



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

July 19, 2015

VOL. 80

NO. 29

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

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

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

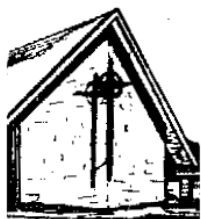
Sermon & Text: "And He Had Compassion on Them" *Mark 6:30-44*

Order of Service: *See printed Service Folder*

Hymns: 820 ~ 793 ~ 559 ~ 912

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 a visitor, we ask that you fill out a Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and pass it to the center aisle during the offering this morning. Your presence is a blessing to us.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘ Cally Bialorucki & Maggie Weller, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Ron & Elaine Hesterman, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Delbert & Marian Damman, *Visitation* ✘
- ✘ Carey Damman, Craig Drewes, Scott VanValkenburg, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Kathy Behnfeldt, Pat Maassel, Anita Badenhop, Deb Durham, *Altar Guild* ✘

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY!

Why Lutherans Sing What They Sing – "A Lutheran hymn is shaped by the theology of the cross." This is the third criterion suggested by Rev. Chad Bird for a hymn that is appropriate for God's house and God's people. Who God is and how He deals with us is made known through suffering and the cross. As such, music fit for God's house must also bear the cruciform image of Christ. 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!

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

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Adult Bible Class
Tue.	9:00 AM 10:00AM	Exercise Class Bible Study w/ <i>Vicar Shoaff</i>
Thurs.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Thursday Evening Praise (with Communion)
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 11:30AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class Farewell Potluck for Vicar Shoaff and family
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Joshua Schmidt</i> , St. John 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*
- ❖ *Dawn Dickmann*, recuperating from back surgery
- ❖ *John Damman*, recuperating from gall bladder surgery
- ❖ *Don Dickmann*, recuperating at The Orchards of Northcrest - Napoleon



REVISED COMMUNION SCHEDULE FOR JULY – The schedule for Holy Communion this month has been changed to accommodate vacation dates. **Holy Communion will be offered again this month on the fourth Sunday (July 26th) and on the Thursday prior (July 23rd).**

CHURCH LIBRARY BOOKS: *Passover to Communion, Jesus' "I Am" Words, Historical Introductions to the Lutheran Confessions, and In Search of the Genesis World Debunking the Evolution Myth* are just some of the books recently added to the St. John Library. For children and youth, new books include, *My Little Easter Book, The Very First Christians, Mommy Promises, and It's a Great, Awful, In-Between Day*. The self-serve library is located in the hallway west of the sanctuary.

BOOK CLUB: The "Broken" books are ready to be picked up. Vicar Shoaff will be handing them out after the Thursday service and also after the Sunday service at the library. Please contact the Vicar or *Darrel Behrmann* if you would like a copy even if you did not sign up.

JULY OFFICE HOURS: Please note the change in church office hours during the month of July. They are Monday thru Friday: 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM. If making a special trip, please call (419-598-8961) to guarantee someone will be here. Thank you!

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 7/12/15	\$7,415.75	\$482.00	\$725.50

ATTENDANCE: Thursday Evening Service: 51; 7/12/15 Service: 170

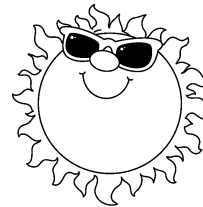
PRAYER CALENDAR NOTE: Please be aware that if you would like your wedding anniversaries printed on the prayer calendars, you will have to post them each year. Just list them on the blank calendars posted on the bulletin board in the narthex throughout the year. Thank you!

VICAR TRANSITION – It's been nearly a year since Vicar Shoaff was inducted as our first vicar at St. John. It's just about time to bid the Shoaff family farewell and to welcome a new vicar. Here are some things to note:

- **Farewell to the Shoaffs** – Next Sunday, July 26th will be Vicar Shoaff's last day on the job. After worship we will receive a door offering for the Shoaffs. Then at 11:30 a.m. we will have a farewell potluck luncheon. Bring a dish to share!
- **Moving the Vicars** – On Tuesday evening, July 28th we will load the Shoaff's belongings into trailers, then move them to Fort Wayne on Wednesday morning, July 29th. In Fort Wayne we'll load the trailers again with the Yaeger's belongings and move them back to Freedom Township. If you can help on either of these days, please speak with *Denny Bockelman*.
- **New Vicar Reception** – On Sunday, August 9th Vicar Aaron Yaeger will be inducted during the morning service. After the service we will have a reception in the fellowship hall with the Yaegers as our guests of honor. Join us, and get to know our new vicar!

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 luncheon at 11:30 a.m. so you can either attend Bible study or head home to get your things together for the potluck.
- **July 28 (Tues) --- Load up the Shoaff family at 6:30 p.m.** for moving the next day. All hands on deck!
- **July 29 (Wed) --- Move the Shoaffs to Fort Wayne and the Yaegers back here to Freedom Township.** Speak with Denny Bockelman if you can help that day.
- **August 9 (Sun) --- Induction of the new vicar** and welcome reception after worship.
Sunday School Staff Planning Meeting at 10:45 a.m.
- **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.



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.

WOMEN OF FREEDOM MEETING: Our next Women of FREEDOM Meeting will be held on July 28th at 7:00 PM. *Miss Sarah Bartok* will be our speaker. The following is what she will share with us about her mission trip... “This past June, six other ladies and I started out on a week long journey to La Union, Guatemala. Our task was to conduct classes at six “English as a Second Language” (ESL) schools to the local children. This trip was not easy, especially when new obstacles were thrown at us each day. But throughout that week, God taught us how to love despite the language barrier, to give thanks in all circumstances, to always laugh when times get hard, to trust in Him, and to come to Him in prayer in both the good and bad times.”

Please bring your mite boxes to this meeting. The Quarterly and Odes are ready to be picked up on the narthex table for anyone liking one. These meetings are open to all women of the church.

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).



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. **We will hold a staff meeting on Sunday, August 9th at approximately 10:45 a.m. (after the new vicar reception).** 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.

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!

SPORTS PHYSICAL FORMS: Those St. John students in Grades 4 – 8 must complete an Emergency Medical Authorization Form in order to participate in the sports programs offered at St. John. **Only students entering Grades 7 & 8 are required to have a sports physical.** Forms are available in the “School Info” rack outside the school office.

ANNUAL SCHOOL CLEANING DATES have been set for Mon., Aug. 3 and Wed., Aug. 5 starting at 5:00 PM both nights. Please read your message in FastDirect with all the details about this, as well as the Parent Participation Policy. The carpets will be cleaned on Tues., Aug. 4.

SAVE THE DATE! Come one, come all, to the Arts & Craft Show to be held here at St. John on Sat., Nov. 7th from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. The money raised will go toward the Right Hand of Fellowship campaign. Please contact *Diane Norden* or *Jackie Ripke* with questions. More information to come as it draws near.

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!

AREA EVENTS:

- **Ice Cream Social** hosted by St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Domersville and Nagel Roads, Defiance, OH, today from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Free will donation! See flyer!
- **Maumee Valley Civic Theatre** presents...*Wedding Singer!* Showtimes are July 23, 24, and 25 at 7:30 PM in the John L. Johnson Auditorium, Napoleon. Tickets are \$12 and can be ordered online at mvctohio.org or can also be purchased at the door.
- **8th Annual Stephanie Lynn Kossow Memorial Golf Outing** will be held on Sat., July 25th, with a 1:00 PM shotgun start.
- **Ridgeville American Legion** will be hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive on Mon., July 27th from Noon – 6:00 PM at the legion. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-RED-CROSS. Walk-ins are always welcome!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

“Summer saved, Summer not.”

“And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”
(Mark 16:15-16)

*"The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want."*

