



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

September 14, 2014

VOL. 79

NO. 37

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FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "So Which Is It – Good or Evil?" *Genesis 50:15-21*

Order of Service: *Matins (LSB page 219)*

Hymns: **765 ~ 719 ~ 843** (sub for 'Te Deum') ~ **760**

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We welcome all who have come to worship our God with us today! Each day we live is a priceless gift from God, loaded with possibilities to learn something new, to gain fresh insights into His great truths. May we be showered with those blessings as we together profess His Name today. 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

- ✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘ **1st Service:** ✘ David Maassel, *Acolyte* ✘
- ✘ **2nd Service:** ✘ Katelyn Drewes, *Acolyte* ✘
- ✘ Richard & Bev Elling, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Lawrence & Hildegard Behrmann, *Visitation* ✘
- ✘ Dave Badenhop, Denny VonDeylen, Jerry Short, Dan Wiechers, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Kathy Badenhop, Sandy VonDeylen, Mary Rettig, *Altar Guild* ✘

'BREAD FROM HEAVEN' – A note to St. John members needing food assistance – If you could use food assistance from our food pantry, please speak with *Pastor Niermann*. We are required by the *Northwestern Ohio Food Bank* to keep a record with your name, but pastor will keep your record separate and absolutely confidential.

Contributions can be given at any time: monetary gifts can be given to the *Good Neighbor Fund* (note it on your envelope). **Food items especially needed at this time are: canned peaches, mixed fruit, pineapple, spaghetti sauce, cereal, mac n' cheese, saltines & any crackers, hamburger helper, chicken noodle soup and tomato soup.** Any and all contributions are always greatly appreciated. Food items can be placed in the box near the archives display.

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 w/Communion following Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare" Late Worship Service
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:00AM 7:00 PM	Napoleon Public Library (Gr. K-8) Exercise Class Building Committee Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM	Jr. Hi Confirmation Class (until 7:30 PM)
Thurs.	9:00AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Bible Study with <i>Vicar Shoaff</i> ; Adult Information with <i>Pastor Niermann</i>
Sun.	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:30AM 10:30AM	Early Communion or Worship Service Sunday School; "Time To Spare" LYF hosting Annual Ice Cream Social Late Communion or Worship Service
Mon.- Sat.	7:20 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Charles Kramer</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*
- ❖ *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, and Connor Gerken*
- ❖ *Edwin Rosebrock*, at home dealing with health issues at this time
- ❖ *Casen Lawrence*, as he has had on-going seizures resulting in hospitalization
- ❖ *Yvonne Volkman and Don Flory*, currently at home as they battle cancer
- ❖ *Marvin Gruenhagen*, undergoing more testing at Cleveland Clinic

HOLY COMMUNION will be offered this morning following the Early Worship service. Those who wish to attend should fill out a card from the pew rack in front of you and give it to the usher as you leave your pew this morning. Return immediately to the front pews in the sanctuary.

ADULT CHOIRS STARTING WED., SEPT. 24TH

- ✚ **Bell Choir** meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:30. We are always looking for new members to join us. If you think you'd like to get involved and share your talents, please contact *Karan Niebergall* at 419-598-8251.
- ✚ **Vocal Choir** also meets Wednesday nights at 7:45 in the church balcony. If you've been thinking about joining the choir, now is a good time to become a member. We are always looking for more members to sing His praises, and could use a few more tenors and sopranos.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL!

Last Sunday we began a new season of Christian education at St. John with the start of the Sunday School season. There are opportunities for Christian growth for all.

- **SUNDAY SCHOOL** – Children of all ages are invited to join their respective teachers and classes this morning for the ongoing study of God’s Word. We give thanks to God for those who volunteer their time to teach the children, for our Lord said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them.”

~ And while the young ones are in Sunday School, you can be growing too! ~

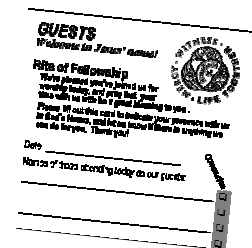
- **ADULT BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR** – Join Pastor Niermann in the north end of the fellowship hall for the continuing study of the “*Screwtape Letters*” by C.S. Lewis. This fascinating look into the devil’s craft of temptation will give you an advantage as you fight the good fight of faith. Don’t worry if you’ve not attended before – each letter is a topic of its own. For instance, in letter #8, Screwtape informs Wormwood of the “the law of undulation” – that highs and lows in our spiritual lives are normal, and are even used by God to the advantage of His Kingdom.
- **YOUNGER ADULT BIBLE STUDY WITH THE VICAR** – Join Vicar Shoaff in the south end of the fellowship hall for the study, “*Marriage by God’s Design.*” The Bible begins with a marriage—Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden—and ends with a marriage—the marriage feast of Christ and His Bride, the Church. Throughout its pages, the Bible explains why God created His human creatures male and female and why He instituted marriage for them. Participants will learn and grow in the understanding and application of its teachings concerning married—and single—living.



ADDITIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTE – With the start of Sunday School, 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.

NEW ‘RITE OF FELLOWSHIP’ CARD FOR OUR GUESTS

This morning in the pews you will notice a new blue card for our guests to use to indicate their presence with us in worship. This card will make it much easier for us to minister to those who visit us. For our members, we will continue to use the beige cards as we have always done until we run out of them, at which time we will revise that card as well. Thank you for filling out these cards every time you attend worship. It’s an important ministry tool for us!



LYF ICE CREAM SOCIAL – The LYF will be hosting its annual Ice Cream Social on Sun., Sept. 21, with serving from 10:30 to 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. There is a signup sheet on the table in the narthex for donations of desserts. On the menu: *Chicken Sandwiches, Sloppy Joe's, Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Salad, Chips, Pies, Cakes, Cupcakes, Beverage and Schwan's Ice Cream.* Freewill offering! Carryout available also! Come out and support the youth of our congregation!

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 9/07/14	\$9,380.00	\$912.00	\$1,253.00

ATTENDANCE: 9/07/14 – 8:15 Service: 168; 10:30 Service: 86

LOANING TABLES & CHAIRS: Per the September 2014 council meeting, it was decided by Church Council that tables and chairs will no longer be loaned out to members of the congregation. Please make note of this when planning any upcoming events, reunions, graduations, etc.

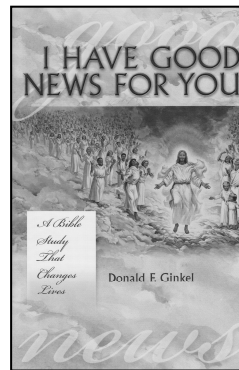
I HAVE GOOD NEWS FOR YOU

- 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.

Classes got started last Thursday, but it's not too late to join. For the next nine weeks we will meet each Thursday evening 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!



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.

MISSION GIVING OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS

Tuesday morning during Chapel the *Lutheran Women's Missionary League* of St. John handed out *Mite Boxes* to the students. This morning the Sunday School students will be given their mite boxes. The *Mite Box* is inspired by the widow in **Mark 12** who gave a few mites as her offering – not much monetarily, but it was everything she had and therefore generous beyond measure! The purpose of a *Mite Box* is to collect the “mites” (*coins*) you find in your pockets, in the washer or dryer, on the dresser or under the couch cushions, and to give them as an offering for missions. It's a great way for children and families to share the joy of giving.



The children will have four weeks to gather their ‘mites’ into these boxes. Then on LWML Sunday, October 5, they will be invited forward during worship to present their ‘mite’ offerings to the Lord. Each *mite* is a small amount, but together they fund mighty projects in mission fields. To see a list of these projects, visit www.lwml.org and under the Missions tab click ‘Mission Grants.’

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!

A SIMPLE AND CONVENIENT WAY TO GIVE – This fall, consider signing up for electronic giving. St. John Lutheran Church relies on financial support of the congregation and electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis. One simple, easy to use authorization form can begin or change your electronic contributions amount. Contact *Joyce Wiechers* in the office at 419-598-8961 for more details. Thank you!

OHIO ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN: The Ohio Division OGT is located in the north end of the Culligan Water Conditioning building on Independence Drive in Napoleon. Someone is usually there to receive items on the first Tuesday of the month from 9:00-11:00 AM. If you need to drop off items at another time, please contact *Nancy Helmke* (419-758-3539), *Diann Meyer-Grieser* (419-267-3485), *Vicki Grieser* (419-445-2986), or *Harold Behrmann* (419-598-8311) and they will be happy to meet you and open the facility to receive your donations! PLEASE do not drop off items at the warehouse when it is closed. Thank you!

CHURCH LIBRARY – The church library, located in the hall next to the sanctuary, is growing to contain a lot of excellent books that will edify your faith. The books in this library have been screened to assure that they are true to the Word of God and can be trusted to be theologically sound. Please check out the selection. To borrow a book, just take it with you, then return it to the basket when you've finished reading.

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.

SUNNY D LABELS – Throughout the school year please save labels from *Sunny D* drinks. Classrooms that save 20 *SunnyD* labels earn 20 FREE books. Here's how it works. **COLLECT** *SunnyD* UPC labels from these eligible products: 1, 2, or 3 liter bottles; 16 oz., 48 oz., 64 oz., 96 oz., or 128 oz. bottles; 6.75 oz.- 6, 8, or 24 pack outer wraps; 6.75 oz.-12 pack cardboard case; 11.3 oz.-6 or 24 pack outer wraps; 12 oz.-12 or 24 pack cans outer wraps. **SEND** the UPC labels to the school office at any time. We can redeem these labels for free children's books for our library or classrooms.

LABELS FOR EDUCATION (*formerly Campbell's Labels for Ed*): Our school collects labels all year long. **Labels For Education have expanded and now include UPC labels from Post Cereals, BIC, Pop-Secret, and several others.** For a complete listing of sponsors go to www.labelsforeducation.com. These labels earn points for St. John to be redeemed for many school supplies. Mrs. Damman and the 5th & 6th Graders have volunteered to clip, count, and bundle the various Campbell labels for mailing. We will be submitting our labels sometime this school year, so keep them coming! **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!

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION, AND POP TABS: Our school collects *Box Tops For Education*, and aluminum tabs. *Box Tops For Education* is an ongoing PTL fundraiser earning 10¢ per box top for the school. They have expanded their sponsors, so be sure to check over your grocery items carefully so you don't miss any box tops.

Tabs are collected for the Ronald McDonald House in Toledo. They can be collected from soup cans, tuna fish cans, cat food cans, pop cans, etc. The money received from recycling the tabs provides the yearly food budget for the over 500 families that the Ronald McDonald House serves in NW Ohio. 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!

LADIES' NOODLE MAKING - CANCELLED – Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Ladies Aid noodle making for the Henry County Hospital Bazaar had to be cancelled. Please take this off your calendar for Fri., Sept. 26th at 1:00 PM.

ST. JOHN CRAFT SHOW! 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. There will also be a booth/table set up for donated homemade craft items from our congregation members who wish to contribute to and support the Right Hand of Fellowship. Please contact *Diane Norden* (419-598-8234) or *Jackie Ripke* (419-267-5574) with questions. If you wish to set up your own table, vendor applications are still available on the table in the narthex. More information to come as it draws near.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Forgiveness does not change the past, but it does enlarge the future. ~Paul Boese

“And [Jesus] said to her, ‘Your sins are forgiven... Go in peace.’” (Luke 7:48, 50)