



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
Mr. Reed Shoaff, Vicar
Miss Mary K. Rettig, Principal

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TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "When You Lose It, You Find It" *Matthew 16:21-28*

Order of Service: *See printed Order of Service*

Hymns: [*Baptisms: "Borning Cry," 805; "To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord," 805*]
~ 722 ~718 ~783

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome to the service of God's House and the fellowship of this congregation. We hope that you will be both comforted and challenged by the Word of God from us today. If you are new to our community; we hope you will consider making this your church home. Please 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

- ✘ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✘
- ✘ Alan & Kathy Damman, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Jim & Linda Meyer, *Visitation* ✘
- ✘ Carey Damman, Craig Drewes, Scott VanValkenburg, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Karan Niebergall, Karen Lulfs, Kaylee & Ronda Wentworth, *Altar Guild* ✘

ALTAR FLOWERS are placed today in celebration of the 40th Wedding Anniversary of *Richard & Bev Elling* by their family. Rich & Bev were married on August 31, 1974. Congratulations to the Elling's and many more!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEXT SUNDAY – 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!

In God's House This WeekOnline church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl

Date	Time	Activities
Today	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:30AM	Early Worship Service Adult Bible Class Late Worship Service
Mon.		NO SCHOOL due to Labor Day
Tue.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Stewardship Board & School Board Meetings
Wed.	Cancelled	2-hour Late Start-Up
Thurs.	6:30 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Men's Bible Breakfast at Hill's Restaurant Exercise Class Bible Study with Vicar Shoaff (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Sun.	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:30AM	Communion Service Sunday School begins; Adult Bible Class; "Time To Spare" Late Worship Service
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*
- ❖ *Pauline Dishop and Marie Damman*, residing at The Lutheran Home, Napoleon
- ❖ *Magdalena Volkman*, residing at Heartland Nursing Home, Wauseon
- ❖ *Norma Damman, 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, 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
- ❖ *Don Flory* (Teresa Damman's father), currently at home battling cancer
- ❖ *Ruth Mahnke*, recuperating at home from back surgery
- ❖ *Marvin Gruenhagen*, giving thanks for good news about a brain mass; also celebrating with Arlene their 57th wedding anniversary on Monday.
- ❖ *Randy & Liza Gerken*, on the birth of a grandson, Rowan Lee Trolio, on Tues., Aug. 26th

ADDITIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTE – With the start of Sunday School next Sunday, we are in need of 2 teachers at the Preschool level and 1 teacher at the 1st & 2nd Grade level to volunteer their time to nurture the children of St. John. There are usually two teachers per classroom and they teach every other month. We would also like to gather a list of about 4 people to be put on a sub list for all grade levels. Sunday School runs September thru May, from approximately 9:30 – 10:15 AM. What better way to put your talents to good use here at St. John. Give it some serious thought and contact Sunday School Superintendent, *Brenda Kruse* at 419-966-4876.

ATTENTION ALL HIGH SCHOOL & YOUNG ADULTS: Join us in the Cry Room after church next Sunday for Bible Study, fellowship, and snacks. Feed your soul and your body to start your week out right! Looking forward to having you join us each week! *Sharon Damman*

BAPTISMS TODAY – This morning we are privileged to welcome two children into God’s Kingdom through the washing of Baptism.

- **In the early service, *Lanny Marie Cowell*, infant daughter of Bobby & Kara Cowell, will be baptized.** Lanny was born on August 6, 2014 at the Fulton County Health Center. Her baptismal sponsors are Kyle Sausser, Kolby & Brittany Sausser, and Aaron & Lindsay Gerken. Lanny’s grandparents are Larry & Cheryl Sausser and Kenny & Sandy Cowell.
- **In the late service, the infant child of Vicar Reed & Emily Shoaff will be baptized.** The child was born this week at the Dekalb Memorial Hospital in Auburn, IN. The family’s membership is at Trinity Lutheran in Colby, KS. Baptismal sponsors are Josias & Angela Marin (seminary friends) and James & Rebekah (Emily’s sister) Glowinski. Grandparents are Tom & Mary Shoaff and Wayne & Cheryl Cox.



We congratulate these two families on this joyous day. May the good work that God has begun in Baptism be brought to its completion on the day of Jesus Christ when all of His redeemed gather around His glorious throne!

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY - The Screwtape Letters

For Satan and his legions, one of their best weapons is to cause people to disbelieve their existence. We have no fear of that which we do not believe is even real. If we disbelieve the devil’s existence, we have no defense against his attacks. How does the Bible address the matter of Satan and the reality of his being? 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.



<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 8/24/14	\$6,503.00	\$303.00	\$778.00

ATTENDANCE: 8/24/14 – 8:15 Service: 145; 10:30 Service: 120; Thurs. 8/21/14 Service – 33

CHURCH LIBRARY : “Nineteen new books added to the church library include: "Not a Tame God - Christ in the Writings of C.S. Lewis", "Devotions for the Chronologically Gifted", "Abortion in Perspective", "The Unexplained - Miracles, Mysteries, and More", "Evangelism and Church Growth", and "Racism and the Church - Overcoming the Idolatry". For younger people there are "The Christian Babysitter's Handbook" and "Deal Me In! - Life Issues".

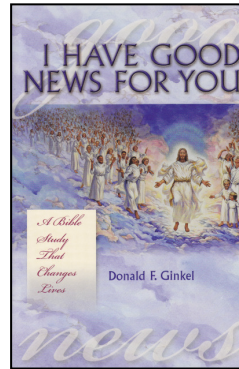
The church library is located in the hallway west of the sanctuary. It is self-serve, so feel free to take materials at any time and return them in the basket provided. Recently added materials are found on the top right shelf with youth materials on the next shelf down.”

I HAVE GOOD NEWS FOR YOU – starts Thurs., Sept. 11

- 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*.

“THANK YOU” FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD – “Thank you” to all the parents who took time out of their busy schedules to help us with the Annual School Cleaning. All the hard work and sweat paid off, as the school looks very nice. We can begin the school year with a fresh look!

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!

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.

CUTLERY FOR SALE: The Ladies Aid is selling Rada Cutlery products. These items are not on display for safety reasons. Check out the display board to see if you are interested in purchasing any of these items: Paring Knives, Stubby Butcher Knives, Pie Servers, Vegetable Peelers, Slicer Knives, Granny Forks, Carving Forks, Pizza Cutters, Tomato Slicer, and Small Spatula. Contact officers *Nancy Hogrefe, Nancy Glaser, Mabel Bischoff, or Pat Maassel* if you would like to see or purchase any of these items.

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.

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 will be an on-going fundraiser for the Right Hand of Fellowship gift matching campaign.

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.

PTL MEETING will be held on Mon., Sept. 8th at 7:00 PM. This will be a business meeting. Plan to attend and support the school.

SCHOOL PICTURES: This will be done on **Thurs., Sept. 11th** for 4&5-year old Preschoolers, Kindergarten, and Gr. 1-8 students starting at 9:00 AM. On **Fri., Sept. 12th** the 3-year old Preschoolers will have their pictures taken beginning at 9:00 AM. A form will be sent home in early September. Be sure to look for it! Payment is due the same day the student's picture will be taken, payable to: *Emilie Parsons*.

GIRLS' & BOYS' BASKETBALL NOTE: Both teams will have practice once per week beginning on Tues., Sept. 9th (GR. 3-8 GIRLS) and Thurs., Sept. 11th (GR. 4-8 BOYS) from 6:30 – 8:00 PM both nights. This will continue until further notice. GO EAGLES!!!!

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.

MUM SALE – The Henry County 4-H Advisory Council is hosting a Mum Sale – they are \$5.50 for a 9" pot and \$10.50 for a 12" pot. Colors available are red, yellow, orange, bronze, pink, white, pineapple, purple, and rainbow (available in large only). Order forms are available on the table in the narthex. Deadline for orders is September 8. Proceeds benefit refurbishing the 4-H building at the fairgrounds and for 4-H Camp Scholarships. For more information please contact Bethann at [419-445-7910](tel:419-445-7910) or email bethann@rteexpress.net

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!

LARGE PRINT & CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BULLETINS are available today on the table in the narthex. The Children's Bulletins are coordinated with the Bible texts for each Sunday, and provide activities that tie in with the weekly themes. Pick one up today for your child.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Prayer – the ultimate wireless connection!

"In every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." (Philippians 4:6)