



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

June 7, 2015

VOL. 80

NO. 23

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

Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181
Cell: 785-477-2344
School: 419-598-8702 Cell: 419-966-6160
Church Website: www.sjl.org

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "He Shall Bruise Your Head, and You Shall Bruise His Heel" *Gen. 3:1-21*

Order of Service: *Divine Service, Setting 4 (LSB pg. 203)*

Hymns: **561** ~ [Communion: **572, 602, 629**] ~ **562**

Adult Choir: "Feed My Lambs" and "Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face"

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome to every member, friend, and visitor. You have entered this church, not as a stranger, but as a guest of God. May your worship here enable you to see your Savior more clearly, love Him more dearly, follow Him more nearly, and serve Him more sincerely. If you have no church home of your own, we invite you to join the St. John family. 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.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠ Caleb Bockelman & Brady Gerken, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Dan & Joyce Wiechers, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Richard Elling & Harold Behrmann, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Denny Behnfeldt, Elmer Maassel, Bob Norden, Ted Ripke, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Karan Niebergall, Kaylee & Ronda Wentworth, Karen Lulfs, *Altar Guild* ✠

HONORING MISS RETTIG UPON HER RETIREMENT

– This morning we thank God for a long-time servant of our congregation and school, Miss Mary Rettig (teacher, 1971-2015). During worship this morning we will recognize her 44 years of service. At 11:00 a.m. everyone is invited to return to church for a potluck meal and program with Miss Rettig as our guest of honor. Please see the insert in today's bulletin for a brief historical record of Miss Rettig's teaching career at St. John.

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

are placed in celebration and thankfulness for the 44 years of dedication and service given by *Miss Mary Kay Rettig* to St. John Lutheran Church and School. May God bless her in the coming years as she continues to "feed His lambs". Thank you, Mary!

In God's House This WeekOnline church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Retirement Recognition for <i>Miss Mary Kay Rettig</i>
Tue.	9:00 AM 10:00AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Bible Study w/Vicar Shoaff Church Council Meeting
Thurs.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Thursday Evening Praise (<i>in fellowship hall – north end</i>)
Fri.	5:30 PM	Growing Together Marriage Retreat (<i>Lial Center – Oak Openings</i>)
Sat.	8:00 AM	Growing Together Marriage Retreat (<i>Lial Center – Oak Openings</i>)
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 1:00 PM	Report Cards available on the Narthex table (<i>one envelope per family</i>) Worship Service w/Communion following Adult Bible Class 4-H Meetings
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Keith Witte</i> , St. Paul Lutheran, Liberty Center

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

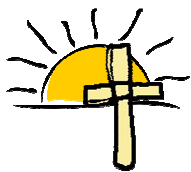
- ❖ Our Shut-Ins: *Stan Moll, Marian Fitzenreiter, Donald Landry, and Norma Damman*
- ❖ *Pauline Dishop, Marie Damman, and Delora Winkelman*, at The Lutheran Home, Napoleon
- ❖ *Magdalena Volkman*, residing at Heartland Nursing Home, Wauseon
- ❖ *Anna Brodman and Marian Buchhop* residing at Country View Haven
- ❖ *Helen Norden*, residing at Greenbriar Assisted Living, Birmingham, AL
- ❖ Servicemen and women, *Justin Atkinson, Kyle Elling, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, and Connor Gerken*
- ❖ *Carey Damman*, at home recuperating from successful knee replacement surgery

THANK YOU – *Rosie Gruenhagen* would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, and visits during her recent hospitalization at Fulton County Health Ctr. and during her rehab at Henry County Hospital following surgery. Very special thanks to Pastor Niermann and Vicar Shoaff for your visits and prayers. Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated. It's good to be back worshipping with you again. God Bless!

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS: Office hours during the month of June are Mon. thru Fri.: 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Closed over the lunch hour. If making a special trip, please call (419-598-8961) to guarantee someone will be here. Thank you!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: There will be no Sunday School for the months of June, July, and August. We will resume Sunday School the first Sunday in September, which will be promotion Sunday.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS need to be turned in to the office by Wednesday of each week in order to be included in the Thursday and Sunday bulletin. Please make a note of this. Thank you!



THURSDAY EVENING PRAISE – If you're going to be gone for a weekend, you can still make it to worship on Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. We gather in the north end of the fellowship hall. Communion is offered on the Thursday prior to regular Communion Sundays. These services will be conducted through October of this year. Please join us!

L.Y.F.

Get out the word! We will meet next Sunday, June 14th, at 4:30 p.m. Join us for fellowship, food and some fun too. We'll discuss plans for the summer and for this next year leading up to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans at the Superdome. **Remember, all eighth grade graduates who will be high school freshmen next year are also welcome and encouraged to attend LYF!**

A NEW APPROACH TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Starting Fall of 2015

“**CROSS EXPLORATIONS**” (*CE*) is a curriculum and a new model for Sunday School (grades K-6) published by *Concordia Publishing House*. Instead of traditional classrooms, *CE* places students into two groups (grades K-3 and 4-6) who rotate to three different sites called **Engage** (a worship opening), **Explore** (the day's Bible lesson) and **Express** (activities related to the day's lesson).

The advantages for students are that they will engage more of their senses in learning, and will be provided a break from the traditional classrooms they are in all week long. For adult volunteers, it's much less of a time commitment. Instead of one teacher having all of the students for the full class period, volunteers lead one rotation each, lasting only 15 or 20 minutes, and then they're done for the morning.

We would like to form at least three *CE Teams*, who would then lead the Sunday School on a rotating basis. Each team would consist of...

- **One ENGAGE Leader** – leads all students, grades K-6, in an opening worship from approximately 10:15 to 10:25 a.m. (including hymns, songs, readings, etc.)
- **Four EXPLORE Leaders** (a leader and a helper for each group) – lead the day's Bible lesson from 10:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. (materials similar to what we've been using).
- **Two EXPRESS Leaders** – collaborate to lead the activities in the gym related to the day's lesson from 10:50 to 11:05 a.m. Activities may include crafts, games, or skits.

Sign up for staff positions has begun. For more information and to look at some sample materials, see the display in the narthex. If you'd like to volunteer on a *CE Team*, you can sign up at the display table in the narthex, and feel free to up for more than one team.



REPORT CARDS can be picked up in an envelope (*one per family*) in the narthex on Sun., June 14th. Parents of tuition students may pick up report cards the week of June 15 in the office from 10 to noon.

FINANCIAL FACTS:	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 5/31/15	\$7,744.00	\$152.00	\$508.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday Evening Service: 47; 5/31/15 Service: 240

MEMORIALS received for:

Esther Schroeder to *St. John Lutheran Church Memorial Fund* - \$1,010.00
St. John Lutheran School Memorial Fund - \$840.00

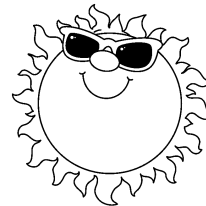
Yvonne Volkman to *St. John Lutheran Church Memorial Fund* - \$705.00

LIBRARY BOOK CLUB: The next selection for our church's book club will be *Broken: 7 "Christian" Rules That Every Christian Ought to Break as Often as Possible* by Jonathan Fisk. A sign-up sheet is available in the back of the church so we will know how many copies to order. Pastor and Vicar will be reading the book as well so they can answer questions you may have while reading it yourself. Please sign up by then end of June. The books are provided free of charge by our St. John Library located in the hallway west of the sanctuary.

KITCHEN TABLES: Word has been received from the Women of FREEDOM that they would like the church to retain the two big wooden tables with Formica tops that were previously used in the kitchen. These tables have come in very handy with serving funerals. Thus the closed bid purchase is cancelled.

COMING UP THIS SUMMER – It never hurts to mark your calendars early, so here are a few dates to consider for the summer of 2015.

- **June 12-13 (Fri-Sat) --- Marriage Retreat** coordinated by St. John along with St. Paul, Liberty Center and St. Luke, Wauseon. Theme: "Growing Together, from the Breakfast Table to Kissing Goodnight." Location is the beautiful *Lial Renewal Center* at Oak Openings. Cost is \$15 per couple for the retreat, plus various lodging options for an overnight stay. More information will be coming soon!
- **June 15-23 (Mon-Tue) --- Youth Retreat to the Great Sand Dunes of southern Colorado.** All youth of LYF age, including those from this year's confirmation class, are eligible to attend. This trip is being coordinated with the youth of St. James, Burlington.
- **June 28 (Sun) --- Fellowship on the Fairways** – first annual SJL golf outing at White Pines. (see announcement elsewhere in this bulletin)



August 23 (Sun) --- Outdoor Worship Service at 10:30 a.m., followed by a fellowship meal (meat provided) and an auction to raise funds for the Right Hand of Fellowship campaign. Begin thinking about items you can provide for the auction.

GARDEN PRODUCE SHARING – When you plant your gardens this spring, keep in mind our produce swap later in the summer. There will be a table under the carport to which you can bring your produce to share, or from which you can take any produce you can use. It's a great way for us to share the bounty of God's good gifts!

EXPERT GUESTS, EXPANSIVE TOPICS, EXTOLLING CHRIST..Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: The Movie "Jurassic World," Science vs. Scientism, The Council of Nicaea, God Creates the Angels, The Prophet Elisha and more. You can listen at your convenience at www.issuesetc.org.

FELLOWSHIP ON THE FAIRWAYS – Our first annual **St. John Golf Outing** is set for Sunday, June 28 at **White Pines Golf Course** (Road 2 just north of Road V)



- Enjoy an afternoon scramble – teams can be any mixture of women and men
- Gather by 1:00 pm for a 1:30 shotgun start
- Prizes for closest to pin and closes to center of fairway, longest drive and longest putt
- Meal afterwards includes brats and burgers, beans and potato salad
- Bring a side dish or dessert to share (can be re-refrigerated for the afternoon)

Forms are available in the narthex – sign up as full or partial team or as an individual – any mixture of men and women. Cost is \$35 per person, which includes golf, cart, meal and prizes. This event is being planned by your Stewardship Board as a fundraiser for the **Right Hand of Fellowship** campaign. All proceeds will be matched.

RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP GIFT MATCHING CONTINUES – The original \$75,000 challenge gift has accrued interest, and there are therefore more funds left to be matched. This will enable us to completely retire the remaining furnace and fellowship hall debt (just another \$7,000 or so to go), and a little more besides. So for the time being, any gifts given to the Right Hand of Fellowship campaign will again be matched. We thank God for the generosity of everyone's gifts!



DID YOU KNOW? The free Pepperidge Farm bread, cookies, and crackers available on Sundays down by the gym lobby have the "Labels For Education" UPC codes on the wrappers. Be sure to clip them off and bring them to the school/church office at your convenience.

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!

ZACH'S RECYCLING PROGRAM – Please make a note to bring your recyclables directly to Zach's Recycling on Filmore Street in Napoleon. **Do not bring them to St. John School.** When taking them to Zach's, simply tell them to put your recyclables on the St. John Lutheran School account. That's it---very simple!

ALTAR FLOWERS: For anyone wishing to place flowers on the altar for Sunday worship, please contact *Mabel Bischoff* at 419-598-8757. Remember that it is your responsibility to call Mabel either way; if you would like the Women of Freedom to order the flowers or if you are going to take care of ordering the flowers yourself. This will alleviate any confusion.

CUTLERY FOR SALE: The Women of Freedom sell Rada Cutlery products. These items are not on display for safety reasons. Check out the display board to see if you are interested in purchasing any of these items: Paring Knives, Stubby Butcher Knives, Pie Servers, Vegetable Peelers, Slicer Knives, Granny Forks, Carving Forks, Pizza Cutters, Tomato Slicer, and Small Spatula. Contact officers *Nancy Hogrefe, Marian Damman, Mabel Bischoff, Lois Rosebrock, or Karan Niebergall* if you would like to see or purchase any of these items.

TURN YOUR OLD USED CELL PHONE INTO A GIFT FOR THE POOR AND FOR YOUR CHURCH!

Informed sources tell us that the average American household has 5 to 6 old unused cell phones lying around. Now you can put those phones to good use AND keep them out of the landfills. Bring them to church and deposit them in the large white box in the narthex. They will be forwarded to a company that sorts them and prepares them to be given to poor families for emergency use, and sends us a check. Old cell phones range in value from \$1 up to \$50.



4-H: The Gerald Busy Fingers, Cloverbuds, and Freedom Royal Farmers 4-H Clubs will be having their next meeting Sun., June 14 at 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

ICE CREAM SOCIALS:

- **The Lutheran Home of Napoleon's** Annual Ice Cream Social will be held on Sun., June 14th from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM. See flyer!
- **St. John Lutheran Church, Stryker,** is sponsoring their LYF Ice Cream Social on Sun., June 14th from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM at the Church Family Center. See flyer!

SAVE THE DATE: The 8th *Annual Stephanie Lynn Kossow Memorial Golf Outing* will be held on Sat., July 25th, with a 1:00 PM shotgun start. Registration forms available on the narthex table!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

A man wrapped up in himself makes for a small package.

“The eyes of the arrogant man will be humbled and the pride of men brought low; the LORD alone will be exalted in that day.” (Isaiah 2:11)