



# 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. 1

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

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### REFORMATION SUNDAY

Order of Service: *See printed service folder*

Hymns: **556**, sts.1-4 ~ **948** ~ **656** ~ **849**, st.3 ~ **556**, sts. 5-10

Children's Choir: *Grades K-4 sing "I Shall Not Be Moved"*

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### A PRAYER UPON ENTERING CHURCH

*We thank God this day for His work through Martin Luther to bring to light the Gospel of Jesus. May He reform us and renew us as we seek His purposes under the power of this Gospel. The church gathers under the Gospel of Christ. It is the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes. You are welcome as our guest this morning. 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. May the Lord bless our worship.*

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

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠ 1<sup>st</sup> Svc: Landon Willeman & Brooks Behnfeldt, *Acolytes* ✠
- 1<sup>st</sup> Service: Emily Bostelman, *Banner Bearer*; Maggie Weller, *Crucifier* ✠
- ✠ 2<sup>nd</sup> Service: Lydia Babcock, *Acolyte* ✠
- ✠ 2<sup>nd</sup> Service: Cody Damman, *Banner Bearer*; Brady Gerken, *Crucifier* ✠
- ✠ Clara Meyer & Phyllis Silveus, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Eldor & Rozella Gruenhagen, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Al Damman, Andy Damman, Tim Hodson, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Linda Riefers, Marian Damman, Ruth Mahnke, Mabel Bischoff, *Altar Guild* ✠

**THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are placed in thankfulness and celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary of Jerry & Nancy Short. Jerry & Nancy were married on Oct. 24, 1964, and God has richly blessed them over these 50 years of marriage. May they have many more years together!

**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!

**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 9:30 AM 10:30AM	<b>**REFORMATION SUNDAY**</b> Early Worship Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare" Late Worship Service
Mon.	5:30 PM	<i>Bread From Heaven</i> Food Pantry distribution (until 6:30 PM)
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Chapel led by Gr. 7&8; Offering: <i>LCC – K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry</i> Exercise Class LWML Society Meeting and Board of Elders
Wed.	6:15 PM 6:30 PM 7:30 PM	Junior Confirmation Class (6:15 – 7:30 PM) Adult Handbell Practice Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Adult Information Class w/ <i>Pastor Niermann</i>
Fri.	5:00 PM	Set up for Art & Craft Show on Saturday
Sat.	10:00AM	St. John Arts & Craft Show (until 4:00 PM)
Sun.	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:30AM 5:00 PM	Early Worship Service – <i>All Saints observed</i> Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare" Late Worship Service – <i>All Saints observed</i> Thrivent Election Dinner & Meeting (see bulletin note)
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Dale Kern</i> , Retired – St. John Lutheran, Stryker

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

- ❖ Our Shut-Ins: *Stan Moll, Marian Fitzenreiter, Donald 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, Marvin Gruenhagen, and Lois Arps*, at home with health issues
- ❖ *Norma Damman*, rehabbing at The Lutheran Home – Napoleon from knee replacement
- ❖ *Joel Stier*, diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma and currently undergoing chemotherapy
- ❖ *Sue Landry*, in failing health in Cardiac ICU at Toledo Hospital
- ❖ *Chris Basehor* (Sarah VerMeulen's cousin), dealing with a reoccurrence of her cancer

**TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK:** Remember to turn your clocks back this coming weekend, Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 AM. Daylight saving time ends! *Schlaf Gut!*

**TODAY IS REFORMATION SUNDAY** – We give thanks to God for all that He accomplished through His servant, Dr. Martin Luther. As we sing one of Luther’s most famous hymns, “*A Mighty Fortress is Our God,*” we rejoice that we are heirs of the Gospel that came to light through Luther’s life and ministry, and that we have come to know the saving power of that Gospel to all who believe it! Let us celebrate this 497-year anniversary of the Reformation!



**COMBINED ADULT BIBLE STUDY – TODAY! A Reformation Day Bible Study**

During the Sunday School hour, we will be combining the *Marriage by God's Design Bible Study* and the *Screwtape Letters Bible Study*. Here at St. John, we serve Christ in freedom. In our Bible study we will consider this Lutheran paradox: “*A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all.*” What does it mean to be free in Christ? What part do good works play in the life of a Christian? Join us in the fellowship hall!

**YOUTH DIRECTOR POSITION AVAILABLE**

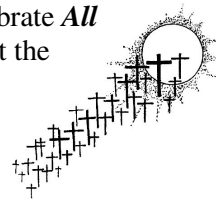
- We are presently seeking candidates for our Youth Director. This is a part-time paid position, to begin on December 1<sup>st</sup>. The Youth Director, with guidance and assistance from the Vicar and Pastor, promotes and leads the LYF youth ministry in our congregation. This position involves a monthly meeting, and planning and implementing various youth activities throughout the year. If you would like to apply for this position, please speak with Vicar Shoaff or 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 10/19/14	\$7,245.00	\$128.00	\$425.00

**ATTENDANCE:** 10/19/14 – 8:15 Service: 180; 10:30 Service: 95

**BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING:** The Budget Committee will be meeting on Thurs., Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. **The Budget Committee consists of the following 2014 office holders:** *Church Treasurer*, two second year **Trustees**, *two of the four Board of Ed members currently serving their second and third year*, two **Church Deacons**, *two Financial Trustees currently serving their second and third year*, the **Elder** completing his term of office, *and two Stewardship members, one serving their first year and one their second year*. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting on Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>.

**ALL SAINTS COMMEMORATION** – Next Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> we will celebrate **All Saints**. On that day the Church remembers all of the saints of God who have fought the good fight, have finished their race, and are with the Lord. Specifically, we will remember the members of our own church family who have died since the last celebration of *All Saints* and have taken their place at the throne of God’s Lamb. They are **Norman Fitzenreiter, Norma Dietrich, Joan Miller, Arnold Bischoff, Hilda Kruse, Lucia Rosebrock, and Lonnie Layton.**



## **Friendship Sunday – November 23<sup>rd</sup>**

As part of our efforts under the “WITNESS, Mercy, Life Together” emphasis, 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*.



**EAGLE NEWS TODAY:** The Eagle News publication is now available online via FastDirect Communication. Just go to <http://www.fastdir.com/stjohnsfreedom/>, click on “Links” on the left side of the page, then click on “Eagle News - October” in the “Everybody” column. There will still be printed copies available on the narthex table for those parishioners without computer access. Enjoy!

**RECYCLING PROGRAM:** As of the Sept. 2014 School Board Meeting, it was decided to implement a recycling program at St. John School. This will be done through Zack’s Recycling, Napoleon. Please pick up a green flyer explaining the recycling program from the table in the narthex or contact school board member, *Renee Bostelman* (419-758-3335) with any questions.

**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.

**CHRISTMAS SWEETS & TREATS!** The Stewardship Board is organizing a Christmas fundraiser for the Right Hand of Fellowship Gift Matching campaign. The Christmas Sweets & Treats Shop will be open on Sunday, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> after each of the Early and Late Services that day.

Here is how it will work. You can make a freewill donation and receive a small or large gift box, after which you will go to tables, set up in the hallway and pick out any of the baked goods to fill your box with Christmas goodies. All money raised will be given (and matched) toward the Right Hand of Fellowship campaign – Fellowship Hall debt reduction.

Stop by on Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> and let us brighten your Christmas season with a handpicked box of sweets and treats! Any questions about this fundraiser should be directed to *Karen Norden* (419-267-3477) or *Kim VanValkenburg* (419-519-0437). More information will be forthcoming requesting donations of your favorite holiday cookies, candies, bars, etc. for this fundraising event. Stay tuned!

**ATHLETIC BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP:** Membership is still being taken for the Athletic Booster Club. **Sign up deadline is Mon., Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>**. Prices are \$20.00 for a couple and \$10.00 for an individual. Make checks payable to St. John Boosters and send to school with your child. Forms are available in the “School Info” rack outside the school office. Join today!

**PTL S.T.O.P. PENNY DRIVE will wrap up this 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. Every penny adds up to a lot of support for the school. Let's keep those pennies coming in!

**ST. JOHN SCRIP:** The *SCRIP* campaign is in full swing. Order forms and program information are posted on FastDirect under 'Links,' titled SCRIP Order Forms and SCRIP Program Information. There are also hard copies on the narthex table and in the "School Info" rack outside the office. Please turn your orders in on Wednesdays, with payment to *St. John School PTL Scrip Program*. The gift cards will be sent home the following week on Tuesday. 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).**

**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.

**NOMINATION LETTERS MAILED** –The Stewardship Board has begun the process of nominating and appointing people for the various offices of our congregation for 2015. Letters were mailed recently. 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!

**STEWARDSHIP & THANKSGIVING:** In this season of thanksgiving, a sincere 'thank you' is in order to everyone who supports our congregation throughout the year with their attendance, service, and regular financial contributions. For those of you who are interested, the church offers electronic giving options for making donations on a scheduled, automated basis. It's convenient for you and provides much-needed financial consistency for the church. Pick up an authorization form in the office to get started today!

**LADIES AID SCHOLARSHIPS:** Here is another opportunity to encourage and help young people prepare for service to the church as pastors, teachers, lay workers, deaconesses, and parish workers. \$500 per year Ladies Aid Scholarships are available to any young person attending one of our synodical schools. Simply contact any Ladies Aid member for more details about this.

**CHURCH HISTORY BOOKS** – If at any time during the year you need a gift for a current or former member of St. John, why not consider one of our Church History Books. This book is full of interesting facts about St. John's and is available in the church office at a cost of \$12.00.

**BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION, AND POP TABS:** Our school also collects *Box Tops For Education*, and aluminum pop tabs all year long. *Box Tops For Education* is an ongoing PTL fundraiser earning 10¢ per box top for the PTL. They too have expanded their sponsors, so be sure to check over your grocery items carefully so you don't miss any box tops. The pop tabs collected all go to support the Ronald McDonald House in Toledo. 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!

**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](http://www.labelsforeducation.com). These labels earn points for St. John to be redeemed for many school supplies. ***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!

**LUTHERAN HOME – BAVARIAN VILLAGE OPEN HOUSE:** You are invited to Bavarian Village Condos Open House today from 2:00 – 4:00 PM located behind the Lutheran Home of Napoleon. See flyer on bulletin board!

**FILLING HOME FALL FLING** – On Saturday, Nov. 1, the Filling Home Women's Guild will hold their *Tenth Annual Filling Fall Fling*. This will be held from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM in the Wellness Activity Center on the Filling Home campus. See flyer on the bulletin board for more info!

**THRIVENT ELECTION DINNER:** The Henry County Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will be holding their annual Election Dinner and Meeting on Sun., Nov. 2 at 5:00 PM. Registration begins at 4:30 PM. This will be held at the Filling Memorial Home – Napoleon.

**PRESCHOOL SUBSTITUTE TEACHER NEEDED** – Emmaus Lutheran Church in Wauseon is seeking qualified candidates to serve as a substitute teacher in their preschool. If you are interested to see a job description or to apply, please speak with *Pastor Niermann*.

**CARD SHOWER:** A Card Shower request has been received for Eldon & Clarabell (Plassman) Badenhop in honor of their 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Cards can be sent to: 405 Buckeye Street, Archbold, OH 43502.

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#### FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

**“Let the wife make the husband glad to come home,  
and let him make her sorry to see him leave.” ~Martin Luther**

*“...and husband and wife love and honor each other.”  
Small Catechism, 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment*