



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

April 5, 2015

VOL. 80

NO. 14

Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor  
Mr. Reed Shoaff, Vicar  
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### **EASTER SUNDAY – The Resurrection of our Lord**

- **7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service:** *Printed order of service*  
Sermon & Text: "O Grave, Where Is Your Victory" *John 20:1-18*  
Hymns: 457 ~ 481 ~ 411, stz.1,3 ~ 461  
Adult Choir: "Crown Him Lord This Easter Day," and "The Resurrection"
- **9:30 a.m. Easter Festival Service:** *Printed order of service*  
Sermon: "Larger Than the Stone!"  
Hymns: 457 ~ 480, stz.4 ~ 465, stz.1,4 ~ 477, stz.1, 3 ~ 548, stz.1 ~ 469, stz.1-3 ~  
[Communion: 633, 488, 490] ~ 474  
Adult Choir: "Crown Him Lord This Easter Day"

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### **WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS**

*CHRIST IS RISEN – HE IS RISEN INDEED! We greet those who are visiting with us today in the name of our Risen Savior. We are gathered as a community of Christians. Our center is Jesus Christ. We are here to know again the touch of His forgiving and healing hand. Please help us get to know who you are by*

*introducing yourself to our pastor and by filling out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you. Simply pass it to the center aisle during the offering this morning. Thank you!*

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

1<sup>st</sup> Service: ✘ David Maassel, *Acolyte* ✘

✘ Landon Willeman, *Crucifer*; Mitchell Kruse, *Banner Bearer* ✘

2<sup>nd</sup> Service: ✘ Caleb Bockelman & Brooks Behnfeldt, *Acolytes* ✘

✘ Brady Gerken, *Crucifer*; Anna Gerken, *Banner Bearer* ✘

✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘

✘ Richard Elling & Harold Behrmann, *Visitation* ✘

✘ Steve & Linda Miller, *Greeters* ✘

✘ Dave Badenhop, Denny VonDeylen, Jerry Short, Dan Wiechers, *Ushers* ✘

✘ Lois Rosebrock, Karen Germann, Diana Kruse, Mary Kossow, *Altar Guild* ✘



**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	7:00 AM 8:00 AM 8:45 AM 9:30 AM	<b>Easter Sunrise Service; Offering: <i>Synod &amp; Missions Fund (both services)</i></b> Fellowship Breakfast for everyone – Freewill Offering! (Till 9:15 AM) Children's Easter Movie ( <i>Gr. 5&amp;6 Classroom</i> ) <b>Easter Festival Service with Communion</b>
Mon.		NO SCHOOL – Easter Break
Tue.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class in gym Stewardship Board & School Board Meetings
Wed.	6:15 PM 6:30 PM 7:30 PM	Junior Confirmation Class ( <i>6:15 – 7:30 PM</i> ) Adult Hand Bell Practice Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	9:00 AM	Exercise Class in gym
Sun.	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:30AM 11:30AM 2:00 PM	Early Worship Service with Communion following Sunday School; Adult Bible Class; “ <i>Time To Spare</i> ” Late Worship Service 2015 Confirmation Class and Parents Meeting Terrific Talents of St. John ( <i>see bulletin note</i> )
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Jeff Corder, St. John Lutheran, Stryker</i>

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

- ❖ Our Shut-Ins: *Stan Moll, Marian Fitzenreiter, Donald Landry, Norma Damman, and Esther Schroeder*
- ❖ *Pauline Dishop, Marie Damman, and Delora Winkelman*, 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 Renetta Homan*, dealing with health issues at this time
- ❖ *Dick Mahnke*, recuperating at home following surgery
- ❖ *Rosie Gruenhagen and Shorty Bischoff*, hospitalized recently, but now home dealing with health issues
- ❖ *Hildegard Ludeman*, hospitalized (*but now home*) for gall stones

**BIBLE STUDY & SUNDAY SCHOOL ARE CANCELLED TODAY** and will resume next Sunday. There will be a children's Easter movie shown at 8:45 AM in the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Classroom.

**2015 CONFIRMATION CLASS AND PARENTS** will meet for a brief planning meeting **next Sunday at 11:30 a.m.** following the late service. Packets of information, dates and times will be shared at that time.

# EASTER AT ST. JOHN

## **CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!**

With this joyful greeting on our lips, we gather today for the celebration of Christ's victory of sin, death and hell. It is a victory we share, because it was for us and for our salvation that He suffered, died, and rose again! Alleluia!

### **Sunrise Service** (7:00 a.m.)

Service begins in the gymnasium.

### **Easter Breakfast** (8:00 a.m.)

A time for food and fellowship on this day of days!

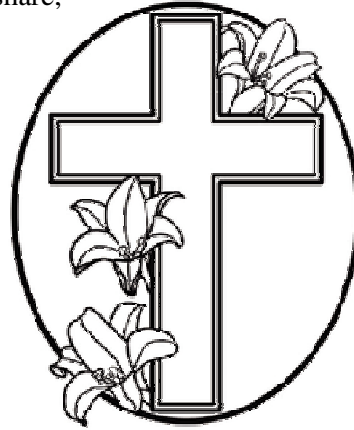
### **Children's Easter Movie** (8:45 a.m.)

In the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade classroom

The story of Holy Week and Easter for children

### **Easter Festival Service** (9:30 a.m.)

This is the feast of victory for our God!



~ Entirely different services and sermons – join us for the full celebration! ~

**EASTER BREAKFAST** – The Easter Breakfast will be served between the two services this morning from 8:00 to 9:15 AM. The menu is: *Scrambled eggs and ham, French bread, coffee cake, doughnuts, rolls, cookies, coffee and juice.* There will be a freewill donation (with Thrivent Matching Funds) which assists the Ladies of Freedom in their Adopt-A-Seminarian program and also Christian Growth.

**EASTER OFFERINGS** – Offerings on Easter morning that are not specifically designated on the offering of the envelope will be applied to the Synod & Missions Fund.

**EASTER FLOWERS** – Those who bought Easter flowers to beautify the sanctuary for Easter are listed in the bulletin insert today. You may take your flowers home after the Easter Festival Service (2<sup>nd</sup> Service) today. Thank you once again!

*Thank  
you*

**EASTER THANK YOU** – This morning we extend a big word of thanks to everyone who is helping to make this day such a joyous celebration in the Lord. We give thanks to God for musicians and choirs; for deacons, ushers and altar guild members; for acolytes, crucifers, and banner bearers; for those who provide, prepare and serve our Easter breakfast; for those who donate flowers to beautify God's house; and for all the behind-the-scenes people who labor so faithfully as servants of our Risen Savior and of His people. **Thank you to each and every one of you! Well done, good and faithful servants!**

**QUARTERLIES & ODES:** The Quarterlies and Odes for the Women of Freedom are ready to be picked up from the table in the narthex. Our next meeting will be Tues., April 28th at 7:00 PM. Our speaker will be *Ron Meyer* to tell us about his trip to Haiti. Save all your old eye glasses and bring them to the meeting.

<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 3/29/15	\$7,917.78	\$102.00	\$343.00

**ATTENDANCE:** 3/29/15 – Early Service: 145; Late Service: 136

**MEMORIALS** for *Edwin Rosebrock*: \$1,322.00 – St. John Lutheran Church Memorial Fund;  
\$1323.00 to St. John Lutheran Endowment Fund – *Scholarships & Missions*

**MAUNDY THURSDAY SVC:** \$950.00 to the Lutheran Heritage Foundation; Attendance: 137

**THANK YOU LADIES:** The Ladies Night Out fundraiser for the “Right Hand of Fellowship” gift matching campaign was another success. The potluck meal was delicious (*as always*) and everyone had a very enjoyable time. Auctioneer *Ted Ripke* did an awesome job and added more laughs to the already fun filled evening. The real winner though was the “Right Hand of Fellowship” campaign as another \$1227 was raised and will be matched. Thanks for all your generosity!

**THANKS FOR YOUR HELP** – The co-chairmen for all three groups of annual church cleaning would like to thank everyone who helped with this year’s cleaning. We appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedules to help with this project. We had good turnouts and everything looks great!

**THANK YOU** – Thank you to all who helped clean the Fellowship Hall and Kitchen. I appreciate your hard work and love the shining floors. ☺ God’s blessings to you all, *Liza Gerken*

**NEW BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY!** – “*The Book of James: Epistle of Straw or Apostle of Faith?*” Vicar Shoaff will be leading and in-depth Bible study on the much neglected and poorly understood Letter of James. Martin Luther once wrote, “We should throw the Epistle of James out...for it doesn’t amount to much. It contains not a syllable about Christ. Not once does it mention Christ, except at the beginning.” Through our study we will come to see, as Luther himself came to see, that this is certainly not true. This Epistle, written by James, the son of Mary and Joseph, the half-brother of Jesus, the apostle chosen by the resurrected Lord, bishop of Jerusalem, recognized leader of the early church, and the one who wanted to be remembered as a servant of Christ is *absolutely* rich in bringing Christ to its hearers. The Bible study will meet in the **north end** of the **fellowship hall** every **Tuesday**, beginning **April 16<sup>th</sup>**, from **10:00AM-11:15AM**.

**BE A JAVA JOY HOST!** Every second Sunday of the month between services, 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.



**SERVICE OPPORTUNITY: HUMAN CARE** – The idea has been suggested, and the elders have approved, that we form a group of folks within our congregation to tend to matters of human care within the body of Christ. As members of Christ’s body, we are called to take care of each other. A lot of that is already taking place informally among members, but it would be this group’s task to stay tuned in to what’s going on in people’s lives and to coordinate human care efforts if circumstances call for it. The possibilities are endless! It’s a great opportunity for retirees or for those who want to serve but not necessarily as elected officers. Please think and pray about this. **Are you the one to take a ministry of caring under your wings?**



**LYF – GET OUT THE WORD!** It’s official – in June we’re going to be joining the youth of St. James, Burlington on a camping expedition to the great sand dunes of southern Colorado. We’ll be crossing into northern New Mexico as well to see some amazing places. Imagine exploring the ancient ruins of the Pueblo people at Chaco Canyon, or hiking up to their cliff dwellings at Mesa Verda, then growing together in faith around a campfire in the evening. Information and a registration form will be sent out soon, so please consider it and get ready for a fantastic nine days of fun, fellowship, exploration and spiritual growth!



**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!

**PENNY DRIVE STARTS TUES., APR. 7** – The PTL Spring Penny Drive at St. John School begins Tues., April 7<sup>th</sup> and runs thru Fri., May 8<sup>th</sup>. Save those pennies and give them to one of our students or turn your pennies in at the school office. *Mr. Petzoldt* will be monitoring the weekly results this spring. Remember to **Save Those Old Pennies!**

**TERRIFIC TALENTS:** The previously held Musical Extravaganza is now being referred to as the Terrific Talents of St. John School. This event is scheduled for Sunday, April 12 at 2:00 PM and will be held in the gym here at St. John. Every St. John student will be performing in some way or another. The emphasis is on fun and showing off the many talents our students have!

**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!

**GRANDPARENT'S DAY:** A reminder that Grandparent's Day at St. John School for Grades K-8 will be held on **Friday, May 8** from 12:30 - 3:00 PM. *Lunch is not included.*

**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.

**“WORSHIP FOR SHUT-INS”:** “Worship for Shut-Ins” has joined the WLMB-TV40 line up. If you have a relative or friend who is homebound, hospitalized, or recovering from a recent surgery, you may suggest this 30-minute LCMS worship service to them. So tune in to WLMB-TV40 on Sundays at 6:30 AM and get your Sunday started off right!

**THE LUTHERAN HOUR** – The Lutheran Hour Ministries can be heard on several radio stations in our area. Broadcasts can be heard Sundays on: 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.

**EXERCISE CLASS:** Need to work off a few pounds or just want to exercise your heart? St. John hosts an exercise class in the gym. Classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-10 AM and the cost is \$5 per class (pay as you come). This is a light aerobics and strengthening program. (If you have your own weights, bring them with you.) Please contact *Nancy Glaser* (419-598-8432) with any questions.

**EASTER EVENING PRAYER:** On Sat., April 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM, St. John Lutheran Church, at the corner of 6 & 66, Stryker, OH, will host The Seminary Kantorei, a 16-voice choir composed of men studying for the pastoral ministry at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN. There is no charge for this event, but a freewill offering will be taken to support the seminary and the Kantorei.

**MURRAY INTL. ADOPTION FUNDRAISER MEAL** – Harlan's Chicken Carryout Meal on Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM at the Napoleon Church of the Nazarene. See flyer!

**BATTLE OF THE SCHOOLS – ELECTRONIC RECYCLING FUNDRAISER:** This annual fundraiser is scheduled for Sat. April 18<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM at each of the Henry County high schools. Be sure to support this fundraiser and bring your unused electronics – that means anything with a power cord, to Napoleon High School (*student parking lot*) on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Please, no TV's or large appliances can be accepted. Any questions can be directed to 419-256-7343.

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#### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

**But from this earth, this grave, this dust, My God shall raise me up, I trust.**

~ *Walter Raleigh* ~

*“And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God.” (Job 19:26)*