



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

## **FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (Outdoor Service)**

Sermon & Text: ""The Reckless Farmer and His Miraculous Crop" *Matt. 13:3-9, 18-23*

Order of Service: *See printed Service Folder*

Hymns: *All printed in the Service Folder*

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### **WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS**

*You are among Christian friends today. We all have come to the Lord's House to hear what He has to say and to be doers of the Word and not hearers only. We pray that His grace will touch and move you. If you are a visitor, we ask that you fill out a Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and pass it to the center aisle during the offering this morning. Your presence is a blessing to us.*

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

- ✘ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✘ 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Service: ✘ None needed, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Bob & Diane Norden, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Lawrence & Hildegard Behrmann, *Visitation* ✘
- ✘ Denny Behnfeldt, Elmer Maassel, Bob Norden, Ted Ripke, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Kathy Behnfeldt, Pat Maassel, Anita Badenhop, Deb Durham, *Altar Guild* ✘

**WELCOME TO THE OUTDOOR SERVICE** A very special day has been planned, so please enjoy every bit of it!

- **PICNIC UNDER THE TENT** – After worship this morning, the Stewardship Board is planning a congregational meal underneath the tent. Thank you to all who prepared salads and desserts, and to the Stewardship Board for all your hard work in bringing this event together for us all!
- **AUCTION** – Like last year at the fairgrounds, *Ted Ripke* will be auctioning off donated items with proceeds to be matched in our ***Right Hand of Fellowship Campaign*** to pay for the fellowship hall renovations. Auction items will be displayed in the fellowship hall as you arrive for the morning.

In God's House This Week		Online church calendar: <a href="http://www.DynaCal.com/sjl">www.DynaCal.com/sjl</a>
Date	Time	Activities
Today	10:30AM <b>Cancelled</b> 11:45AM	Outdoor Worship Service Adult Bible Class Congregational Meal followed by an Auction Fundraiser
Tue.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise class in gym Building Committee Meeting
Thurs.	9:00 AM <b>Cancelled</b>	Exercise class in gym Summer Evening Praise
Sun.	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:30AM	Early Communion Service Adult Bible Class Late Communion Service
Mon.- Sat.	7:20 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Mark DeLassus</i> , St. John Lutheran, Sherwood

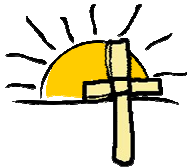
**MATTERS FOR PRAYER** – Please keep these people in your prayers:

- Our Homebound Shut-Ins: *Stan Moll, Marian Fitzenreiter*, and *Donald & Sue Landry*
- Pauline Dishop* and *Marie Damman*, residing at The Lutheran Home, Napoleon
- Magdalena Volkman*, residing at Heartland Nursing Home, Wauseon
- Anna Brodman* and *Marian Buchhop*, 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*, took another fall and is at The Orchards of Northcrest, Napoleon
- Bethann Gerken*, hospitalized at Fulton Co. Health Center for emergency appendectomy

**UPDATE ON PREPARATIONS FOR THE VICAR** –

- **The Shoaff's have arrived**, although today they are with family in northern Michigan. Our thanks to the crew who went to Fort Wayne to get them moved – Denny & Rhonda Bockelman, Jerry & Lori Langenhop, Dean Badenhop, Brian Badenhop, Jerry Short.
- **Stock their pantry!** Throughout July we are collecting food items to help the Shoaffs stock their kitchen pantry. Items may be dropped off in the narthex.
- **Induction of Vicar Shoaff will take place in both services on Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>.**
- **Welcoming Reception for the Shoaffs** will be held between the services on August 3<sup>rd</sup> at approximately 9:30 a.m. Come and get to know them!
- **Baby Card Shower** – During the reception we'll also have a card shower to help the Shoaffs welcome their newest family member, due in mid-August. Instead of showering them with lots of things, monetary gifts with your card are encouraged and would be most helpful to them. Boy or girl? It's a surprise!
- The building committee is working to partition off the vicar's office – you can check out the progress halfway down the back hall.

**RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP REPORT** – During the first half of 2014, our gifts to God for the *Right Hand of Fellowship* gift matching campaign totaled **\$10,480** (including all your gifts plus funds from the *Ladies Night Out* and the *Potato Bar meal*). A letter has been submitted to the LC-MS Foundation requesting that amount in matching gifts. **That brings the total since last October to \$48,418.** From the original gift of \$75,000 there still remains \$26,582 to be matched. **Thank you to everyone who has so generously supported this campaign. Let's see if we can retire this project by years end.** To give a gift toward this campaign, please use one of the special envelopes you received with your envelope set, or simply indicate the gift on the outside of your regular offering envelope.



**SUMMER EVENING PRAISE** – If you're going to be gone for a weekend, you can still make it to worship on Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. We gather in the north end of the fellowship hall. Communion is offered on the Thursday prior to regular Communion Sundays. These services will be conducted throughout the summer months. Please join us!

**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.

**JULY OFFICE HOURS:** Please note the church office hours during the month of July are Monday thru Friday: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM. If making a special trip, please call (419-598-8961) to guarantee someone will be here. Thank you!

<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 7/06/14	\$8,712.00	\$163.00	\$848.00

**ATTENDANCE:** 7/06/14 – 1<sup>st</sup> Service: 108; 2<sup>nd</sup> Service: 80; *Thurs. 7/03/14 Service – 28*

**CHURCH NEWSLETTER** – It's time again to submit articles or news item for the church newsletter. Submissions are encouraged from all groups active at St. John. Articles related to our synod, neighboring churches, and similar information is welcome from anyone. ***Please turn in material for the newsletter to the church/school office by Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup>.***

**LYF RETREAT:** The LYF will be going on a summer retreat to Mount Gilead State Park (*15 minutes east of Marion*) on July 25th-27th. We will spend this weekend exploring nature, doing team-building activities and making plans for the coming year. We hope this will be a great introduction to LYF for our incoming freshmen as well as a great send-off for our recent graduates. If you would like to attend, want more information, or have any questions, feel free to contact *Alex Gruenhagen* via email (gruenhagen.4@buckeyemail.osu.edu) or phone (419-966-7808).

**LWML:** Our next LWML Meeting will be held on July 22nd at 7:00 PM. *Diana Grim* will portray Mary Magdalene and *Janet Koch* will lead a discussion. They are from St. John Lutheran Church, Defiance. Come hear how Mary Magdalene was the first person to report to the disciples the miracle of the Resurrection. Bring your Mite Boxes. The LWML Summer Quarterlies are available on the table in the narthex.

**RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP FUNDRAISER:** The Stewardship Board is offering “for sale” the Ultimate Cloth® as a fundraiser. These are a MiraFiber® technology cloth that cleans with water only. More effective than harsh cleaning chemicals and soaps. See *Karen Norden* (419-267-3477) for more information and pricing. This fundraiser will run for several weeks.

**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!

**BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS** need to be turned in to the office by Wednesday of each week in order to be included in the Sunday bulletin. Please make a note of this. Thank you!

**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. Thank you!

**PROJECT CONNECT** – There are many free booklets in the rack in the narthex. Be sure to check for some good reading. Some titles are: “*Why Do Bad Things Happen To Me,*” “*Has God Abandoned Me,*” “*Dealing with Depression,*” “*Coping with Cancer,*” “*Who Is Jesus,*” “*Just Stress?*”, “*Overcoming A Painful Childhood,*” “*Where's God in All of This?*”, “*Why Should I go to Church?*” and many more. These booklets are furnished through the Lutheran Hour Ministries.

**ANNUAL SCHOOL CLEANING DATES** have been set for Mon., Aug. 18 and Wed., Aug. 20 starting at 6:30 PM both nights. Due to extremely low turnouts in the past few years, **all School Parents are asked to help with this project.** The carpets will be cleaned on Tues., Aug. 19.

**GOLF REGISTRATION:** Registration deadline is **Sat., July 19<sup>th</sup>**. The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual *Stephanie Lynn Kossow Memorial Golf Outing* will be held on Sat., July 26<sup>th</sup>, with a 1:00 PM shotgun start. Forms are available on the table in the narthex.

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL:** Zion Lutheran Church, Ridgeville Corners, is hosting a Homemade Ice Cream Social on Sun., July 20 with serving from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Carry Out available! Freewill donation! Come and Enjoy! See flyer for more info.

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

**For God so loved the world, that He didn't send a committee.**

*“God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son.” (John 3:16)*