



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

November 11, 2018

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

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

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "He Makes Wars to Cease" *Psalm 46:6-11*
Order of Service: *See printed Service Folder*
Hymns: 966 ~ 548 ~ 661 ~ 965 ~ 717

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. But above all, we invite you to come to worship with us at any time.

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.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✘ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✘ Claire Wachtman & Colton Kruse, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Jerry & Nancy Short, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Lawrence & Hildegard Behrmann, *Visitation* ✘
- ✘ David Badenhop, Denny Von Deylen, Jerry Short, Dan Wiechers, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Karen Germann, Mary Kossow, Diana Kruse, *Altar Guild* ✘

HAPPY VETERANS DAY! We sometimes seek for heroes who would save our day, often forgetting the heroes in our midst who fought for our freedoms years ago – our veterans. What we see are the greys in their hair and the wrinkles in their skin which signify to us lack of strength. Yet behind the present appearance is the heart of a valiant soldier with years of experience in serving our nation in its armed forces, sometimes even in the thick of battle. Today, let us remember the honor, pride, and freedom they brought to our country by paying respect to their great sacrifices and by showing them how grateful we are for having them in our lives and in our country.



In God's House This Week *Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl*

| Date | Time | Activities |
|---------------|--|--|
| Today | 9:00 AM 10:20AM 11:00AM 4:00 PM | Worship Service w/Communion following Light Refreshments following service; Sunday School; "The Lamp" Centenary Bell Ringing at the Old School Jr. High LYF Meeting |
| Mon. | 7:00 PM | PTL Meeting and School Board Meeting |
| Tue. | 9:00 AM 7:00 PM | Chapel led by Pastor Kramer Council Meeting |
| Wed. | 6:15 PM 7:15 PM | Junior Confirmation Class (6:15 – 7:30 PM) Adult Choir Practice |
| Sat. | | Woodburn Boys' Basketball Tournament – Gr. 4-6 |
| Sun. | 9:00 AM 10:20AM 4:00 PM | Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" Sr. High LYF Meeting |
| Mon.- Sat. | 7:30 AM | Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Theodore Rellstab</i> , St. John Lutheran – Holgate |

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

- ❖ Shut-Ins: *Norma Damman, Renetta Homan, and Willie Gerken*
- ❖ *Lucia Delventhal*, at Fulton Manor, Wauseon
- ❖ *Delora Winkelman, Marian Buchhop, and Dorothy Gerken*, at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Evelyn Rohrs and Melba Elling*, in Assisted Living at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, residing at the Ohio Veteran's Home, Sandusky
- ❖ Armed Services: *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, Connor Gerken, Seth Handy*
- ❖ *Macie Wyse*, going thru some difficult therapy as she continues her battle with cancer
- ❖ *Phyllis Silveus and Eldor Gruenhagen*, for health concerns they are currently encountering
- ❖ *Jaclyn Dishop and Jesse Geronimo*, on their marriage this coming Saturday in Toledo. May God bless their day of celebration and their life together!

THANK YOU FROM PASTOR NIERMANN - As if last Sunday wasn't meaningful enough with the celebration of All Saints, it became all the more meaningful for your kind remembrance of my 20th anniversary of ministry as your pastor. I want to thank everyone who planned the event, who attended, and who sent cards or offered words of gratitude. Thanks also to the choir for the beautiful piece in worship about our faithful Shepherd - it is my privilege to be His undershepherd among this flock. Thank you also for the smoker. I don't know if it will produce 'holy smoke' like someone said, but I'm planning to prepare the Thanksgiving turkey in that smoker, and can't wait to try it. Thanks again to everyone for the pleasure of serving these 20 years. Bonnie and I have been blessed indeed!

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY is cancelled this morning as we honor our veterans in a reception following the service. Sunday Bible study will resume next Sunday, November 18.

JR. HIGH LYF will be meeting today (Sun., Nov. 11th) at 4:00 PM. All youth currently in grades 6th-8th are welcome to join us. Come join us for fellowship, Bible study, and snacks.

CENTENARY RINGING OF THE OLD SCHOOL BELL – THIS MORNING!

One hundred years after the old school bell was rung for the first time on Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1918, we will ring it again this morning in recognition of the 100th anniversary of that day and in honor of our nation's veterans.

Late in the year 1918, in the eleventh month, the construction of our "new" school building was nearly complete. On the eleventh day of that month, it was announced in the news around the world that early that Monday morning an armistice had been signed at Compiègne, France, bringing an end to hostilities between Germany and the Allies. World War I was finally coming to an end.

The armistice was to come into force at the eleventh hour of that Monday morning. While the "new" school building at St. John was still three weeks shy of being completed and dedicated, the school bell was already in place in the tower. It was decided that the first ringing of that bell would not be for the upcoming dedication of the building, but to celebrate the armistice and the end of "The Great War." At "the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" of the year 1918, the bell rang joyously for the first time.

Now 100 years later to the minute, we are planning to ring the old school bell once again at 11:00 a.m. this morning. After a reception in the fellowship hall honoring our veterans, please bundle up and join us in front of the old school building at a few minutes before 11 o'clock for a brief service of thanks to God, including the centenary ringing of the bell.

- Worship at 9:00 a.m. Veterans will be recognized by the military branches in which they served
- Reception at 10:15 a.m. Honoring our veterans in the church fellowship hall
- Bell ringing at 11:00 a.m. Including a brief service of thanksgiving to God



POINSETTIA SALE WRAPS UP – If you haven't done so yet, **you have until tomorrow (Nov. 12th) to turn in your order.** The order will be called in Tues., Nov. 13th. The cost is \$8.00 per plant. Forms with check payable to *St. John Lutheran School* can be dropped in the box in the narthex.



THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP – This year we will gather as God's thankful people on Thanksgiving Eve for a service of praise to God for His many blessings! Come, ye thankful people, come! Thanksgiving worship is on Wednesday evening, Nov. 21st at 7:00 p.m.

SCRIP ORDER FORMS HAVE BEEN UPDATED and are available on the narthex table today. It is also posted on FastDirect in the **Everybody** section. The newest form shows "created: 10/30/2018" in the upper right corner. Plan to get a jump start on Christmas shopping this year. Happy shopping!

SR. HIGH LYF will be meeting next Sunday, Nov. 18th, at 4:00 PM at Miss Bartok's house. We will be having a small thanksgiving get together. Contact Miss Bartok for more information!

LYF ASSISTANCE NEEDED – *Sarah Bartok*, our LYF leader, is seeking assistance with this youth ministry in our congregation for both the Junior High and Senior High levels. If you would like to volunteer, please speak with Sarah. Your service would be a blessing to her and to our youth.

| <u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u> | Home Fund | Synod & Missions | Building Fund |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------------|---------------|
| Weekly Need | \$9,792.78 | \$500.00 | \$961.54 |
| Rec'd 11/04/18 | \$9,498.00 | \$211.00 | \$582.00 |

ATTENDANCE: Sunday (11/04/18) – 265

COMMUNED in October: 311 members and 6 guests

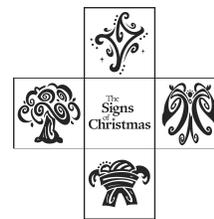
ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT DATE IS SET: *WOMEN AND MEN* – mark your calendars for *Advent By Candlelight* for Thursday, December 6 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. This year all women **and men** of the congregation are invited to attend this special evening designed to help us prepare our hearts for the celebration of Christ's birth. We will enjoy a candlelit potluck dinner and an Advent program. More information will be posted in the near future.

BULLETIN STUFFER VOLUNTEERS: Want to get involved? Why not try volunteering to help with stuffing the bulletins for worship services. It's not too difficult and can be done either at church or in the comfort of your own home. The bulletins are pre-folded. If anyone is willing to donate a little time toward stuffing bulletins, we are looking for about 11-12 couples/families to sign up for this task. There is a signup sheet on the narthex table. You can even pick the month(s) that work best for you. We can accommodate your busy schedules. **NOTE:** *If you have stuffed bulletins in the past year, thank you for your service. We ask that you please sign up again and choose your month. You can also call Lori Langenhop at 419-598-8151 or email her at lahop@bright.net.*

GREETER, USHER, AND ALTAR GUILD SIGN-UP – We are preparing the 2019 greeter, usher, and altar guild schedules so this is the time to sign-up at the table in the narthex. If you are interested in serving God's people here at St. John in a way that is much needed and appreciated, would you consider joining a team? A few people have dropped out over the past year and so we ask you to consider signing up for one of these teams. The sign-up deadline is Sunday, Dec. 9th. *You do not need to sign up again if you are currently serving as a greeter, usher or are on an altar guild team.*

NOMINATIONS FOR 2019 – The Stewardship Board has begun the process for nominating people to the various offices of our congregation. If you would still like to be included on the list of nominees for any office, please speak with a member of the Stewardship Board or with Pastor. Letters were recently sent out to those nominated by the Board. A member of the Stewardship Board will be following up with you soon if they haven't already.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE – 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 Sun., Dec. 23 at 7:00 PM. These will be handed out in Sunday School and school. 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. Thank you for helping us in this way!

CHRISTMAS DECORATING: School Board would like to have a group of people come forward to decorate the church this Christmas season. There has not been much response over the years, so please give it some thought this time, and contact the church office if you would like to help. If we can get several volunteers together, it would only take 3-4 hours. Thank you!

YOUTH CENTER DONATIONS: Don't forget the future "youth center" when you make those end of the year donations. There are still envelopes available on the narthex table for anyone wishing to donate. Make your payment to **St. John Lutheran Church** and put "St. John Lutheran Youth Center" on the memo line. Thank you for helping to make this a reality!

FOLLOW OUR CHURCH ON FACEBOOK – Our Facebook page will become a source of information about our 150th Anniversary year, as well as a place where members and school alumni will be encouraged to share memories of the past. The first of many historical pictures has been posted there for you to enjoy and discuss. Please be sure to 'like' and 'share' these posts so that we can reach the broadest possible audience. Let's build a good Facebook following, especially as we approach the 150th Anniversary celebration.



If you aren't following our church yet on Facebook, just search for "St. John Lutheran, Napoleon" and you'll see us in this list with a profile picture of the outside front of the sanctuary. Be sure to share the page with your friends, and (Our school also has a Facebook page; find and follow it!)

LWML 38TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION – Mobile, AL, June 20-23, 2019

Information has been received in regard to travel and hotel accommodations for this LWML convention. Further detailed information can be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Reservation deadline is Fri., Nov. 30, 2018.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR SEMINARY STUDENTS: Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, is asking for gifts to be distributed to our Seminarians on December 14th. Gift cards are greatly appreciated (*or cash*), along with gifts, quilts or cash for the Christmas Marketplace. Cards should arrive by November 6 and no later than December 8. Items can be sent to Concordia Theological Seminary; 6600 North Clinton St.; Fort Wayne, IN 46825-4996.

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!

150th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE REQUEST – The 150th Anniversary Committee is working

to build a database of St. John's former members so they can be contacted about anniversary related events. We need everyone's help in this. If you know any former members, would you please pass along their names and addresses? Don't assume we already know about them. Use the form on the table in the narthex, and drop it in the marked box. Thank you for your assistance in this project! It will be a joy to welcome these folks back to St. John for our anniversary events!



WALLEYE HOCKEY: Get ready for some Walleye Hockey! St. John will be having a Family Night Out at the Toledo Walleye game on Sun., Jan. 20th. Come on out for a night of fun for the whole family! Tickets are \$15 per person. Hot dog, chips, and pop/water combo vouchers are also available for \$6 each. Sign up by emailing Miss Bartok on FastDirect or in the church office. **The deadline for money and signing up is December 21st.**

ST. JOHN SCHOOL POSITION OPENING: The Freedom's Flock (After School Care) program has an immediate opening for an Aide position. This person is in charge of the aftercare program each day that school is in session from 3-6 pm. It averages 10-12 hours per week. Must have a background check. If interested in this position, please speak with Principal Kramer by calling the school office.

CHURCH LIBRARY – The church library, located in the hall next to the sanctuary, is growing to contain a lot of excellent books that will edify your faith. The books in this library have been screened to assure that they are true to the Word of God and can be trusted to be theologically sound. To borrow a book, just take it with you, and then return it to the basket when you've finished reading.

PRAYER CALENDAR NOTE: Please be aware that if you would like your wedding anniversaries printed on the prayer calendars, you will have to post them each year. Just list them on the blank calendars posted on the bulletin board in the narthex throughout the year.

CHRISTMAS CHEER PROGRAM – Henry County Christmas Cheer has begun its annual campaign for the collection of food for low income and needy persons in Henry County. From now through **Mon., December 3rd** a box is placed in the narthex and a barrel in the cafeteria/fellowship hall for the collection of canned goods, dry goods and paper products. No Microwave items! Suggestions are: *Canned Vegetables, Fruit, Soup, Stews, Meats; Macaroni & Cheese Mixes, Spaghetti's, Spaghetti Sauce, Tomato Juice, Broths, Noodles, Rice, Spaghetti; Instant Potato, Stuffing, Cake Mixes; Cereals, Syrups, Crackers, Peanut Butter, Pudding, Jell-o, Frostings, Fruit Juices, Coffee, Kool-aid, Chocolate Drink Mixes; Tissues, Toilet Tissue, Paper Towels; Bar Soap, Toothpaste, etc.*

AREA EVENTS

- ◆ **COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER!** The churches and service groups of Henry County are hosting a community Thanksgiving Meal at St. Paul Lutheran, 1075 Glenwood Ave., Napoleon on Thurs., Nov. 22nd from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM.
- ◆ **CHRISTMAS VILLAGE CRAFT SHOW** will be held at the Ridgeville Legion Hall, Sun., Dec. 2nd from 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Lunch is available. Come and browse the shops!
- ◆ **THE TOLEDO SYMPHONY** will perform a Christmas Concert at **St. Paul Lutheran Church – Napoleon Township, on Wed., Dec. 12th beginning at 7:30 PM.** Tickets on sale thru their church office at 419-758-3522. See flyer!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

“We don't know them all, but we owe them all.”

“Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.” (John 15:13)