



# 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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NO. 40

Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor  
Mr. Reed Shoaff, Vicar  
Miss Mary K. Rettig, Principal

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### SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: “Fragrant Sacrifices and Offerings” *Ephesians 5:2*

Order of Service: *See printed Service Folder*

Hymns: 790 ~ 633, stz. 1-5 ~ 633, stz. 6-8 ~ 507, stz. 1,4 ~ 547 [Communion: 632, 506]

Adult Choir: “Hear Us, O Father” and “May the Lord Bless You”

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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. 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.*

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

- ✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘ 1<sup>st</sup> Service: Mitchell Kruse & Caleb Bockelman, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ 2<sup>nd</sup> Service: Cally Bialorucki & Emily Bostelman, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Todd & Chris Hesterman, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Harold Behrmann & Richard Elling, *Visitation* ✘
- ✘ Al Damman, Andy Damman, Tim Hodson, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Linda Riefers, Marian Damman, Ruth Mahnke, Mabel Bischoff, *Altar Guild* ✘

**IT’S A GIRL!** Congratulations to *John & Lori Linebaugh*, and big brother *Clinton* on the safe arrival of their daughter and sister, *Emery Renee*, on Wed., Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> at Miami Valley Hospital, Dayton, OH. All are doing well. Grandparents, *Dean & Sharon Badenhop*, are “tickled pink” over Emery’s arrival.

**PASTOR & VICAR IN THE PEWS** – If you notice once in a while that the Pastor or Vicar are in the pews during a service, the purpose is to allow the Pastor to observe and evaluate the Vicar from the congregation’s perspective, and to permit the Vicar to observe the Pastor. It also allows them a few precious opportunities to worship with their loved ones, and to be hearers of the Word with everyone else.

**In God's House This Week**Online church calendar: [www.DynaCal.com/sjl](http://www.DynaCal.com/sjl)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Today	8:15 AM	LWML Sunday & Communion Service
	9:30 AM	Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare"
	10:30AM	LWML Sunday & Communion Service
Tue.	9:00 AM	Exercise Class
	7:00 PM	School Board & Stewardship Board Meetings
Wed.	6:15 PM	Jr. Hi Confirmation Class ( <i>until 7:30 PM</i> )
	6:30 PM	Adult Bell Choir practice
	7:30 PM	Adult Choir practice
Thurs.	9:00 AM	Exercise Class
	7:00 PM	Ladies Aid Meeting
	7:00 PM	Adult Information Class w/ <i>Pastor Niermann</i>
Sun.	8:15 AM	Early Worship Service w/Communion following
	9:30 AM	Voters' Meeting; <i>Java Joy</i>
	9:30 AM	Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare"
	10:30AM	Late Worship Service
Mon.- Sat.	7:20 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Jeff Corder</i> , St. John Lutheran, Stryker

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

- ❖ Our Shut-Ins: *Stan Moll, Marian Fitzenreiter, Donald & Sue Landry, and Edwin Rosebrock*
- ❖ *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, Emily Niermann, and Connor Gerken*
- ❖ *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
- ❖ *Lois Arps*, recovering at home from a broken ankle
- ❖ *Norma Damman*, rehabbing at The Lutheran Home – Napoleon from knee replacement
- ❖ *Joel Stier*, diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma and currently undergoing chemotherapy

**FILL UP THOSE LWML MITE BOXES!** Today is **LWML SUNDAY**, when we invite the children to bring their filled mite boxes back to church. They will be invited forward in both services to offer their mites to the Lord in the Lord's house. Our children's mites will be combined with others from around the nation to support great and needed projects in the Lord's mission. For a list of the mission projects supported by these mites, please visit the LWML website at <http://lwml.org/missions/mission-grants/>



**TODAY IS LWML SUNDAY** – This morning we celebrate one of the most effective and enduring mission organizations of our church, *The Lutheran Women’s Missionary League*. This league has roots as far back as the 1850’s when women of the LCMS started local auxiliaries to meet the needs of people—mending clothes for seminarians, equipping hospitals, establishing schools, developing convalescent and retirement homes, assisting orphanages



and residences for people with disabilities, gathering clothing, furniture and food for indigents, and funding mission endeavors at home and abroad. The LWML is the national organization that grew out of these local auxiliaries. Its women have always worked hard to fund mission and humanitarian projects all around the globe, primarily with the offerings of their ‘mites.’

Today our worship celebrates all that God has done through the LWML. Our worship theme is **“Fragrant Sacrifices and Offerings,”** based on Ephesians 5:2, *“and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”* Author of this service, Rev. Victor Belton, writes, “The LWML wants all women to find joy in Bible study, mission service, and reaching the lost and hurting for Christ.” More informaton at [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org).

### **SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES!**

**While the young ones are in Sunday School, you can be growing in faith too!**

- **“THE SCREWTAPE LETTERS”** – Our enemy is a tricky devil! He doesn’t need to tempt us into the ‘really big sins’ because the ‘little sins’ are usually more effective for his hellish purposes. As Screwtape writes in **Letter #12, “Don’t underestimate the power of ‘very small sins’ because the safest road to hell is the gradual one.”** Join Pastor Niermann in the north end of the fellowship hall for this intriguing study, and you will gain an advantage as you fight the good fight of faith. Don’t worry if you’ve not attended before – each letter is a Bible study unto itself.
- **“MARRIAGE BY GOD’S DESIGN”** – So far, we have built the firm and Biblical foundation upon which a Christian marriage lies. Today we begin Part II of Marriage by God's Design: LOVE! In our study we will learn just how God designed marriage to be the centerpiece of human love. If you haven't been able to attend yet, please come! Join Vicar Shoaff in the fellowship hall.

**2015 NOMINATIONS FOR CHURCH OFFICES** – Very soon now the Stewardship Board will begin the process of nominating and appointing people for the various offices of our congregation. As they prepare to do so, please take note of the following:

- If there is an office in which you’d like to serve, please offer your name to the Stewardship Board for consideration. Speak with *Pastor Niermann*.
- If you are approached about serving in an office, give it careful and prayerful thought. You are being asked because the Stewardship Board, with prayers for God’s guidance, has identified you as someone whose service in that office will be a blessing to us all!

**VOTERS’ MEETING – OCTOBER 12<sup>TH</sup>** – Join us one week from today between the services for the regular voters’ assembly in the fellowship hall. The meeting will begin after the first service at approx. 9:30 a.m.

**LADIES AID:** The October meeting will be held Thursday, October 9 at 7:00 PM. Please plan to come. All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend the meeting.

**LWML MEETING:** The next LWML meeting will be Tues., Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Our speaker will be *Vicar Shoaff*. The fall Quarterlies and Odes are on the table in the back of the church. Pick up a copy today!

**LADIES** – *Calling all quilters!* The Ladies Aid is working on a quilt for the Craft Show on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> and would like to invite anyone interested to help quilt on Monday and Tuesday afternoons to enable us to complete the quilt in time for the craft show. If these days don't work for you, please contact Clara Meyer, Phyllis Silveus, or Nancy Hogrefe to make arrangements for additional times.

**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. Contact 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.

**ST. JOHN CRAFT SHOW!** Come one, come all, to the Arts & Craft Show to be held here at St. John on Sat., Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM. 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.

**THRIVENT CHAPTER BOARD** – The Henry County Thrivent Chapter Board would like to have a representative from St. John's to sit on the Chapter Board. It would involve roughly one meeting per month, along with getting to know a lot of great people. Indication is that this is the last year for the Henry County Thrivent Chapter. Please contact Joyce in the office if you are interested in getting involved in something like this.

**FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY** – November 23<sup>rd</sup>

As part of our efforts under the WITNESS part of “Witness, Mercy, Life Together,” we will be planning *Friendship Sundays* periodically, the first of which we've scheduled for Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>. The purpose of a *Friendship Sunday* is to provide you an

opportunity to invite friends and family to a worship and fellowship event that is especially geared to our guests. Our first *Friendship Sunday* will take place around a theme that is strong in the Scripture readings that day – **GATHERED**. Much planning needs to take place. If you'd like to help plan our first *Friendship Sunday*, please speak with *Pastor Niermann*.



<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 9/28/14	\$7,182.00	\$170.00	\$570.00

**ATTENDANCE:** 9/28/14 – 8:15 Service: 127; 10:30 Service: 135

**SALE OF OLD TABLES:** Because of the dilapidated condition of the old white tables that we have occasionally loaned out, the Council has decided it is time for the church to be rid of them. A sale of these old tables by free-will donation will be held soon. As you plan your reunions, graduations, etc., please be aware that the sale of these tables means the church will no longer have tables available for loan (*we do not loan out the tables in the fellowship hall*). In addition, it was decided that with this change, we would also no longer loan out the chairs.

**STUDENT ASSEMBLY AND YOU'RE INVITED!** On Tues., Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> we have the pleasure of hosting the Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Parish Comfort Dog Ministry here at St. John. This assembly will begin at 12:45 PM in the gym, and will be followed by "Rosie" the Comfort Dog getting acquainted with each classroom. This is open to all congregation members. Please invite your family and friends to this assembly. Should be very informative and fun-filled! Come and get to know Rosie up close and personal! There are brochures on the narthex table with more information about the K9 Parish Comfort Dogs Ministry.

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR** – St. John PTL will be having a **Scholastic Book Fair** which is open to the public on **Thursday, October 16**, from 6:30 – 8:30 PM; and again on **Friday, October 17** from 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM. A lot of help is needed, so call *Sara Buchhop* (419-598-8882) if you can help.

**PARENT VISITATION & OPEN HOUSE** – St. John School has scheduled their Parent Visitation Open House for Thursday, October 16, from 7:00 – 8:00 PM. **NOTE: Each family is asked to bring one dozen cookies to the open house for refreshments.** The open house will run in conjunction with the PTL Scholastic Book Fair in the fellowship hall.

**PRESCHOOL GRANDPARENTS' DAY** – **Preschool Grandparents' Day** will be held from 9:00 – 11:00 AM on **Thurs., Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> for the 4 & 5-year old class** and same time on **Fri., Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> for the 3-year old class**. Grandparents should plan to arrive at 9 AM and report to the gym. Grandparents will also have the opportunity to take their grandchild through the PTL Scholastic Book Fair those days. Come and enjoy all the fun in Preschool!!!

**S.T.O.P. PENNY DRIVE** – The PTL Fall Penny Drive at St. John School began on Mon., Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> and will run thru Sat., Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. Send your pennies in to school with your child or grandchild. The winning classroom will be awarded a pizza party. *NOTE: Since starting this fundraiser in October 1992, the PTL has raised \$15,950.20 for the school.* So you can see how each and every penny adds up to a lot of support for the school. Let's keep it up!

**SCRIP AT ST. JOHN:** The *SCRIP* campaign has begun and will run for the remainder of the school year. *Make a Note* – The final order before Christmas break is due on Wed., Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> for delivery on Mon., Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>. For those that don't know, *SCRIP* is gift cards that you purchase through PTL for full face value. They work for both in store purchases and online shopping. PTL works through a company that purchases these gift cards in bulk from participating retailers. A percentage of the purchase stays with PTL and a percentage goes to the student's family toward enrollment/tuition. This fundraiser nets the PTL approximately \$300 each year. Think ahead--if you give out gift cards for Christmas consider purchasing them from PTL instead of at the store so that a



portion of that sale stays with St. John Lutheran School. Order forms and program information are posted on FastDirect under 'Links,' titled *SCRIP* Order Forms and *SCRIP* Program Info. There are also hard copies in the 'School Info' rack outside the office and on the table in the narthex. Please feel free to share with family and friends. Payment must accompany orders. **Any questions about *SCRIP* can be directed to the following *SCRIP* Coordinators: Karen Gerken at 567-454-0087 or email at [kgerken564@gmail.com](mailto:kgerken564@gmail.com); or Kristyn Honemann at 419-592-0643 or email at [honemann@embarqmail.com](mailto:honemann@embarqmail.com).**

**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.



**LADIES' VOLLEYBALL** – The ladies from St. Paul Lutheran, 1075 Glenwood Ave., Napoleon, would like to invite the ladies from St. John to join them on Monday evenings from 7:30 – 9:00 for volleyball. They play every Monday night, as long as St. Paul has had school that day also. What better way to stir up some good fellowship with a sister church.

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL** – St. Luke Lutheran Church, State Hwy 108, Wauseon, is having their Ice Cream Social Sunday, October 12, serving from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. *Menu: Hot Chicken, Sloppy Joes, Hot Dogs, Cold Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Vegetables and dip, Pie, Cake, Homestead Ice Cream, and Drink.* Freewill Offering! See flyer!

**FALL SOUP & PIE DINNER** – St. Paul Lutheran Church, 8074 County Road T, Liberty Center, is having their Fall Soup & Pie Dinner on Sunday, October 12, serving from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. *Menu: Chili, Chicken Noodle, Bean, and Vegetable Soup, BBQ Pork, Chicken, Hot Dog Sandwiches, Salads, Pies, and Beverages.* Freewill Offering! See flyer!

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### FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

**Brush up on your bible: It prevents Truth decay.**

*“Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.” (John 17:17)*