EVERYWHERE A SIGN: Tell your friends and neighbors about St. John Lutheran School by picking up a corrugated plastic yard sign in the back of the church. Place it in your front lawn or other obvious place to promote the school. Thank you for telling others about our school!

LUTHERAN SCHOOLS ARE DIFFERENT! They have educators who model servant leadership. They practice stewardship of resources, build up others and empathize with others. To find out more information about St. John Lutheran School, please call the office at 419-598-8702.

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.

COLOR FUN RUN/WALK FUNDRAISER – The date has been changed!!! Join our 6th, 7th & 8th Graders as they host this year's Color Fun Run/Walk on Sat., Aug. 26th 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!

ITBS RESULTS: The ITBS testing results have arrived for Grades K, 1, and 2 students. They are available, by family name, on the table in the narthex. Please pick your envelope up today! Nothing received on the OAA testing results for the 3rd thru 8th grade students. Stay tuned!

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.

- **Music Instructor** – This individual is responsible for 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.

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

UPCOMING SCHOOL DATES TO REMEMBER:

- ✓ **Annual School Cleaning** has been set for **Mon., July 31** and **Wed., Aug. 2** starting at **6:00 PM** both nights. **Thursday (Aug.3) and Friday (Aug. 4), if needed.** Please read the Parent Participation Policy on FastDirect with all the details about family requirements for School Cleaning. The carpets will be cleaned on Tues., Aug. 1.
- ✓ **SJL Fundraiser** – 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.

IF YOU'RE EVER IN A PINCH and could use a little help, the *Good Neighbor Fund* is there to assist you too! Please don't be bashful about asking – everything is strictly confidential. Just give Pastor Niermann a call, and we'll see what we can do!

COLLECTING STAMPS: The LWML is collecting stamps “For Missions.” A box is on the table in the narthex. Here is what you do: Cut the stamps from the envelopes allowing ¼ inch margin or more around the stamp. The stamp may not be damaged and the perforations around the stamp must be perfect. You need not trim the stamp; we have someone who trims and sorts the stamps. Do not remove stamps from envelopes, albums, and older postcards. An “old” postcard is usually from 1930 or before. The most valuable stamps are commemorative, foreign, and stamp denominations larger than 46 cents. It only makes sense that you purchase and use commemorative stamps for your personal mailing. When purchasing stamps, ask the post office for commemorative stamps. Colorful and large stamps are desirable. Collecting stamps is an easy way to participate in a mission project sponsored by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL OPEN GYM: St. John Girls' Basketball Open Gym will be Mon., July 17 from 6:00 – 7:30 PM. Any girl going into grades 3-8 with interest in playing basketball during the 2017-18 school year is invited to attend. If you are a returning player, please bring your uniform to be turned in. Have any questions – call Coach Todd Wachtman!! Hope to see you there!!

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 system.

AREA EVENTS:

- **Zion Lutheran Church, Ridgeville Corners** is hosting a Homemade Ice Cream Social today serving from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Carryouts. Freewill Offering! See flyer.
- **St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Defiance** is hosting an Ice Cream Social today serving from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Carryouts available. Freewill Offering! See flyer.
- **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!
- **Ridgeville American Legion** is hosting the Ohio Flags of Honor Memorial on **Saturday and Sunday, July 29th & 30th** at the legion hall. See flyer for more details!
- **Northwest Ohio CASA** will be conducting training classes for volunteers in September 2017. The need for volunteers is always great. If you would like more information about becoming a CASA volunteer, please call their office at 419-592-9455.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

“To be baptized in God's name is to be baptized not by human being but by God himself. Although it is performed by human hand, it is nevertheless truly God's own act.” – LC IV 10
You have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” (Rom. 8:17)



"But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!"

Galatians 5:22-23