



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom
Worship • Stewardship • Mission

January 5, 2014

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NO. 1

Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor
Miss Mary K. Rettig, Principal

Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181
School: 419-598-8702 Home: 419-966-6160
Church Website: www.sjl.org

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Sermon & Text: "The Good King's Wisdom" *1 Kings 3:4-15*

Order of Service: *Divine Service, Setting Five (LSB pg. 213)*

Hymns: **368**: stz. 1,3 ~ **372** ~ (Communion: **524, 408, 725**) ~ **392**

Adult Choir: "Beautiful Savior" and "O Lord, We Praise You"

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome to our worship service here at St. John. If we can be of service to you in any way, please speak to our Pastor. If you are looking for a church to call home, please consider joining this church where we seek to help each other grow in faith, in love and in service. Simply 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

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠ Lydia Schroeder & Cally Bialorucki, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Scott & Kim VanValkenburg, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Harold Behrmann & Rich Elling, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Dave VonDeylen, Dennis Showman, Dean Badenhop, Rich Elling, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Diane VonDeylen, LouAnn Rosebrock, Jeannette Bostelman, *Altar Guild* ✠

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are placed in celebration of the 85th birthday of *Delores Badenhop* today, January 5th, by her family. Congratulations and Happy Birthday Delores!

NEW GREETER (yellow) AND ALTAR GUILD (pink) SCHEDULES AVAILABLE - The 2014 Greeter and Altar Guild schedules are ready to be picked up from the table in the narthex. The Usher schedule will be available in a few weeks. Thank you to all who have volunteered to serve on these teams – you are a blessing to us all! If you are still interested in serving God's people here at St. John in a way that is much needed and appreciated, please contact the church office.

LADIES AID: The next Ladies Aid meeting is Thurs., Jan. 9 at 7:00 PM. Please plan to attend! All ladies of the congregation are welcome!

In God's House This Week		<i>Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl</i>
Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:15AM	Communion Service w/Installation of church officers Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "Time To Spare"
Mon.	8:20 AM 5:00 PM	School resumes B-ball: Gr. 7&8 Boys vs. Liberty Center (H)
Tue.	9:00 AM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class in gym B-ball: Gr. 4-6 Boys; 6:15 PM Gr. 7&8 Boys vs. BG Christian (H) Stewardship Board & School Board Meetings
Wed.	10:20AM 6:15 PM 6:45 PM 7:45 PM	Late Start-Up (<i>Teacher In-Service at 9:00 AM</i>) Jr. High Confirmation Class (<i>6:15 – 7:30 PM</i>) Adult Hand Bell Practice Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	9:00 AM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class in gym B-ball: Gr. 4-6 Girls; 6:15 PM Gr. 4-6 Boys vs. St. John-Defiance (A) Ladies Aid Meeting
Fri.	and Sat.	B-ball: Gr. 7&8 Girls' Tournament in Indiana
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:15AM	Worship Service w/Communion following service <i>Java Joy</i> ; Sunday School; " <i>Time To Spare</i> "; Adult Bible Study
Mon.- Sat.	7:20 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:

- Our Homebound Shut-Ins: *Stan Moll, Marian Fitzenreiter, and Donald & Sue Landry* dealing with various health issues
- Pauline Dishop* and *Marie Damman*, residing at The Lutheran Home
- Magdalena Volkman*, residing at Heartland Nursing Home, Wauseon
- Lucy Rosebrock*, residing at GlennPark of Defiance
- Marian Buchhop* and *Annalou Brodman*, residing at Country View Haven
- Helen Norden*, residing at Greenbriar Assisted Living, Birmingham, AL
- Servicemen and women*, Justin Atkinson, Kyle Elling, Jason Rohrs, and Emily Niermann
- Arnold Bischoff*, recovering at home now from his recent bout of pneumonia
- Don Dickmann*, recovering from pneumonia at Golden Living Center – Northcrest, Napoleon

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	<u>Home Fund</u>	<u>Synod & Missions</u>	<u>Building Fund</u>
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 12/29/13	\$10,905.00	\$722.50	\$782.50

ATTENDANCE: 12/29/13 – 224

NEXT VOTERS' ASSEMBLY will be held on Sunday, January 19 in the sanctuary during the Sunday School hour. Agenda items tentatively include: 1) Endowment Fund Report and Distributions; 2) Audit Committee Report; 3) Principal's School Report.

Engage Bible Study/Movie Series

Jesus told teaching stories, or parables, about regular people and everyday things that His disciples would be familiar with. But He did so to reveal deep, spiritual insights about them and their world in order to lead them into great truth about Him.



Likewise, the real stories you'll encounter in the **Engage** Bible study will challenge the way you think and may even question the way you feel, but with a profound purpose. Through short movies, Bible study and discussion, you'll learn more about yourself, those around you, and the profound love God has for you through His Son.

Please join us this morning for a cup of coffee and our first movie, titled 'KINGS.' Loneliness is a big problem in people's lives, and just being with other people or in a crowd is not necessarily the cure. Happily for us, our Savior has a cure. Join us.

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS – Today we give thanks to God for everyone who submitted their names for nomination to our various church offices. Whether elected or not, their servant hearts and willing spirits provide an example for us all! **Those who were elected or appointed to offices for the coming year will be installed this morning.**

Officers to be installed are: **ELECTED:** **President** – *Craig Drewes*; **Vice President** – *Dennis Bockelman*; **Treasurer** – *Krista Gerken*; **Financial Trustee** – *Sara Myles*; **Elder** – *Delbert Damman, Jim Hogrefe*; **Stewardship Board** – *Tim Johnston, Rob Scheffert*; **Board of Education** (installed to take office in July 2014) – *Jamie Rosebrock, Sunday Griffith*; **Alternate Delegate Synod** – *Mark Elling*. **APPOINTED:** **Secretary** – *Rhonda Bockelman*; **Church Deacon** – *Carey Damman*; **Trustees** – *Randy Damman, Elmer Maassel*; **Sunday School Supt.** – *Brenda Kruse*; **Cemetery Board** – *Bobby Cowell, Roger Lulfs, Blake Miller*; **Cemetery Sexton** – *Ben Kruse*.

RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP GIFT MATCH REPORT

During the final quarter of the church year, the challenge was placed before us to match as much as we possibly could of the \$75,000 gift that was given for renovating the fellowship hall. **The Finance Deacons are finalizing the 2013 donations given for the first phase of this campaign.** This amount should be available next Sunday. Combined with the gift of \$75,000, we will be able to slash our debt from this project by more than half – thanks be to God!



This gift matching campaign continues into the New Year. Each set of offering envelopes included four special envelopes for this purpose. Use them when you wish, and we'll pray that by the end of 2014 this debt will be mostly retired.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM & CHOIR CONCERT: To anyone interested – an audio of the Children's Christmas Program on Dec. 22nd is now posted on the church's website. Also, a video of the Ridgeville Community Choir Concert held here on Dec. 8th was posted on YouTube by TV Channel 26. You can get to both of these, via our website, under the "Featured Now" tab. The Children's Program is also posted permanently on the "For Kids" page of our website.

2013 CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT – It's time to start getting your reports ready for the 2013 Church Annual. The officers of the different organizations are asked to write up a summary of the year's activities along with a financial report if there is one. If you need your offering contribution information prior to the distribution of the Annual Report, please call Financial Trustee, *Karen Rosebrock*, at 419-592-1150. **Please turn your reports in to Joyce Wiechers by Tues., Jan. 22nd.**

THE FLOWER CALENDAR for 2014 is posted inside the sliding door showcase in the narthex. If you wish to sign up for a certain Sunday to place flowers on the altar or the piano, sign your name on that Sunday and then about two weeks before that date, call *Mabel Bischoff* at 419-598-8757. You may order your own flowers or go through the Ladies Aid. The price for the flowers through the Ladies Aid is \$20.00. Please remember that it is your responsibility to contact *Mabel Bischoff* to let her know if you are getting your own flowers or if you want the Ladies Aid to take care of them. Also, please contact the church office with the information for the bulletin before Wednesday of the week you are placing the flowers in church. This will insure that you are not forgotten or overlooked.

SOUP & PIE COMMITTEE – The annual PTL Soup & Pie Dinner will be held on Sun., Jan. 19, 2014, with serving from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM, in the fellowship hall. On the menu will be Chili Soup, Noodle Soup, Hot Dogs, Sloppy Joes, a Salad and Dessert Bar, and Beverages.



This year's committee members are: *Ryan & Renee Bostelman* (Tri-chair), *Mike & Jeannette Bostelman* (Tri-chair), *Greg & Lisa Brown* (Tri-chair), *Brad & Lisa Bockelman*, *Jeff & Sara Buchhop*, *Scott & Andrea Damman*, *Jason & Zoe Foor*, *Kale & Francisca Franklin*, *Larry & Krista Gerken*, *Pete & Karen Gerken*, *Jeff & Deb*

Gillen, *Charles & Sunday Griffith*, and *Ken & Mandy Griffith*. As the dinner gets closer, the committee members will be contacted by one of the chairmen with more details.

DONATIONS FOR SOUP & PIE DINNER – The PTL Soup & Pie Committee are asking for donations for the Salad and Dessert Bars. A sign-up sheet is placed on the table in the narthex. Thanks to everyone for taking time to support the PTL through your donations of salads, desserts, or cupcakes. We look forward to another successful Soup & Pie Dinner on January 19th!

MITES & LWML MEETING: It is 2014...and the LWML *Mite-y Socks* are back! These are tiny little baby socks, with instructions attached, that you can fill with coins (*dimes*) throughout the year. \$7.80 is the goal or more, if you wish. These *Mite-y Socks* are a means for all of us to help out the LWML Mite program in a big way with very little effort. Pick up your sock today!

Our next LWML Meeting will be on Tues., January 28th starting at 7:00 PM. Pick up a copy of the Quarterly and Odes from the table in the narthex.

2014 LUTHERAN ANNUAL – We are now taking orders for the 2014 Lutheran Annual. It will give you the current addresses, phone numbers, emails, and websites of churches, pastors, teachers, etc. Cost is \$24.00 each. Call the church office to order your copy. Deadline is Fri., Jan. 24th.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

True love was born in a stable.

"The gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23)