



# 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  
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](http://www.sjl.org)

### THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Guest Preacher: Rev. Charles Kramer (Thurs)  
Sermon: "Once More Unto the Breach" *1 Kings 19:9b-21*  
Service: See printed Service Folder  
Hymns: 976 ~ 818 ~ 662

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### 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 our guest today, simply fill out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and drop it in the basket at the door as you leave. Thank you!*

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### **SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING**

- ✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘ Addison Naveau, Peyton Naveau, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Joe Badenhop, Doug Dietrich, Neil Badenhop, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Lou Ann Rosebrock, Diane Von Deylen, *Altar Guild* ✘

### ADULT INSTRUCTION AND MEMBERSHIP CLASS

This morning after worship Pastor Niermann is teaching the fourth session of an **Adult Instruction and Membership Class**, "I have Good News for You about a Savior Who Saves You." This morning we will be discussing Holy Communion, the feast of forgiveness which Christ gave to His Church to sustain her faith until the day we sit with Christ at the eternal feast in His kingdom!

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY is underway this morning 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 is being led by Jeremy Heilman, son of our members Don & Kay Heilman and formerly an LCMS pastor.*

In God's House This Week		Online church calendar: <a href="https://74058984.view-events.com">https://74058984.view-events.com</a>
Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Adult Instruction; Adult Bible Study
Thurs.	7:00 PM	Thurs. Evening Worship (Fellowship Hall – North End)
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Instruction; Adult Bible Study
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
- ❖ *Lawrence Behrmann*, at Northcrest Nursing & Rehab and in hospice care
- ❖ *Military: Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Niermann, Jared Dishop, Jordan Lange*
- ❖ *Esther Layton, Sue Hurst, Eileen Fitzenreiter*, and *Dave Crandall*, concerns relating to cancer
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, at Ohio Veteran’s Home, Sandusky, and battling lung cancer
- ❖ *Henry Gerken*, moved to Genacross Lutheran Home for more rehab therapy
- ❖ *Irene Joost*, recovering from a recent fall and a procedure to fix a cracked vertebrae
- ❖ *Jason Foor*, recuperating from recent surgery to put a stent in his heart valve
- ❖ *Cora Bartok* (Sarah Bartok’s 10-yr old niece), hospitalized and awaiting surgery, with a tumor in her abdominal area

**MEN’S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDIES** have been suspended for July and August, and will resume on the first Thursday of September (9/01).

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2022**

VBS was held this past week at St. John, and a wonderful time of exploring the Scriptures, singing songs, memorizing Bible verses, fun and snacks, and of meeting a *v-e-r-y s-l-o-w* sloth name Sydney was had by all. This morning the VBS students will wrap up our worship by singing a few of their favorite songs for us.



Our *VBS MISSION OFFERING* this year is designated for *Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for the Deaf* in Toledo, as they seek a full-time pastor to carry on the ministry conducted so faithfully for the past 40 plus years by *Rev. Shirrel Petzoldt* (Mr. Lowell Petzoldt’s brother). We pray that our offering will be a rich blessing to this congregation of God’s people, so that they may continue to ‘hear’ (through sign language) the great things God has done for us in Christ.

Because we are supporting a deaf congregation, we took some time this week to learn some sign language, which you will see and even learn for our final hymn, “Beautiful Savior.”

Thank you to all the parents and families who enrolled your children in our Vacation Bible School. It has been a true privilege to serve them in the name of Jesus, and to share Scripture with them, especially the good news of Christ’s Gospel unto salvation!

**THURSDAY EVENING SERVICES** take place each week, May through October, at 7:00 p.m. Until school resumes, we are gathering in the north fellowship hall for these services. As always, Holy Communion is celebrated on the Thursday evenings prior to Communion Sundays.

## **JOIN A MINISTRY PLANNING TEAM FOR A MOTHER/DAUGHTER BANQUET**



The *Stewardship Board* is in the initial stages of planning a mother/daughter banquet for the fall of 2022. We are seeking individuals, both women and men, to form a ministry planning team to coordinate this event. We need the help of the women to plan an event that will have appeal to girls and women, and the help of men to coordinate the set-up, serving, and clean-up for the event so that the girls and women can enjoy a nice evening together. Sign up today as part of this planning team using the form provided in the narthex. Thank you!

**PASSING THE OFFERING PLATES** – The Church Council voted at its last meeting to resume the practice of passing the offering plates during worship, starting next Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>. One of the practical reasons is to address a concern that had been raised that having the offering plates in the narthex created some confusion for guest worshippers who did not know where or when to give an offering, and consequently gave no offering.

On a more biblical note, restoring the offering to the sanctuary and the liturgy reminds us that giving our gifts is integral to our worship, not incidental. The offering is not a worship *interlude*, but a worship *feature*. We come here primarily for the ‘Divine Service’ (*German, ‘Gottesdienst’*), where God serves us in Word and Sacrament. Yet we do remain passive in worship, as though there is nothing for us to do. God’s service to us, His ‘Divine Service,’ calls forth our service to Him in sacrifices of **praise** (*Heb 13:5*), **prayer** (*Psa 141:2*), **song and thanksgiving** (*Psa 107:22*), and **offerings** (*Psa 54:6 - “With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to You.”*) For this reason the offering properly belongs in the context of the liturgy, just as much as the sacrifices of our praise, prayers and songs.



<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 6/19/22	\$8,239.00	\$375.00	\$405.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday – 33; Sunday – 154

## **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.

**LISTEN TO WHAT YOU WANT, WHEN YOU WANT...** Issues, Etc. is a radio-talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week’s topics include: The Qur’an, A Biography of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, Apostolic Succession, The Lord’s Prayer in the Divine Service and more. You can listen at your convenience at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

**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.

**SEEKING NEW YOUTH LEADER** – Now that Miss Bartok has taken a call to a new field of service, we are seeking the services of a new LYF (*Lutheran Youth Fellowship*) leader for our congregation. If you might be interested in serving in this way, please speak with Pastor Niermann. And thank you for considering this. This is a crucial ministry and a noble work that we must provide for our youth in these days when so many other forces are working to pull them away from Christ.

**3-YR AND 4/5-YR PRESCHOOL UPDATE:** The 4/5-year old preschool class numbers are currently at 10 students. We are able to take a few more in this class. The 3-year old class has 11 students enrolled and can take about 3 more students. If you know of anyone interested in enrolling in our preschool program, have them contact the school at 419-598-8702 to obtain a registrations packet. There is a non-refundable \$30 registration fee that must accompany your registration form.

**ANNUAL SCHOOL CLEANING** has been set for **Mon., July 25** at 6:00PM. No cleaning on Tues., July 26 as carpets will be shampooed. On **Wed., July 27** starting at 6:00 PM put furnishings and desks back into classrooms, and clean other areas of the building. Please contact a School Board member if evenings do not work for you. Please read the Parent Participation Policy on FastDirect with all the details about family requirements for School Cleaning.

**POSITION OPENINGS:**

- St. John Lutheran School is seeking a **preschool teacher aide** (3-yr class) for Wednesday and Friday mornings next school year. Applicant must have experience with preschool-age children, obtain a background check, and supply three references.
  - St John Lutheran School is seeking a **long term sub teacher for kindergarten**. Our current teacher will be taking a maternity leave beginning the first week of September. Applicant must have a valid teaching certificate, obtain a background check, and supply three references.
- If you know of anyone interested in these positions, please call the school office at 419-598-8702.

**ST. JOHN GIRLS B-BALL OPEN GYMS:** Coach Schroeder will be holding open gyms for girls who are going into Grades K-6 next school year. These will be held at St. John from 1:00 – 2:30 PM on the following dates: July 12, 13, 19, 20. Flyers with information are available on the narthex table.

**GOLF OUTING:** *The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Stephanie Lynn Kossow Memorial Golf Outing will be on Sat., July 30<sup>th</sup> with a 1:00 PM* shotgun start. The meal provided with your golf registration is *½ BBQ Chicken, Baked Potato, Green Beans, Roll, Dessert, and Lemonade*. Non-golfers interested in a “meal only” Chicken Dinner may contact Chris Hesterman at 419-783-2013 with your reservation by Fri., July 22<sup>nd</sup>. The “meal only” reservation is a carryout meal and will be available at 5pm the day of the outing. The cost is \$20 (which goes into the Scholarship Fund). Flyers available on the narthex table!

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

**Tomorrow's forecast: The Lord Reigns, and the Son Shines.**

*“And [Jesus] is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power.” Heb. 1:3*