



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

October 08, 2017

VOL. 82

NO. 41

Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor
Rev. Charles Kramer, Principal

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

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "What More Could I Do?" *Isaiah 5:1-7*

Order of Service: *Morning Prayer – LSB pg. 255*

Hymns: **825 ~ 544 ~ 540** (*substitute for Benedictus*) ~ **912**

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome to the services of God's House and the fellowship of our congregation. Enter in stillness...know that the Lord is God. Listen in reverence...it is God who has made us. Sing with delight...it is God who hears us. Speak with conviction...there is no other God. Depart in peace...it is God's gift for you. Serve with joy...it is your gift to God. Please fill out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you to note your presence and pass it to the center aisle during the offering.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠ Taylor Dietrich & Ella Rosebrook, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Bonnie Niermann & Cheryl Yaw, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Lawrence & Hildegard Behrmann, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Tom VonDeylen, Neil Badenhop, Doug Dietrich, Roger Lulfs, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Karen Germann, Diana Kruse, Mary Kossow, *Altar Guild* ✠

AT REST: Stan Moll, 84, passed away on Tues., Oct. 3rd at Genacross Lutheran Home, Napoleon following a lengthy illness. Stan's funeral service was held here at St. John on Sat., Oct. 7 at 11:00 AM. Burial followed in the St. John Cemetery. Please keep Ruth and family in your daily prayers at this time of grief.

"HERE AM I, LORD!" – At its meeting recently, the Stewardship Board began the process of identifying nominees for the various offices of our congregation. If there is a congregational office in which you would like to serve, please speak with *Cheryl Sausser* or *Pastor Niermann* to let them know. And as always, please keep this process in your prayers that God would raise for us congregational leaders who love the Father's House and delight in tending to its business.

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

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service with Communion following <i>Java Joy</i> ; Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp"
Mon.		NO SCHOOL – Professional Development Day for teachers
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:00 AM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Chapel led by Pastor Niermann Exercise Class V-ball: Gr. 4-6; 6:00 PM Gr. 7&8 Girls vs Trinity - Toledo Church Council Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM 6:30 PM 7:30 PM	Jr. High Confirmation Class Adult Hand Bell Practice Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	9:00 AM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	NO SCHOOL – Ohio District Teacher's Conference Exercise Class V-ball: Gr. 4-6 Girls; 6:00 PM Gr. 7&8 vs Toledo Hornets Thursday Evening Worship
Fri.	5:00 PM	NO SCHOOL – Ohio District Teacher's Conference V-ball: Gr. 4-6 vs. BG Christian
Sat.	9:00 AM	St. John Invitational Volleyball Tournament (<i>to be determined</i>)
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 2:00 PM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" Jr. & Sr. High LYF to Leader's Corn Maze (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Lee Genter</i> , Christ Our Savior Lutheran – Defiance

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

- ❖ Shut-Ins: *Norma Damman, Renetta Homan*
- ❖ *Delora Winkelman, Marian Buchhop, and Anna Brodman*, at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Lucia Delventhal*, at Fulton Manor, Wauseon
- ❖ *Evelyn Rohrs, Delores Badenhop, and Melba Elling*, in Assisted Living at The Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, residing at the Ohio Veteran's Home, Sandusky
- ❖ Armed Services: *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, Connor Gerken, Seth Handy*
- ❖ *Shirley Sonnenberg, Ezekiel Damman, Elmer Maassel, Hildegard Behrmann, and Pat Kramer*, dealing with health issues at this time

JAVA JOY TODAY! It's the second Sunday of the month, and that means **Java Joy** following the service. Take a little time to enjoy a bite to eat and some fellowship. A table is set up in the front hallway. Your gifts to the "kitty" help keep **Java Joy** alive and going. We thank *Todd & Tina Wachtman and Family* for hosting Java Joy for October.

Interested in being a **Java Joy** host? Please sign up on the table in the narthex. Don't let finances stop you – you are welcome to reimburse your expenses from the kitty if you wish. Thank you!



SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY this morning will resume our study, **A Man Named Luther – Part 2: The Moment.** This video-based Bible study from *Lutheran Hour Ministries* examines the errant teachings and wayward traditions of the Late Medieval Church that eventually prompted Luther's writing of the 95 Theses that sparked the Protestant Reformation. This Bible study takes a close look at the widespread teachings of purgatory, penance, celibacy, prayers for the dead, transubstantiation, the treasury of merits of Christ, devotion to Mary and the rosary, the institution of the papacy, and the one most often linked to the Reformation: the sale of indulgences. Join Pastor Niermann this morning in the fellowship hall for the study of God's Word!



WOMEN OF FREEDOM: The next Women of Freedom meeting will be Tues., Oct. 17th at 7:00 PM. All ladies of St. John invited to come. Bring your mite box to the meeting. The Quarterlies are available on the table in the narthex.

DONATION DAY – The Concordia Theological Seminary Guild, with the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, is holding a special Donation Day on Tues., Oct. 10 at the Seminary campus in Fort Wayne. Especially needed are men's dress clothes, along with other gently used clothing, dry and canned food items, paper towels, toilet paper, disposable diapers, and personal hygiene items. Monetary donations are also appreciated. *Lois Rosebrock* will be attending this event, and she may be contacted at 419-598-8248 with any donations/questions.

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT: The Advent By Candlelight committee has been assigned. Members include: *Kathy Behnfeldt, Mabel Bischoff, Joann Buchhop, Marian Damman, Marietta Damman, Sharon Damman, Marian Dickmann.*

FINANCIAL FACTS:	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 10/01/17	\$9,814.82	\$199.00	\$785.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday (9/28/17) Service: 37 Sunday (10/01/17) Service: 174

JR/SR HIGH LYF OUTING: Join us at Leaders' Corn Maze on Sun., Oct. 8th from 2:00 – 4:00 PM for fun and fellowship. Event cost will be \$5 per LYF member and can be given to Miss Bartok on the day of the event. If students are unable to attend because of the cost, please contact Miss Bartok. Guests are invited and encouraged, but they must pay the \$5 (group rate) admission. Students may stay longer if you are with a parent or in high school. Families are also welcome!

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.

Reformation 500

CIRCUIT REFORMATION SERVICE – Sun, Oct. 22nd ~ 5 p.m.

500 years ago this October 31st, Dr. Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the doors of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany and unwittingly sparked a reformation of the church of his day and for all time. God used Luther mightily to bring the Gospel out of darkness into the light, and 500 years later we are the heirs of his work, writings and teachings.

On Sunday, October 22nd the congregations of the LCMS Northwest Ohio Circuit II will be celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in a special joint worship service at St. Paul Lutheran, 1075 Glenwood Ave., Napoleon. Mark your calendars for this special service, featuring...

- **Preaching by Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing**, Associate Professor of Exegetical Theology, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne
- **Special music by a mass circuit choir** (including choir members from St. John)
- **Brass Ensemble & Hand bell Choir**
- **Beautiful hymns of the Reformation**

CONGREGATIONAL CELEBRATION – Sun, Oct. 29th

On this 500th Anniversary year, the Reformation will be celebrated in congregations all across Christendom on Sunday, October 29th. That morning we will also have a special Reformation Celebration themed, “Reformation Journeys.” In this Divine Service we will touch upon three ways in which the Reformation has profoundly impacted...

- Family and Heritage
- Education and Preaching
- Music and Worship

Let us assemble that day in the House of God to give thanks and praise to Christ who, through His servant Martin Luther, brought the Gospel to light for the entire world!



“THE REFORMATION” A New Volume from CPH – As we near the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, it’s a great time for all of us to refresh in our minds the history surrounding this movement that changed the world. CPH is offering a new hardback, 250-page volume titled **“The Reformation,”** written by *Cameron MacKenzie*. Never before has the history of the Reformation been prepared in English like this one! The text is comprehensive and accessible, and explains things clearly in a way that will hold the reader’s attention. The volume is beautifully illustrated as well.

If you might be interested in purchasing this book, a sample is on display for you in the narthex, as well as a poster where you can sign up to receive your copy. The special pre-order price is \$22.49 per copy. Make checks payable to “St John Lutheran Church” and write “Reformation book” on the memo line. This price good through Sunday, Oct. 15th – the order will be placed on (10/16).

BLUE RIBBON PANEL ON FUNDING CHURCH & SCHOOL – At its September meeting the Church Council decided to establish a “Blue Ribbon Panel” to study the matter of funding the ministry of our church and school into the future. (A Blue Ribbon Panel is a group appointed to investigate and analyze a given question.)

This group will look at past funding, current funding, and will create recommendations for future funding. We expect this panel to be a group of exceptionally concerned members who will be appointed to investigate, study, and analyze our Church and School finances. Panel members should be energetic and open minded to the best direction for our Church and School. In coordination with the Elders, Stewardship Board, and School Board, panel members may be asked to solicit opinions from congregational members. This panel will not make any decisions. They will make recommendations to the Voters. If more than 9 people volunteer, panel members will be chosen by the Voters’ Assembly.

If you would like to serve on this Blue Ribbon Panel, please speak with congregational president *Tom Von Deylen*.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR TIME CHANGES – The Lutheran Hour Ministries can be heard on a few radio stations in our area. They cover many topics relevant to today’s issues. Broadcasts can be heard Sundays on: Archbold’s WMTR 96.1 at 7:30 AM and **Napoleon’s WNDH 103.1 at 9:00 AM.**

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS SERVICE – **Assignment of parts**

Very soon **ALL the children of our congregation** (preschool through 8th grade) will be assigned a part in the annual Children’s Christmas Service, scheduled for Sunday evening, December 17. These will be handed out in Sunday School and school, or mailed out. For organization purposes it’s more efficient for us to work from the assumption that all children will participate, and we certainly want to encourage that! This tradition helps our children learn and understand the true message of Christmas.

IF, however, for some reason your child will not be participating, we ask that you would please do us the courtesy of calling the church office soon to inform us. This will save us from having to scramble at the last minute to reassign parts. Thank you for helping us in this way!

FYI – this year’s Children’s Christmas Service is titled, “A ‘Sola’ Christmas.” It is built around the five great “solas” of the Reformation: Scripture Alone, Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Christ Alone, and To God’s Glory Alone.



POSITION OPEN – St. John Lutheran School is still seeking someone to fill the position of **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 this position, please speak with Principal Kramer or the chairman of the School Board, Karen Gerken.

S.T.O.P. FALL PENNY DRIVE – The PTL Fall Penny Drive at St. John School begins on Mon., Oct. 2nd and runs thru Fri., Nov. 3rd. Send your pennies in to school with your child or grandchild.

FUNDRAISER TICKETS – “Soar With the Eagles” tickets will be available for purchase this morning at the table beside the *Java Joy* tables. Grab your coffee and cookie and then stop by and get your tickets for the fundraiser too. Check with your relatives and friends and get a group together and come out to the Ridgeville Legion for a fun evening and support St. John Lutheran School. *See below.*

“SOAR WITH THE EAGLES” SCHOOL FUNDRAISER – An evening of dinner, live and silent auctions, door prizes, music, and fellowship await you as the 1st Annual “Soar With the Eagles” St. John Lutheran School Fundraiser will be held at the Ridgeville American Legion Hall on Fri., Nov. 10, 2017. Doors open at 6:00 PM. Dinner will be served from 6-7:30 PM and the auctioning will begin at 7:30 PM. All proceeds will go to St. John Lutheran School operating expense.

Tickets are \$50.00 each or \$375 for a table of eight. Tickets include entry to the event, dinner catered by the Legion Auxiliary, entertainment, and late-night snacks. There will be business-sponsored "happy hours" with drinks provided. Top door prizes include \$1000 cash, a Smart TV, and a YETI Cooler. **You may purchase tickets at St. John Lutheran School or by contacting Margo Behnfeldt (419-966-3469) or Sunday Griffith (419-277-4055).** *Only 300 tickets will be sold, so get yours fast before it's too late!

SCHOOL VISITATION & SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR: The School Visitation Open House (Gr. K-8) will be held on Thurs., October 19th from 7 – 8 PM. St. John PTL will be having a **Scholastic Book Fair** which is open to the public on **Thursday, October 19**, from 6:30 – 8:30 PM; and again on **Friday, October 20** from 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM. A lot of help is needed, so call *Christa Bickel* (419-262-3248) or contact her via FastDirect if you can help.

PRESCHOOL GRANDPARENTS’ DAY – **Preschool Grandparents’ Day** will be held from 9:00 – 11:00 AM on **Thurs., Oct. 19th for the 4 & 5-year old class** and same time on **Fri., Oct. 20th for the 3-year old class**. Grandparents should plan to arrive at 9 AM and report to the gym. Grandparents will also have the opportunity to take their grandchild to the PTL Scholastic Book Fair.

AREA EVENTS:

- **St. John Lutheran Church – Stryker** invites you to their Country Corner Craft Fair on **Sun., Oct. 15th** at the church. Lunch served from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM and the craft fair goes from 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Come and enjoy!
- **St. Luke Lutheran Church – Wauseon** is hosting its Harvest Fest on **Sun., Oct. 22nd from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** at the church. See flyer for more info!

✘ ✘ ✘

FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

“I am more afraid of my own heart than of the pope and all his cardinals.

I have within me the great pope.” ~Dr. Martin Luther

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.” (Psa 51:10)