

St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

August 24, 2014

VOL. 79

NO. 34

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ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Think, Think, Think!" *Romans 11:33-12:8*
Order of Service: *Morning Prayer – LSB pg. 235 (with Psalm 138)*
Hymns: 870 ~ 818 ~ 696 ~ 803

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome! We are here at the Savior's invitation; therefore let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, receiving mercy and finding grace to help in every time of need. But above all, we invite you to come to worship with us at any time. If you are a visitor, please introduce yourself to the pastor as you leave the worship service this morning.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✘ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✘ 1st Service: ✘ Jacob Gillen, *Acolyte* ✘
- ✘ 2nd Service: ✘ Katelyn Drewes, *Acolyte* ✘
- ✘ Evelyn Rohrs & Lois Arps, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Eldor & Rozella Gruenhagen, *Visitation* ✘
- ✘ Carey Damman, Craig Drewes, Scott VanValkenburg, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Karan Niebergall, Karen Lulfs, Kaylee & Ronda Wentworth, *Altar Guild* ✘

THE ALTAR FLOWERS TODAY are in memory of *Brad and Sarah Rosebrock's* father and father-in-law, *Mark Seibert*, who passed away seven years ago on August 21st. May God give them comfort!

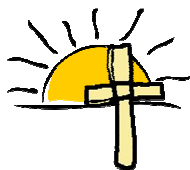
BABY'S ARRIVAL – *Pete & Brooke Henry* would like to announce the safe arrival of their son, *Ty Damman Henry*, on Monday, Aug. 18th at Fulton County Health Center. All are doing fine, and big sister and brother, *Izzy and Tate*, are sure to be "helpers" for *Ty's* every need. Congratulations!

OPEN HOUSE: There will be an Open House celebration for *Richard & Bev Elling's* 40th Wedding Anniversary hosted by their family today from 1:00-3:00 PM in the south end of the fellowship hall. All are welcome to come and wish *Rich & Bev* congratulations, visit with relatives and friends, and have some light refreshments.

In God's House This Week		<i>Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl</i>
Date	Time	Activities
Today	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:30AM 1:00 PM 4:30 PM	Early Worship Service Adult Bible Class Late Worship Service Open House for the 40 th Wedding Anniversary of Rich & Bev Elling LYF Meeting
Mon.	5:30 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	<i>Bread From Heaven</i> Food Pantry distribution (until 6:30 PM) Preschool Parents' Meeting in fellowship hall Girls' Basketball Open Gym (7:00 – 8:30 PM)
Tue.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class in gym Board of Elders Girls' Basketball Open Gym (7:00 – 8:30 PM)
Thurs.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class in gym Summer Evening Praise
Sun.	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:30AM	Early Worship Service Adult Bible Class Late Worship Service
Mon.- Sat.	7:20 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: Rev. James Strawn, St. James Lutheran, Archbold

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*, recuperating at The Orchards of Northcrest, Napoleon
- ❖ *Don Flory* (Teresa Damman's father), currently at home battling cancer
- ❖ *Ruth Mahnke*, recuperating at home from back surgery
- ❖ *Marvin Gruenhagen*, who will be going to Cleveland Clinic for further tests & procedures
- ❖ *Lanny Cowell* (newborn to Bobby & Kara Cowell), hospitalized at Toledo Hospital
- ❖ *LouAnn Rosebrock and family*, at the passing of her father, Franklin Schnitkey this past week



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. This Thursday will be the last of these summer-time services. Please join us!

145th ANNIVERSARY THANKS – We extend our heartfelt thanks to God for everyone who helped make last Sunday’s anniversary celebration such a joy and success. Thanks especially to the anniversary committee members for all your planning and hard work. We also thank the following: **The SJL Ladies Aid** for helping with the potluck; **Denny Damman and the adult choir** for coming out of your summer hiatus to bless us in our worship; **Renee Petezoldt, Sharon Damman and Vicar Shoaff** for the beautiful music; **Marian Damman** for finding all those former members; **Lori Langenhop** for the beautiful anniversary logo and banner; **Linda Schroeder** for helping with archives and pictures; all who brought food for the dinner, and all who lent a hand to get the fellowship hall back in order. Thank you all! God has blessed us indeed, that we in turn may bless others until, at last, all the ends of the earth will fear Him!



- **NOTE – The 145th Anniversary Banner** will be put on semi-permanent display these next years to continually remind us that God has blessed us so that others may also fear Him.

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY - The Screwtape Letters

Satan loves nothing more than to keep us fearful about the uncertainty of the future. As Screwtape says, “what they fear most is fear itself.” How does the Bible address the matter of fear and what it can do to a Christian? Join us this morning as we look into this classic book by *C.S. Lewis*. In a series of 31 fiendish letters, Screwtape 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.



SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS IN TWO WEEKS – On Sunday, Sept. 7th we will kick off a new season of instruction in our Sunday School. Parents, be sure to make the commitment to your child’s growth in faith – and while they’re at it, you can grow in faith right along with them in an Adult Bible study class. **Sunday School Material** for the Fall Quarter has arrived. It can be picked up in the office anytime. Thank you!

FINANCIAL FACTS:	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 8/17/14	\$7,368.00	\$378.00	\$463.00

ATTENDANCE: 8/17/14 – 10:30 AM Service: 278; Thurs. 8/14/14 Service – 14

PARENT HANDBOOKS: The 2014-15 Parent Handbooks are now available via the FastDirect Communication network. Handbooks will only be printed for those St. John families that do not have internet access via computers, cell phones, i-Pads, etc. Simply go to www.fastdir.com/stjohnfreedom and click on “Links” icon at the top of the page.

ST. JOHN LYF will hold their next meeting today at 4:30 p.m. in Miss Rettig’s classroom. We would like to see some new faces join us at this meeting. Hope to see you there!

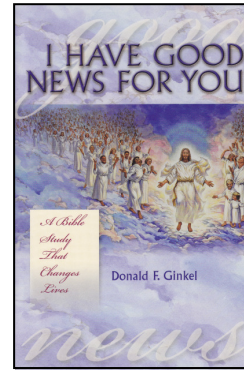
I HAVE GOOD NEWS FOR YOU

- Riots Rock Ferguson, Missouri
- American Journalist Beheaded by Islamic Radicals
- Stock Market Bubble May Burst

Tired of all the bad news? Want some good news for once? Well, we have good news for you – about a God who cares for you, a Bible that liberates and guides you, a Savior who redeems you, a washing that cleanses you, a meal that nourishes you, and much, much more!

I Have Good News for You is a ten-session study of the basics of our Christian faith. This study is intended for those who'd like to join our congregation as members, for current members who would appreciate a review of Christian teachings, or even for those who are just curious.

Our first session will be on Thursday, Sept. 11th from 7:00 to 8:15 p.m. If you'd like to attend but need help with child-care, please contact Pastor Niermann or the church office and we'll get something arranged. There is no cost and no need to register. Just join us, and we will grow together in grace and the knowledge of God, and celebrate some GOOD NEWS for once!



TWO NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO STUDY GOD'S WORD:

▪ ***Your Marriage, by God's Design Bible Study***

Beginning **Sunday, September 7th**, St. John Lutheran Church will be offering the Bible study, **Your Marriage, by God's Design**. While the children are being taught God's Word in Sunday School in-between services you will have the tremendous opportunity to dig deep into God's Word as we discern God's will for Christian marriage and parenting.

To register for the Bible study go to <http://tinyurl.com/yourmarriagebygodsdesign>.

When you register online you will have an opportunity to make a donation to cover the cost of the materials. You may also register for the Bible study in the narthex after church and make any donation at the time the study begins. This Bible study is open to the public.

▪ ***Lutheran Confessions: Augsburg Confession and Its Apology Bible Study***

On **Thursday, September 4th** we will begin our study of the Augsburg Confession. It is a 13-session Bible study. We will meet on the **1st and 3rd Thursdays** of each month from **7PM-8PM**.

What is Biblical Christianity? What does it mean to be a Lutheran? What exactly do we believe, teach, and confess? Not only will you learn more about our Lutheran heritage, but more importantly, you will come to a deeper understanding of the pure teachings of God's Word.

To register for the Bible study go to <http://tinyurl.com/augsburgconfession>. When you register online you will have an opportunity to make a donation to cover the cost of the materials. You may also register for the Bible Study in the narthex after church and make any donation at the time the study begins. Both of these Bible studies are open to the public. Please invite someone! If you have questions, please call or email *Vicar Shoaff*.

LADIES AID: The next meeting will be Thurs., Sept. 11th at 7:00 PM. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend!

IT'S "NOODLE TIME!" FRI., SEPT. 26TH AT 1:00 PM – The Henry County Hospital Bazaar will be Thurs., Oct. 2nd. We will be making the noodles for the bazaar after lunch on the Friday before, Sept. 26th at 1:00 PM in the fellowship hall. Packaging on Saturday at 8:30 AM. Four ladies are needed to separate eggs prior to Friday. If you are willing to do this, please call *Nancy Hogrefe* at 419-267-3806. The eggs will be delivered to you. Any and all are invited to help. All we ask are willing hands, no experience necessary, walk-ins welcome! NOTE: If you have them please bring your noodle machine and/or drying rack.

LWML FALL RETREAT – The Fall Retreat will be held on Saturday, September 20th, at St. John Family Center, Stryker, from 9:00 – 2:00 PM, with registration beginning at 8:30 AM. Registration fee is \$12.00 which includes lunch. Registration forms are available on the table in the narthex. Sign up deadline is Friday, Sept. 12th. See flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

SAVE THE DATE! Come one, come all, to the Arts & Craft Show to be held here at St. John on Sat., Nov. 1st. The money raised will go toward the Right Hand of Fellowship campaign. Please contact *Diane Norden* (419-598-8234) or *Jackie Ripke* (419-267-5574) with questions. Vendor applications are available on the table in the narthex. More information to come as it draws near.

FREEDOM'S FLOCK – St. John's after school program will begin at 3:00 PM on the first day of school, August 27. The paid staff person will be *Karen Riefers*. Mrs. Riefers will be in charge Monday thru Friday. Please contact Karen Riefers to pre-register your child(ren) and pay the \$15 per family registration by August 27 if possible. You can also access the Freedom's Flock Handbook and Registration/Medical forms on FastDirect. If any adult or student (16 or older) would like to volunteer to also help with the program, you may contact Karen at 419-598-8686.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL OPEN GYM: Girls in grades 4-8 will be having open gym on Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 25 & 26 from 7:00 – 8:30 PM at St. John.

ATHLETIC BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP: Membership is now being taken for the Athletic Booster Club. Prices are \$20.00 for a couple and \$10.00 for an individual. Make checks payable to St. John Boosters. Forms are available on the table in the narthex. Join today and help out the children's athletic program. Our programs here at St. John give our students a sense of sportsmanship, discipline, structure and self-confidence needed to go out into the world.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

For Home Improvement – Bring the Family to Church.

He was "a devout man who feared God with all his household." (Acts 10:2)

SCHOOL NOTES:

- ✓ **1st DAY OF SCHOOL** for St. John is Wed., Aug. 27 , with classes beginning at 8:20 AM. Students arriving after that time will need to report to the school office.
- ✓ **OPEN HOUSE** – (PS, Gr.K-8) On Sunday, August 24th, from 9:30 – 10:30 AM, all classrooms will be open and we invite parents and students to come in and bring in their school supplies.
- ✓ **PRESCHOOL PARENTS MEETING** – There will be a Preschool Parents Meeting on Mon., Aug. 25 beginning at 7:00 PM. This will include an overview of the FastDirect Communication information system we have implemented at St. John.
- ✓ **SCHOOL OFFICE** will be open on Sunday, August 24th from 9:30 - 10:30 AM for anyone that wants to pay their enrollment fee and purchase supplies from the book store. Payment of fees can also be mailed to St. John Lutheran School, 16035 County Road U, Napoleon, Ohio 43545. The office will also be open from 8:30 – Noon on Mon., Aug. 25 and Tues., Aug. 26 for payments. ***Please return any St. John Library books from last school year at this time also.***
- ✓ **OPENING SERVICE** on Aug. 27th will be at 8:35 AM in the church. Following the service, *Principal Mary K. Rettig* will welcome our new students. Once back in their rooms the children, by classrooms, will have the opportunity to purchase school supplies from our book store if they have not already done so. **All are welcome to attend this Opening Service!**
- ✓ **LUNCH MENUS** – These will be available on FastDirect Communication.
- ✓ **MEAL TICKETS** will be sold August 27, the first day of school. Meal ticket prices remain the same. They are: PS 4/5 - \$2.20, Gr. K-4 - \$2.40, Gr. 5-8 - \$2.50. We have put Preschool for one price, Grades K-4 together for one price, and Grades 5-8 for one price. Extra milk is 40¢. The adult meal price remains the same at \$2.60 and \$3.00 w/milk. Meal tickets may be purchased for any amount of days each week or for the entire month.
- ✓ **BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP** – St. John Booster membership for the 2014-15 school year. Dues are: \$20.00 for husband and wife; \$10.00 for single. Make checks payable to *St. John Boosters*.
- ✓ **SCHOOL PICTURES** will be taken by *Emilie Parsons* of Emilie's Photo Design this year and are scheduled for Thurs., Sept., 11th at 9:00 AM for the 4/5-year old Preschool class and Gr. K-8; and Fri., Sept. 12th at 9:00 AM for 3-year old Preschool class and anyone absent on Sept. 12th. Order forms will be sent home shortly after school starts.
- ✓ **EMERGENCY PROCEDURE(pink), STATE FUNDS(light blue), AND EARLY CLOSING(green) CARDS** will be available on a table outside the school office as a handout on Sun., Aug. 24th. They can be completed and turned in with your fees that Sunday or turned in to the school office by the first day of school. Write all family members on one card.
- ✓ **SCRIP PROGRAM** will be offered again this school year. Anyone willing to help the PTL with this fundraiser can contact Karen Gerken at 567-454-0087.