



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

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Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor
Mr. Aaron Yaeger, Vicar
Miss Mary K. Rettig, Interim Principal

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FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "A Bold Choice in Footwear" *Ephesians 6:14-15*

Order of Service: *See printed Service Folder*

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome to the service of God's House and the fellowship of this congregation. We hope that you will be both comforted and challenged by the Word of God from us today. If you are new to our community; we hope you will consider making this your church home. 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

- ✠ Don & Karan Niebergall, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Jim & Linda Meyer, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Denny Bockelman, Jeff Buchhop, Dave Myles, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Linda Riefers, Marian Damman, Ruth Mahnke, Mabel Bischoff, *Altar Guild* ✠

MARRIAGE CELEBRATION: Today we would like to recognize the marriage of *Blake Miller* and *Brittini Szabo* which took place here at St. John yesterday; Aug. 29th at 3:30 PM. We rejoice with Blake & Brittini as they begin their life together as husband and wife, and wish them many years of happiness together. Congrats to the Millers!

ATTENTION ALL HIGH SCHOOL & YOUNG ADULTS: Join us in the Cry Room after church next Sunday for Bible Study, fellowship, and snacks. Feed your soul and your body to start your week out right! Looking forward to having you join us each week! *Sharon Damman*

CHURCH ACTIVITY CALENDAR & PRAYER CALENDAR: Please take note that both of these calendars have changed their look. The Prayer Calendar will still be printed on colored paper and the Church Activity Calendar will be printed on white paper. They are both in today's bulletin.

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

Date	Time	Activities
Today	10:30AM 11:30AM	Outdoor Worship Service at the Old School property Fellowship Meal followed by silent & live auction (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Tue.	8:20 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	PS 4/5 year old begins Exercise Class Stewardship Board & School Board Meetings
Wed.	8:20 AM 6:15 PM	PS 3 year old begins Midweek Confirmation Class
Thurs.	6:30 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Men's Bible Breakfast at Hill's Restaurant Exercise Class Thursday Evening Praise
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Donald Luhring</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 *Justin Atkinson, Kyle Elling, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, and Connor Gerken*
- ❖ *Don Dickmann*, recuperating at The Orchards of Northcrest – Napoleon
- ❖ *Lawrence Langenhop*, recuperating at The Lutheran Home following hip surgery at FCHC from a fall he took this past week

ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY OPTIONS - Starting two weeks from today, on Sunday Sept. 13th, there will be two options for Sunday adult Bible study.

#1 – Cross Explorations for Adults

Pastor Niermann will lead an adult study of the same Scriptures the Sunday School students are hearing that day. While all interested adults are invited, it is one of the purposes of this class to equip our Sunday School parents for home discussions about God's Word. Then at 10:50 a.m. the students will join us for EXPRESS, an activity related to the day's Scripture.



#2 – Cross; We Suffer with Jesus

Vicar Yaeger will lead this study from the Lutheran Spirituality series. How do we understand the suffering we experience in our Christian life? Should we avoid it? Or embrace it? What do Baptism and temptation have to do with suffering? Come hear what Jesus has to say to us in the study,

'Cross: We Suffer With Jesus.'

DO I REALLY NEED TO BE IN BIBLE STUDY?

Take the enclosed quiz to find out for yourself.

Sunday School / Christian Education

It's time to gear up for another season of Christian education at St. John. Some exciting things are happening! Sunday School grades K-6 will begin using the 'Cross Explorations' curriculum that will have them rotating to three sites...

1. **ENGAGE** ~ 10:15-10:25 a.m. in the sanctuary
Combined opening worship for all students, grades K-6
2. **EXPLORE** ~ 10:30-10:45 a.m. in two classrooms
The Bible lesson for the day (K-3 in 1-2 classroom; 4-6 in 5-6 classroom)
3. **EXPRESS** ~ 10:50-11:05 a.m. in the fellowship hall
Students join their parents for activities that reinforce that day's lesson

While the students are in ENGAGE and EXPLORE, all adults and Sunday School parents are invited to sit down with Pastor in the fellowship hall for an adult version of that day's lesson. Then the children will join the parents and adults for the EXPRESS part of the schedule to share some intergenerational, parent-child time doing an activity that reinforces the day's lesson. Meanwhile, preschool, junior and senior high classes will continue their normal schedule. Here's the calendar of what's coming...



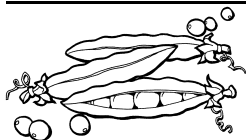
- **Today, Aug. 30th - Outdoor Service;** Lesson One of 'Cross Explorations' will be covered during the service, and student leaflets and 'Explore More' cards will be distributed to the students
- **Sunday, Sept. 6th** - Labor Day weekend, no Sunday School
- **Sunday, Sept. 13th** - Regular Sunday School classes begin

WILLING SERVANTS ARE STILL NEEDED to staff the Sunday School. Speak with *Pastor Niermann* or sign up in the narthex!

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SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY – On Sunday, Sept. 13th *Vicar Yaeger* will begin a new Bible study series in the north fellowship hall on Lutheran Spirituality. The first study is titled, "Cross." How do we understand the suffering we experience in our Christian life? Should we avoid it? Or embrace it? What do Baptism and temptation have to do with suffering? Come hear what Jesus has to say to us in the study, '**Cross: We Suffer With Jesus.**'

SHARE THE BOUNTY - GARDEN PRODUCE SHARING – If your garden is producing more than you can eat, how about sharing the bounty with your friends in faith here at St. John. Each Sunday there is a table under the carport where you can place any food you bring. Share what you have, and also take what you can use. It's a great way for us to share the bounty of God's good gifts!



FINANCIAL FACTS:	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 8/23/15	\$7,222.00	\$344.00	\$701.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday Evening Service: *None reported*; 8/23/15 Service: 251

LWML FALL RETREAT – The Fall Retreat will be held on Saturday, September 19th, at St. John Family Center, Stryker, from 9:00 – 2:00 PM, with registration beginning at 8:30 AM. Registration fee is \$12.00 which includes lunch. Registration forms are available on the table in the narthex. Sign up deadline is Friday, Sept. 11th. See flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

YOUR FAMILY TREE: Through the years, some people have wondered about their family ancestry. Who were they and where did they come from? Perhaps you have already searched old records at the court house, checked birth and death certificates, checked your family Bibles or searched on ancestry.com.

Like many of us here in Freedom Township and in Henry County we come from a line of German lineage. In September 2014, there were eight Rabe family members who did their Rabe ancestry search in Germany over five full days in the Visselhovede area. For more than a year prior to the trip, Lester Rabe's sister, Lori Esch from Lebanon, Ohio made contact with a gentleman named *Walter Homann* who lives in Walsrode, Germany. He was a godsend and thrives on family genealogy. Well, *Walter Homann* is coming to stay with Lester & Janice Rabe on Mon., Sept. 7th for one week. If you have any interest in finding more information on your family members who lived around Visselhovede Germany, perhaps Walter can help. Walter works for a nominal fee to cover his time and other expenses. He speaks High German, so we have found an interpreter to help with the communication barrier! If interested, talk to *Lester* or *Janice Rabe* or call them at 419-598-8801 and they'll see if Walter can help you with your family ancestry too.

SCHOOL NOTES:

- ✓ **BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP** – St. John Booster membership for the 2015-16 school year are: \$20.00 for husband and wife; \$10.00 for single. Make checks payable to *St. John Boosters*.
- ✓ **SCHOOL PICTURES** will be taken by *Emilie Parsons* of Emilie's Photo Design this year and are scheduled for Thurs., Sept., 10th at 9:00 AM for the 4/5-year old Preschool class and Gr. K-8; and Fri., Sept. 11th at 9:00 AM for 3-year old Preschool class and anyone absent on Sept. 10th. Order forms will be sent home shortly after school starts.
- ✓ **SCRIP PROGRAM** will be offered again this school year. Anyone willing to help the PTL with this fundraiser can contact *Kristyn Honemann* at 419-966-0207.
- ✓ **PTL MEETING** will be held on Mon., Sept. 14th at 7:00 PM. This will be a business meeting. Plan to attend and support the school.

HOSPICE OF HENRY COUNTY is providing free volunteer training to individuals interested in working with Hospice patients and their families. Training classes begin on Sept. 3 and will continue on the 10th, 17th, and 24th of September. Each session will last from 12:30 – 4:30 PM at the Henry County Health Dept., 1843 Oakwood Ave., Napoleon, OH. If interested, see the brochure on the bulletin board or call *Teri Fraker* at 419-599-5612.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

For home improvement, bring the family to church!

“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”
(Proverbs 22:6)