



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

June 21, 2015

VOL. 80

NO. 25

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Mr. Reed Shoaff, Vicar
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FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Danger in the Water" *Mark 4:35-41*

Order of Service: *See printed Service Folder*

Hymns: 726, stz.1-3 ~ 726, stz.4 ~ 715 ~ [Communion: 752, 729, 739] ~ 819

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Now is the hour of worship. God speaks to us and we listen and respond with our hymns, prayers and praises. Together we bless the Lord whose purpose is to save us and keep us in His faithful flock. He is the God of Grace and the God of Glory. If you are our guest today, 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* ✠ Cally Bialorucki & Maggie Weller, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Alan & Kathy Damman, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Delbert & Marian Damman, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Denny Behnfeldt, Elmer Maassel, Bob Norden, Ted Ripke, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Karan Niebergall, Kaylee & Ronda Wentworth, Karen Lulfs, *Altar Guild* ✠

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are placed in recognition of the marriage of *Eric Wiechers* and *Faith Decker* which took place here at St. John yesterday, June 20th. We rejoice with Eric & Faith as they begin their life together as husband and wife, and wish them many years of happiness together. Congrats to the Wiechers!

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!

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

In God's House This Week *Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl*

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	♦ ♦ ♦ FATHER'S DAY ♦ ♦ ♦ Communion Service Adult Bible Class
Mon.	5:30 PM	<i>Bread From Heaven</i> Food Pantry distribution
Tue.	9:00 AM 10:00AM	Exercise Class in gym Bible Study w/Vicar Shoaff
Thurs.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Ohio District Convention begins (<i>runs thru Saturday 6-27</i>) Exercise Class in gym Thursday Evening Praise
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 1:00 PM 1:00 PM	Worship Service Adult Bible Class 1 st Annual St. John Golf Outing (<i>Fellowship on the Fairways</i>) 4-H Meetings
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Willie Stottlemyer</i> , St. Stephen Lutheran, Defiance

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*
- ❖ *Susan Nye and Carey Damman*, recuperating from successful knee replacement surgery
- ❖ *Florence Fitzenreiter*, recuperating at home now

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY!

Why Lutherans Sing What They Sing – “A Lutheran hymn aims not to create the right atmosphere or mood for worship, but serves as a vehicle for the Spirit-filled Word of God.” This is a first criterion suggested by *Rev. Chad Bird* for a hymn that is appropriate for God’s house and God’s people. If you’ve ever wondered why we sing what we sing in worship, and why we don’t sing other kinds of songs, like those we hear on the radio as “contemporary Christian music” (CCM), this study is for you! Join *Pastor Niermann* and *Vicar Shoaff* as they tag-team teach this study. We’ll meet this morning in the fellowship hall – please join us!

AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED – Again this year, the Stewardship Board is planning a ***Right Hand of Fellowship*** fundraising auction in connection with the outdoor service on Sunday, August 30th (*proceeds to be matched*). Please be thinking about items you might be able to donate. We will begin collecting those items in August.

A special man

A Christian father...



- **is the head of his family.** With Christ as *his* Head (1 Cor. 11:3), he knows his greatest responsibility is to lead his family to know Christ and the power of His resurrection.
- **offers wise counsel so that he may lead his children to a path of righteousness.** He is slow to anger, yet demands respect. “For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; ...” (Eph. 6:1-3; also Gen. 18:19)
- **is strong, reliable and confident.** But, a father is also tender, loving and understanding, reflecting the love of God. “As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear Him.” (Psalm 103:13)
- **is a provider.** He is willing to labor hard to provide shelter for his family, and food on the table ... “if any would not work neither should he eat”(2 Thess. 3:10)
- **recognizes the importance of making time for those he loves.** Little league baseball and dance recitals seem to be his favorite past time. “Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” (Prov. 22:6)
- **is saved by grace through faith in Jesus,** and reflects this in the grace and love he shows his wife and children every day.

OHIO DISTRICT CONVENTION NEWS – *Pastor Niermann* and *Mark Elling* will be representing St. John, Freedom at the ***Ohio District Convention*** this Thursday through Saturday (June 25-27). You can see the convention workbook at the Ohio District’s Website (oh.lcms.org; click on the convention icon). You can also follow the latest Ohio District Convention news, get updates and see photos during the convention in one of two ways...

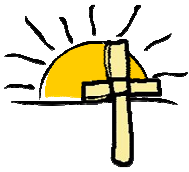
- ‘Like’ the Ohio District Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ohiodistrict?fref=ts>
- Follow the Ohio District on Twitter (@ohLCMS)

TAKE THE DAY OFF...

- **Who:** Anyone who would like to spend an enjoyable, interesting, educational afternoon. Bring a friend to share the day!
- **What:** A lunch, followed by a guided tour of the Wolcott House, museum and grounds
- **Where:** Lunch at Dale’s Diner in Waterville; Wolcott House on River Road, Maumee
- **When: Tuesday, June 30, 2015** – Leaving church parking lot at 10:30 AM
- Detailed flyer in today’s bulletin and sign-up sheet on the table in narthex.

This enjoyable day is being organized by your *St. John Women of FREEDOM*. Please join us!

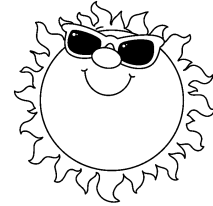
GARDEN PRODUCE SHARING – When you plant your gardens this spring, keep in mind our produce swap later in the summer. There will be a table under the carport to which you can bring your produce to share, or from which you can take any produce you can use.



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!

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.

- **July 26 (Sun) --- Farewell to Vicar Shoaff and family.** We’ll have a potluck meal at 11:30 a.m. so you can either attend Bible study or head home to get your things together for the potluck.
- **August 9 (Sun) --- Welcome reception for the new vicar** after worship.
- **August 30 (Sun) --- Outdoor Worship Service** (*revised date*) 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



FINANCIAL FACTS:

	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 6/14/15	\$7,799.50	\$132.00	\$470.50

ATTENDANCE: Thursday Evening Service: 35; 6/14/15 Service: 180

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 sign up for more than one team.

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.

COUNCIL MINUTES – This is just a reminder that council meeting minutes are not published until they are approved a month later. If you would like to read about the most recent council meeting, an unofficial and unapproved copy of the minutes is available for viewing in the church office, usually within a week after the meeting.

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!

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. See 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.

AREA EVENTS:

- **St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1075 Glenwood Ave., Napoleon**, is hosting a Harlan's Grilled Chicken Dinner today with serving beginning at 10 AM. See flyer!
- **Summer Concert** presented by The Henry County Chorale on Sun., June 28th at 7:00 PM at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1075 Glenwood Ave., Napoleon. A free will offering will be taken benefiting both the chorale and St. Paul Lutheran Church.
- **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...

If God is your co-pilot, you're in the wrong seat!

*"My name will be great among the nations, from where the sun rises to where it sets."
(Malachi 1:11)*



Mandy Groce '10

<http://ministry-to-children.com>