



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom  
*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

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

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

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Order of Service: *Divine Service, Setting Four (LSB pg. 203)*

Sermon & Text: "Seeing it God's Way" *Luke 24:13-35*

Hymns: 476 ~ (Communion: 633, 879) ~ 483

Adult Choir: "Lift High the Cross" and "A Communion Meditation"

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**WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS** *The Lord calls all of us to a new way of living under His wonderful grace in our Savior. If you are our guest this morning, it is a pleasure to have you worshipping with us. Please help us get to know who you are by introducing yourself to our pastor and by filling out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you. Simply pass it to the center aisle during the offering or register your name in the Guest Book in the Narthex.*

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

1<sup>st</sup> Service: ✕ Lexi Woods & Lydia Schroeder, *Acolytes* ✕

2<sup>nd</sup> Service: ✕ Brady Gerken & Jacob Gillen, *Acolytes* ✕

✕ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✕

✕ Richard Elling & Harold Behrmann, *Visitation* ✕

✕ Marietta Damman & Arlene Wallace, *Greeters* ✕

✕ Denny Bockelman, Jeff Buchhop, Dave Myles, *Ushers* ✕

✕ Lois Rosebrock, Karen Germann, Diana Kruse, Mary Kossow, *Altar Guild* ✕

**HOME AT LAST** – *Hilda Kruse*, 99, departed this life on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup> following a very short illness. Hilda's funeral was held at St. John on Wed., April 30 at 2:00 p.m. She was buried in the St. John Cemetery following the service. Please remember to keep *Vern & Diana Kruse* and their entire family in your prayers at this time.

**THANK YOU:** Thank you to all who joined us in celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary last Sunday. We also appreciated all the lovely cards that we received. *Larry & Pat Mahnke*

<b>In God's House This Week</b>		<i>Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl</i>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Today	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:30AM 2:00 PM	Early Worship Service Sunday School; Adult Bible Class; “ <i>Time To Spare</i> ” Late Worship Service Spring Musical “Oklahoma” performance
Mon.	6:00 PM	Ladies Night Out – Right Hand of Fellowship fundraiser
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Chapel led by <i>Pastor Niermann</i> ; Offering: <i>Good Shepherd Church for Deaf</i> Exercise Class School Board and Stewardship Board Meetings
Wed.	10:20AM 6:15 PM	Late Start-Up due to Staff Meeting at 9:00 AM Confirmation Preparation for Questioning
Thur.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Ladies Aid Meeting
Fri.	12:30PM	Grandparents’ Day ( <i>Grades K-8</i> )
Sun.	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:30AM	Early Worship Service Sunday School; Adult Bible Class; “ <i>Time To Spare</i> ” Late Worship Service
Mon.- Sat.	7:20 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. John Holyer</i> , St. Paul Lutheran, Napoleon

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

- Our Homebound Shut-Ins: *Stan Moll, Marian Fitzenreiter, and Donald & Sue Landry*
- Lucy Rosebrock, Pauline Dishop and Marie Damman*, residing at The Lutheran Home
- Magdalena Volkman*, residing at Heartland Nursing Home, Wauseon
- Marian Buchhop and Anna 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
- Edwin Rosebrock*, at home dealing with health issues at this time
- Casen Lawrence*, as he has had on-going seizures resulting in hospitalization
- Norma Damman*, rehabbing at home following a fractured hip

**FLOWERS TODAY:**

- ❖ Altar flowers are placed today in loving memory of *Ryan Rosebrock*, who left us suddenly on May 3, 2009. We keep you in our thoughts and prayers daily but especially at this time of year. With Much Love, *Brad, Sarah, Mitch, and Anika Rosebrock*
- ❖ The single rose budvase on the altar is also in memory of our son and brother, *Ryan Rosebrock*, who was taken to heaven 5 years ago on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. We still miss you and think of you so much each and every day. We love you, *Dad, Mom, Michael, and Michelle*
- ❖ Flowers on the piano today are placed in loving memory of our daughter and sister, *Stephanie Lynn Kossow*, who went to live with her Lord on May 1, 2008. It has now been 6 years and you continue to be in our thoughts and prayers each and every day, but especially at this time of year. We love you, *Dad, Mom, Tyler, and Logan*

**MEET THE VICAR** – Last Tuesday evening our congregation was assigned a vicar for the coming year. His name is *Reed Shoaff*. He and his wife, *Emily*, have two sons (Abraham, 4; and Phineas, 2), and one on the way, due in August just about the time *Reed* will be installed. *Reed* is from Colby, Kansas (NW Kansas) and *Emily* is from Kansas City, Kansas. More biographical information will be available when we receive it. In the meantime, please pray for the following...

- that the Shoaff family may be blessed in their association with us;
- that their unborn child would be kept safe through pregnancy and delivery;
- that our support for Vicar Shoaff and his ministry will be generous;
- that our preparations for their housing, installation, and life among us may go well.

**LADIES NIGHT OUT:** The Ladies Night Out fundraiser for the “Right Hand of Fellowship” gift matching campaign being hosted by the Stewardship Board will be held on Mon., May 5<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:30 PM in the fellowship hall. **RSVP today!**

- There will be babysitting service available (*if you need it*). Just give *Karen Norden* a call at 419-267-3477 to get that lined up.
- A potluck meal will be followed by a “white elephant” auction.
- A silent auction will be ongoing throughout the event. Any silent auction items may be dropped off in the marked container under the narthex table. Questions about the silent auction can be directed to *Karen Norden*, *Kim VanValkenburg* (419-579-0437), or *Jackie Ripke* (419-267-5574).
- Buy a “mystery” balloon for \$5.

This will be a fun-filled evening for all ladies to enjoy! Sign up to come on the sheet in the narthex.

## **NEW SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES**

**The Means of Grace** – (*This study is intended to fill in a little time as we prepare for our next bigger study, “The Screwtape Letters” - see below*). God seems to have a fondness for doing His greatest work through the most ordinary means – with mud He healed the blind; with a word from His mouth he raised the dead; with wood and nails He redeemed the world. And now with water, bread and wine He comes to us, simply but powerfully.

**The Screwtape Letters** – In this classic book by C.S. Lewis we meet Screwtape, a fictitious devil with vast experience in the art of temptation. In a series of 31 letters, he teaches his craft to an apprentice devil by the name of Wormwood. It is a fascinating and eye-opening look into the craftiness of our enemy as he works tirelessly to draw us away from our Savior.

The logo features the text 'CS LEWIS' in a simple, uppercase font at the top. Below it, the word 'Screwtape' is written in a large, elegant, cursive script. At the bottom, the word 'LETTERS' is written in a bold, uppercase, sans-serif font.

**This Bible study will be modeled as a book club.** Everyone is encouraged to purchase a copy of this book (used copies are available on Amazon.com for a few dollars), or download the free Kindle edition at <http://www.epubbud.com/book.php?g=UH6Q68D3> (this link is available at [sjl.org](http://www.sjl.org)). Each week we will read a few of the letters, then come together on Sundays to discuss what we've read, and to compare it with God's Word. This is a classic piece of literature that every Christian ought to read. Get your copy ordered or downloaded soon.

**VBS STAFF RECRUITMENT** – Beginning next Sunday we will recruit staff for our 2014 Vacation Bible School, which is scheduled for the evenings of June 8-12 (*Sunday thru Thursday*). Please keep this ministry to our children in your prayers, and consider how you can help.

<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	<b><u>Home Fund</u></b>	<b><u>Synod &amp; Missions</u></b>	<b><u>Building Fund</u></b>
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 4/27/14	\$5,384.00	\$215.50	\$557.50

**ATTENDANCE:** 4/27/14 – 1<sup>st</sup> Service: 118    2<sup>nd</sup> Service: 174



**LUTHERAN  
PUBLIC RADIO**  
*Sacred Music for the Easter Season*

**LUTHERAN PUBLIC RADIO**

Right now *Lutheran Public Radio* is streaming sacred Easter music on the internet during the 50 days of Easter. Give it a listen anytime of day or night at [lutheranpublicradio.org](http://lutheranpublicradio.org). It will bring the Easter season to your home and life like nothing else can!

**IS IT TIME FOR A ST. JOHN GARAGE SALE?** The idea came up at Church Council about having a combined garage sale. We haven't done this for a number of years, and we all have accumulated 'stuff' that we could do without, so the timing seems right. Since the mats are already in the gym for the school musical, we thought a June date would be good. **However, we need someone to take a leadership role and assemble a team to coordinate this effort.** If you would like to step into this role, please speak with *Pastor Niermann* or president *Craig Drewes*.

**PREPARATIONS FOR THE VICAR** – To get ready for *Vicar Shoaff's* ministry among us, there are number of things we need to get accomplished.

2. **Office** - A temporary partition wall will section off about 8 ft. of the room currently used for quilting.
3. **Apartment** – We need to locate an unfurnished apartment (preferably two bedrooms to accommodate a few children) in or near Napoleon. Once we know who our Vicar is and his situation, we will have time to pull some items together if necessary to furnish what he will need. Please speak with Pastor Niermann if you know of any apartments that would be suitable for a Vicar and can be occupied starting August 1.
4. **Support** – Together we all need to get used to the idea of a second church staff member and what that means for the finances. Along with exciting possibilities comes additional responsibilities, and we pray that everyone will be generous in their financial and prayer support for a Vicar's ministry among us.



**A GREAT MOTHER'S DAY GIFT** – The "Recipes and Remembrances" cookbooks from PTL would surely make Mom smile. They have a very nice collection of great recipes in them. This is a PTL fundraiser and the cookbooks are available today in the hallway by the drinking fountain. The cost is \$10.00. If writing a check, please make it payable to: *St. John PTL*. We hope you enjoy making all the "goodies" in this cookbook. Thank you for supporting the PTL!

**LUTHERAN WITNESS RENEWAL** – It's time to renew your subscription to the Lutheran Witness for this year. To subscribe or renew your subscription, **simply place \$17.00 in an envelope**, along with your name and address, and place it in the Sunday collection plate or bring it down to the church office. **Deadline for subscriptions is May 18<sup>th</sup>**.

**NEW ARCHIVES DISPLAY**: With the upcoming celebration of our church's 145<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the Archives committee has collected pictures & information from the first 75 years of the church's history and placed it in their display cases. The pictures are of past pastors, past teachers, the old church and the old school. We even found Miss Schick's whistle and pictures of track teams and baseball teams. Stop by and check it out!

**BE A JAVA JOY HOST!** Every second Sunday of the month after worship, we aim to have a time of fellowship with coffee, juice and snacks called **Java Joy**. If you would like to host one of these, please sign up in the narthex. Don't let finances stop you – you are welcome to reimburse your expenses from the kitty if you wish.



**THE LUTHERAN HOUR** – The Lutheran Hour Ministries can be heard on several radio stations in our area. They cover many interesting topics relevant to today's issues. Broadcasts can be heard Sundays on: Holland's WPOS 102.3 at 7:00 AM; Archbold's WMTR 96.1 at 7:30 AM; Defiance's WONW (AM)1280 at 10:30 AM; Napoleon's WNDH 103.1 at 12:00 PM.

**“WORSHIP FOR SHUT-INS”**: “Worship for Shut-Ins” has joined the WLMB-TV40 line up again. If you have a relative or friend who is homebound, hospitalized, or recovering from a recent surgery, you may suggest this 30-minute LCMS worship service to them. So tune in to WLMB-TV40 on Sundays at 6:30 AM (*note time change*) and get your Sunday started off right!

**ITEMS FOR SALE**: The Ladies Aid is offering a scene canvas painting of the church. You may have any Bible verse, message or name painted on it. The cost is \$45. Give *Nancy Glaser* a call at 419-598-8432 to place your order. The other wooden buildings are still available for sale as well as the various dish cloths, cutlery, and boxed cards. Proceeds benefit the St. John Ladies Aid.

**S.T.O.P. PENNY DRIVE** – The PTL Spring Penny Drive at St. John School has begun. **This will run thru Fri., May 9<sup>th</sup>**. The classroom collecting the most pennies will be treated to a pizza party. All other classrooms will get an ice cream party. Save those pennies and give them to one of our students or turn your pennies in at the school office. **NOTE: Since starting this fundraiser in October 1992, the PTL has now raised \$15,639.06 for the school.** Save Those Old Pennies!

**GRANDPARENT'S DAY**: A reminder that Grandparent's Day at St. John School for Grades K-8 will be held on **Friday, May 9** from 12:30 - 3:00 PM. *Lunch is not included.*

**PRESCHOOL'S GRADUATION** will be **Thurs., May 22<sup>nd</sup>** at 6:30 PM in the church. There will be a short program followed by light refreshments in the fellowship hall.

**LAST DAY OF SCHOOL AT ST. JOHN** will be **Thurs., May 29<sup>th</sup>** with early dismissal at 2:00 PM. Closing Day festivities include: Closing chapel at 12:40 PM; as well as Kindergarten graduation, awards, prizes. All parents are welcome to come. This is for students in K-garten through Grade 8. Academic and Attendance Awards will be handed out as well as other awards. **Please note: This service will include Kindergarten Graduation.**

**BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION, AND POP TABS:** Our school also collects *Box Tops For Education*, and aluminum pop tabs all year long. *Box Tops For Education* is an ongoing PTL fundraiser earning 10¢ per box top for the PTL. They too have expanded their sponsors, so be sure to check over your grocery items carefully so you don't miss any box tops. The pop tabs collected all go to support the Ronald McDonald House in Toledo. There are collection boxes in the school office for each of these. **NOTE: Please turn in your Labels For Education and Box Tops For Education labels in separate Ziploc bags or envelopes. Do not combine them.** Thank you!

**LIONS RECYCLE FOR SIGHT – How You Can Help?** If you have used **prescription or nonprescription** glasses or sunglasses in your drawers, desks, or closets, you can donate them now! Children's glasses are especially needed. Both plastic and metal frames are accepted. There is a box on the table in the narthex for the collection of these used glasses.

**ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN BENEFIT** - The Ohio Division OGT is sponsoring a Drive-thru Beef Brisket Dinner on Sun., May 4<sup>th</sup> at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1075 Glenwood Ave., Napoleon, from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM (*or until they run out*). Freewill donation with Thrivent Matching Funds.

**CHICKEN DINNER:** St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Napoleon Township (located on corner of Henry Co Rds 17 & Q1), invites you to their Annual Mother's Day Chicken Dinner on May 11<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Menu: BBQ Chicken (*from Brookview*), Baked Potato, Coleslaw, Rolls, Desserts and Drinks. Carry out available. Free will offering. Proceeds go to Relay for Life.

**HOSPICE BAZAAR:** The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Hospice of Henry Co. Bazaar will be held on Wed. and Thurs., May 14 & 15 at the Napoleon American Legion. All live auction donations must be received by May 1<sup>st</sup>. They are accepting donations of silent auction items, handmade wooden items, craft or needlework items or baked goods and pies for the day of the bazaar. See flyer for all the details!

**RIDGEVILLE FIRE DEPT. AUXILIARY** will be hosting a Drive Thru Chicken BBQ on Sun., May 18<sup>th</sup> at the Ridgeville Fire Station. Serving begins at 11:00 AM until gone. Menu consists of: *½ Chicken, Baked Potato, Coleslaw, Roll, and Butter.* Come and support your local Fire Dept. Cost is free will donation, with Thrivent Matching Funds.

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

**“Where man sees but withered leaves, God sees sweet flowers growing.”**

*“The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus.”*  
(Isaiah 25:1)