



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

November 16, 2014

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NO. 46

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

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TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "The Great Day of the Lord" *Zeph. 1:7-16*

Order of Service: *See printed service folder*

Hymns: [Baptism: "Borning Cry," 805] ~ 516 (Late) ~ 509~ [Communion: 623, 730] ~ 411

Adult Bell Choir: *Early* – "Give Thanks" and "Thy Word"

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. If you have no church of your own, we invite you to make this your home church. But above all, we invite you to come to worship with us at any time.

If you are a visitor, 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* ✘ 1st Service: Caleb Bockelman & Brady Gerken, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ 2nd Service: Anna Gerken & Emily Bostelman, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ The Niermann Family, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Delbert & Marian Damman, *Visitation* ✘
- ✘ Denny Bockelman, Jeff Buchhop, Dave Myles, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Lois Rosebrock, Karen Germann, Diana Kruse, Mary Kossow, *Altar Guild* ✘

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are placed in celebration of *Jack & Nancy Glaser's* 10th wedding anniversary on November 19th. The Glasers are thankful for their many blessings.

TIME TO SPARE SUNDAY SCHOOL: Today, *Brittany Gillen* will be coming to our Sunday School class to share with us her experiences of working with Habitat for Humanity over the past few years. Breakfast will be available. The 7th and 8th graders will be joining us.

SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIAL has arrived for the Winter quarter. Teachers can pick up their material in the church office today or anytime during the next few weeks. Thank you!

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	Early Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare" Late Communion Service
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Napoleon Public Library (<i>Gr. K-8</i>) Exercise Class Building Committee Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM 6:30 PM 7:30 PM	Jr. Hi Confirmation Class (<i>until 7:30 PM</i>) Adult Bell Choir Adult Choir
Thurs.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Bible Study w/Vicar Shoaff
Sun.		◆◆◆ FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY◆◆◆
	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:30AM	Early Worship Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare" Late Worship Service
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Theodore Rellstab</i> , St. John Lutheran, Holgate

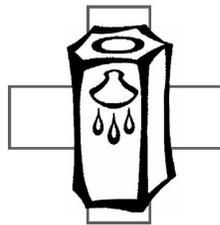
MATTERS FOR PRAYER – Please keep these people in your prayers:

- ❖ 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, Marian Buchhop, and Norma Damman*, 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 Marvin Gruenhagen* dealing with health issues
- ❖ *Joel Stier*, diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma and currently undergoing chemotherapy
- ❖ *Chris Basehor* (Sarah VerMeulen's cousin), dealing with a reoccurrence of her cancer

POINSETTIA SALE FINALE – If you haven't done so yet, you have today yet to turn in your order. The order will be called in Mon., Nov. 17th. **The cost increased to \$8.00 per plant.** You may bring your form and **check payable to St. John Lutheran School** to the office or drop it in the box in the narthex. A bulletin insert will list all the names the Sunday the poinsettias are placed in the sanctuary.

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE will be held on **Wednesday evening, Nov. 26th at 7:00 p.m.** Thanksgiving is about remembering the past. Without remembering, we don't know what to be thankful for or even whom to thank. *"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come!"*

BAPTISMS TODAY – This morning, in the early service, we rejoice to witness the baptism of *Lyla Mae Myles*, infant daughter of Jake & Marlea Myles. *Lyla* was born on September 3rd at the Defiance Regional Medical Center. Her baptismal sponsors are Jordan Myles and McKenzie Myles (*Jake's brother and sister*) and Kelsey Rolander (*Marlea's sister*). Her grandparents are Dave & Sara Myles and Daniel & Daryce Rolander. May God bless this family on this day of celebration, and may the good work that God begins this day in *Lyla* be brought to completion on the great day of Jesus Christ!



Also today after the late service, the Szabo children, *Dakota Jordan* and *Evelyn Leigh*, will be baptized in a family ceremony. They are both enrolled in our school. Dakota was born on July 5, 2008 at U of M Hospital, Ann Arbor. Evelyn was born on August 6, 2009 also at U of M Hospital. Their mother, Brittni Szabo, is engaged to Blake Miller; their father, Dave Szabo, resides in Michigan. Their baptismal sponsors are Jordan Miller and Kelli Etchison. The new birth of these children in Christ is cause for celebration. We rejoice together with this family!

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES!

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

- **“THE SCREWTAPE LETTERS”** – This book is a fascinating look by C.S. Lewis into the devil’s cunning and deception, and it just gets better and better. In **Letter #16** Screwtape argues that one of hell’s most effective weapons against God’s people is to make church-hoppers out of them. 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”** – “The commitment to love and be faithful to one’s spouse-for better, for worse, in sickness and in health- is not a pledge to keep the same feelings. It is a pledge to do certain things, to voluntary conduct.” Today we will be considering the question, “What is true love?” Is it just a feeling?...or is there more to it? Join Vicar Shoaff in the fellowship hall as we look to God’s Word and the example of Christ to understand what “true love” really is.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PREPARATION – This year the Christmas program for the children and congregation is scheduled for Sunday, Dec, 21st at 7:00 p.m. To assign parts, we need to assemble a list of school and Sunday School students who will definitely be present for the program. We strongly encourage all parents to make this commitment with their children. These programs not only create wonderful memories, they are also an important Christmas tradition that helps anchor the Christ of Christmas in their hearts!



To confirm your child’s participation, please call the church/school office by Friday, Nov. 21st. Parts will be assigned the following week. There will be rehearsals on the Sundays of Nov. 30, Dec. 7, Dec. 14, and Dec. 21 (*subject to change*) between services.

ARCHIVES DISPLAY – The Archives Display has been changed and is now highlighting the 2014-2015 school pictures of the students and staff of St. John Lutheran School. Please stop down and check them out at your leisure.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING COMMITTEE: The Christmas decorating committee has a simple request this year. They are looking for “muscle power” to help them **assemble** (*not decorate*) the Christmas tree that graces the front of the church. Would there be anyone (*about 3-4 people*) interested in helping them? Please note you will be going up on ladders. Contact Sandy (419-598-8695), Kathy (419-966-4523), or Anita (419-598-8221) and leave a message if you can be of service. The committee would like to thank *Jeff & Matthew Buchhop* again for their volunteer help with last year’s decorating. You were a blessing to us!

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT: *Advent By Candlelight* is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 11th from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. *Advent By Candlelight* is a candlelit potluck dinner and advent program for women designed to help us prepare our hearts for the celebration of Christ’s birth. *Arlene Wallace* and *Vicar Shoaff* will be enhancing our program with music.

At this time we’d like to identify hostesses to each decorate and host one dinner table at this event. The hostess sign-up sheet and hostess information packets are located on the Christmas table in the narthex. You may contact *Bonnie Niermann* (598-8181) if you have any questions.

All women of the congregation are invited to this special evening. Watch your mail for a personal invitation or simply RSVP on the sheet in the narthex today!

ITEMS “FOR SALE” FROM PTL: There will be a table set up in the hallway today and on Sun., Nov. 30th with an assortment of Scrip gift cards available (*on the spot*) and, also, order forms and information about “That’s My Pan” ordering. These are both PTL fundraisers currently underway.

All “That’s My Pan” orders are due no later than Wed., Dec. 3rd to be in by Christmas! PTL appreciates your support. Call *Zoe Foor* at 419-906-1773 with questions about “That’s My Pan” or to place orders.

GREETER, USHER, AND ALTAR GUILD SIGN-UP – If you are interested in serving God’s people here at St. John in a way that is much needed and appreciated, would you consider joining a greeter, usher, or altar guild team? The demand on your time in either area of service is minimal, but the blessing of rendering service to the body of Christ in its worship is tremendous. We are preparing the 2015 greeter, usher, and altar guild schedules so this is the time to sign-up at the table in the narthex. The sign-up deadline is Sunday, Dec. 2nd. *You do not need to sign up again if you are currently serving as a greeter, usher or are on an altar guild team.*

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 11/09/14	\$5,808.00	\$143.00	\$398.00

ATTENDANCE: 11/09/14 – 8:15 Service: 181; 10:30 Service: 52

COMMUNED in October: 259 members, 26 guests

YOUTH DIRECTOR POSITION AVAILABLE - We are presently seeking candidates for our Youth Director. This is a part-time paid position, to begin on December 1st. The Youth Director, with guidance and assistance from the Vicar and Pastor, promotes and leads the LYF youth ministry in our congregation. If you would like to apply for this position, please speak with *Vicar Shoaff* or *Pastor*.

THRIVENT CALENDARS: We received approximately 25 complimentary 2015 calendars from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans this past week. They are available on a “first come, first serve” basis on the desk in the narthex. Help yourself if you so desire!

OSU QUILT – A silent auction is being conducted for the OSU quilt (*lap size*) on display in the side hallway. A minimum opening bid of \$100 is being asked. Bid sheets for this silent auction are located on the table in the narthex. Bids will be closed as of noon on Sun., Nov. 23rd. This is a fundraiser for the on-going 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. 21st 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. 21st 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!

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; or Kristyn Honemann at 419-592-0643 or email at honemann@embarqmail.com.**

SYMPHONY OF TREES will be presenting the *JINGLE BELL JAM & SUNDAY BRUNCH* on Sun., Nov. 23rd with serving until 1:00 PM at The Armory Arts & Event Center, 127 E. Clinton St., Napoleon. The cost is \$8.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children 4-10 years old, and free for 3 and under.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

A large heart can be filled with small things.

“I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content.” (Philippians 4:11)