

St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

April 17, 2022

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NO. 16

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

EASTER DAY – The Resurrection of our Lord

- **7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service:** *Printed Service Folder*
Sermon & Text: "The Garden Tomb – The Fall of Fear" *John 19:41*
Hymns: 467 ~ 457 ~ 461, *sts.1,8* ~ 480, *sts.1,4* ~ 484 ~ 474 ~ 478
Soloist: "Were You There" sung by Peter Gerken
- **9:30 a.m. Easter Festival Service with Communion:** *Printed Service Folder*
Sermon & Text: "He Has Arisen! He is NOW Here!" *Luke 24:1-12*
Hymns: 465 ~ 457 ~ 466 ~ [Communion: 633, 461, 477] ~ 490

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA! We greet those who are visiting with us today in the name of our Risen Savior. We are gathered as a community of Christians. Our center is Jesus Christ. We are here to know again the touch of His forgiving and healing hand. If you are visiting today, please fill out the blue Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and drop it in the baskets at the doors as you leave.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

1st Service: ✘ Addison Naveau, Peyton Naveau, *Acolytes* ✘

2nd Service: ✘ Maddox Oyer, Raegan Dietrich, *Acolytes* ✘

✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘

✘ Elmer Maassel, Ted Ripke, Bob Norden, Denny Behnfeldt, *Ushers* ✘

✘ Deb Von Deylen, Anita Badenhop, Pat Maassel, Kathy Behnfeldt, *Altar Guild* ✘

HEAVEN SENT – On Friday, April 8th, *Hildegard Behrmann*, 88, went to heaven to be with her Lord. Hildegard's funeral service was held here at St. John on Wed., April 13 at 10:30 AM. Her burial followed in St. John Lutheran Cemetery. May God console Lawrence and Darrel and their family as they grieve the loss of Hildegard, and yet be comforted with the sure promise of salvation through Christ our Lord!

In God's House This Week		Online church calendar: https://74058984.view-events.com
Date	Time	Activities
Today	7:00AM 8:00AM 9:30 AM	Easter Sunrise Service Easter Breakfast for everyone – Freewill Offering! (<i>Till 9:15 AM</i>) Easter Festival Service with Communion
Mon.		NO SCHOOL – Easter Break
Tues.	8:20AM 8:35 AM 7:00 PM	Classes resume School Chapel Women of Freedom Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM	Jr High Confirmation Class (<i>until 7:30 PM</i>)
Fri.	6:00 PM	Wedding Rehearsal – <i>Saylor / Maassel</i>
Sat.	3:30 PM	Wedding Ceremony – <i>Jordan Saylor / Leah Maassel</i>
Sun.	9:00AM 10:15AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Adult Instruction Classes begin (<i>see bulletin note</i>) Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; “The Lamp”
Mon.-Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM

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

- ❖ *Melba Elling, Lorna Von Deylen, Norma Damman*, at Genacross – Napoleon
- ❖ *Ruth Mahnke*, at Assisted Living – Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Lawrence Behrmann*, at Northcrest Nursing & Rehab and in hospice care
- ❖ *Florence Jones*, moved to hospice care at Fulton Manor, Wauseon
- ❖ **Military:** *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Niermann, Jared Dishop, Jordan Lange*
- ❖ *Esther Layton, Sue Hurst, Eileen Fitzenreiter*, and *Don Lawrence*, concerns relating to cancer
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, at Ohio Veteran’s Home, Sandusky, and battling lung cancer
- ❖ *Teacher Sarah Bartok*, who has received a teaching call to Springfield Lutheran School in Springfield, Missouri. We pray that God will guide her in her deliberations, as she considers where she will continue her teaching ministry.
- ❖ *Cheryl Yaw and Diane Von Deylen*, recuperating at home from recent knee replacement surgery

ANNIVERSARY FLOWERS:

- In recognition of their 55th Wedding Anniversary on Friday, April 15th, the family of Elmer & Pat Maassel would like to recognize and congratulate their parents on this milestone anniversary with flowers on the piano. Congratulations Elmer & Pat...and many more!
- And...celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on the same date of Friday, April 15th are Ted & Jackie Ripke. Their flowers are also placed on the piano by their family. Congrats to the Ripke’s on 50 years...and counting!

THANK YOU! The captains of all three annual church cleaning groups would like to thank those members who gave of their time and energy to come and clean and spruce up the church and fellowship hall over the past few weeks. Everything looks and “smells” so clean. Thank you for the awesome job!

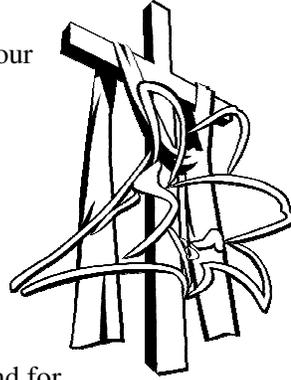
Happy Easter

If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain... But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.” (1 Cor. 15:17, 20)

It is good to be here to celebrate our day of days, the resurrection of our Lord Jesus. The morning schedule is as follows:

- **7:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service**
Unveiling of the Resurrection Window
- 8:00 a.m. Easter Fellowship Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall
- **9:30 a.m. Easter Festival Service with Holy Communion**
Dedication of the Stained Glass Windows

Thank you to everyone who helped to make this day a day of rejoicing and celebration --- to the musicians for leading our praise; to the ushers, altar guild members, youth acolytes for their assistance in our worship, and for everyone who supplied flowers. In all our service, and in all we do and say, may our lives proclaim the risen Savior.



Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

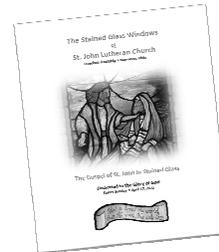
EASTER BREAKFAST – The Easter Breakfast will be served between the two services this morning from 8:00 to 9:15 AM. The menu is: *Egg Casseroles, French bread, fresh fruit, coffee cake, doughnuts, sweet rolls, cookies, coffee and juice.* This will be a freewill donation breakfast.

EASTER FLOWERS – Those who bought Easter flowers to beautify the sanctuary for Easter are listed in the lilac colored bulletin insert today. You may take your flowers home after the 9:30 AM Easter Festival Service today. Thank you for sharing their beauty once again!

STAINED GLASS WINDOW NEWS – Unveiling, Dedication, Crosses

This morning we rejoice at the completion of our stained glass window project, which has been nearly seven years in the making. The second-last window, the Crucifixion, was unveiled Friday evening at the Good Friday Tenebrae service. The final window, the Resurrection, is unveiled this morning in the Sunrise Service, and all of the windows are dedicated to God’s glory in the later Easter Festival Service.

- **A booklet – “The Stained Glass Windows of St. John”** – with a brief history and descriptions of each window will be available after the Sunrise Service. ***Please take one copy per household.*** If you find a little time between Easter services, you may want to use this booklet for a close-up self-guided tour of the windows.
- **Stained Glass Cross Necklaces** are also available this morning in the narthex. Steve & Sue Hurst made these crosses for us from the same glass used to make our windows. Choose a cross and pair it with a cord or chain. Wear it as one boasting of Christ crucified for us!



EASTER LILIES – Thank you to anyone who donated to help us purchase Easter lilies this year. If you made a donation, please feel free to pick up a lily and take it home to enjoy. There will likely be some extra lilies as well, so if you know someone who would be blessed to receive a lily, please take one and share it with them, and greet them for us, “*Christ is risen! Alleluia!*”



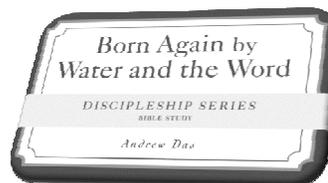
ADULT INSTRUCTION AND MEMBERSHIP CLASS TO BEGIN

NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 24, Pastor Niermann will begin teaching an **Adult Instruction and Membership Class** after Sunday services. This class is for anyone interested in learning more about what our church teaches and confesses, and will also be a membership class for those who may wish to join our congregation - although, of course, there is no obligation for class participants to do so. Classes will run for about 10 weeks through the end of June, with a break on Confirmation Sunday. We will meet after worship each Sunday for an hour, about 10:15-11:15 a.m., in the conference room near the restrooms.

This is also an excellent opportunity for members of St. John to be refreshed in the primary teachings of our faith and to invite someone to come who may be interested in joining our fellowship.

NEW ADULT BIBLE STUDY TO BEGIN NEXT SUNDAY

A new Sunday Bible study will get underway next Sunday, April 24, titled “**Born Again by Water and the Word – A Study of Infant Baptism.**” One of the most noticeable differences between Christian denominations is whether or not they baptize infants. Many protestant denominations do not practice infant baptism, and even require those who join their fellowships to renounce their baptism as an infant and be re-baptized. What does Scripture say? *This study will be led by Jeremy Heilman, son of our members Don & Kay Heilman and formerly an LCMS pastor.*



2021 CHURCH’S ANNUAL REPORT: This is available today on the narthex tables after the service. There are about 30 copies today and there will be more printed and available next Sunday. Thanks to everyone for your information submitted to be included in this report.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 4/10/22	\$6,648.00	\$585.00	\$410.00

ATTENDANCE: Sunday – 202

LENTEN SERVICE #6: The Lutheran Hour - \$740.00 Attendance: 74

MEMORIALS for *Bill Von Deylen*: St. John Home Fund - \$4,400; St. John School - \$30

THREE WAYS TO GIVE YOUR REGULAR OFFERING

- Deposit your offering in the narthex when you come to worship, or if you’re listening to the FM broadcast, give your offering to the usher or deacon when they hand you your bulletin.
- Use the ‘**Give Now**’ online giving page – a link (the blue button) is on our website.
- Mail your offering to the church.

VBS PLANNING TO BEGIN – Yes, it’s time to start thinking about *Vacation Bible School* for this year. VBS has been tentatively scheduled for June 13-17. The first order of business is to identify and **VBS DIRECTOR** to help lead the way in this ministry to our children. If you would be interested in serving the little ones in this way, please speak with Pastor Niermann.



LWML QUARTERLIES are available in the tract rack in the narthex. These are available for all women of the congregation. Please pick up a copy today!

LWML SPRING RALLY - The Women of Freedom are invited to the Napoleon Zone Spring Rally to be held at St. James Lutheran Church, Burlington, on Saturday, April 30th with registration at 8:30 AM and the program following at 9:00 AM. The guest speaker will be *Judy Kaufmann*, who will share her highlights of her trip to Israel. Please see the flyer in today’s bulletin for all the 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!

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. Please check out the selection. To borrow a book, just take it with you, and then return it to the basket when you’ve finished reading.

PIERSTORF MEMORIAL LOAN FUND – provides interest-free loans to Lutheran students who are or will be enrolled full time in a four-year undergraduate program at any accredited college or university. For more information, visit www.Pierstorf.org and complete the 2022-2023 application. Applications open April 15, 2022 and close June 30, 2022.

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.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

The first Easter teaches us that life never ends and love never dies!

“In fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.”
1 Corinthians 15:20

COLORING PAGE

