

St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

September 13, 2015

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NO. 37

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

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Church Website: www.sjl.org

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Uprighted" Mark 9:14-29

Order of Service: Matins (LSB pg. 219)

Hymns: [Baptism: "Borning Cry" ~ 594, *stz. 1,5*] ~ 846 ~ 941 (*Te Deum*) ~ 528

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

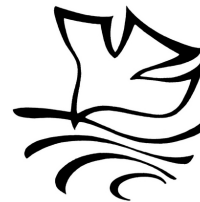
We welcome all who have come to worship our God with us today! Each day we live is a priceless gift from God, loaded with possibilities to learn something new, to gain fresh insights into His great truths. May we be showered with those blessings as we together profess His Name today. Please fill out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and pass it to the center aisle during the offering this morning.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠ Landon Willeman & Brooks Behnfeldt, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Bob & Diane Norden, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Lawrence & Hildegard Behrmann, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Al Damman, Andy Damman, Tim Hodson, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Kathy Badenhop, Sandy VonDeylen, Mary Rettig, *Altar Guild* ✠

BAPTISM TODAY – This morning we rejoice to witness the baptism of **Halle Grace Badenhop**, infant daughter of **Joe & Abbie Badenhop**. **Halle** was born on July 15th at the Henry County Hospital. Her baptismal sponsors are Clay Badenhop, Megan Badenhop, and Annie Helbert (Abbie's sister). Halle's grandparents are Neil & Anita Badenhop, Carrie & Jim Pitzen, and Roger & Anita Fruth. May God bless this family on this day of rejoicing, and always unite them in love for Christ and for one another. The altar flowers are being placed today in honor of Halle's baptism.



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

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service w/Communion following Sunday School resumes; Adult Bible Class; "Time To Spare"
Mon.	5:30 PM 7:30 PM	V-ball: Gr. 4-6 Girls; 6:30 PM Gr. 7&8 Girls vs. St. Pats-Bryan (H) PTL Meeting
Tue.	9:00 AM	Exercise Class
Wed.	6:15 PM 6:30 PM	Midweek Confirmation Class Adult Hand Bell practice
Thurs.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Thursday Evening Praise
Sat.	9:00 AM 10:00AM	LWML Fall Retreat at St. John Lutheran, Stryker (<i>see bulletin note</i>) V-ball: Gr. 4-6 Girls; 11:00 AM Gr. 4-6 Girls vs. BG Christian (A)
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare"
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Logan Scheiwe</i> , St. Paul Lutheran, Napoleon

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*, recuperating from a recent fall in Birmingham, AL
- ❖ Servicemen *Justin Atkinson, Kyle Elling, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, and Connor Gerken*
- ❖ *Don Dickmann*, now at home with home health care services
- ❖ *Lawrence Langenhop*, recuperating at The Lutheran Home following hip surgery
- ❖ *Hildegard Behrmann*, hospitalized recently
- ❖ *Susan Nye*, following knee surgery this past week at Bryan Community Hospital



JAVA JOY TODAY! It's the second Sunday of the month, and that means **Java Joy** following the service. Take a little time to enjoy a bite to eat and some fellowship. A table is set up in the front hallway. Your gifts to the "kitty" help keep **Java Joy** alive and going. We thank *Denny & Rhonda Bockelman* for hosting Java Joy for September. (*NOTE: In order for everyone to enjoy the food items, we ask that you only take 2 items when going through the line.*) Thank you!

Interested in being a **Java Joy** host? Please sign up on the table in the narthex. Don't let finances stop you – you are welcome to reimburse your expenses from the kitty if you wish.

PTL MEETING will be held on Mon., Sept. 14th at 7:30 PM. This will be a business meeting. Plan to attend and support the school.

HOLY COMMUNION will be offered this morning following the Worship service. Those who wish to attend should fill out a Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and give it to the usher during the collection of the offering this morning. Return immediately to the front pews in the sanctuary following the service.

Sunday School / Christian Education

It's a new season of Sunday School and Adult Bible Classes at St. John! The schedule is from 10:15 or 10:20 to 11:05 a.m. each Sunday, and it breaks down as follows....



PRESCHOOL will meet in the Preschool Classroom

GRADES K-6

10:15-10:25 – ENGAGE

- Grades K-6 will begin in the sanctuary for the worship opening.

10:30-10:45 - EXPLORE

- Grades K-3 will meet in the 1st & 2nd Grade Classroom for the lesson
- Grades 4-6 will meet in 5th & 6th Grade Classroom for the lesson

10:50 – EXPRESS

- Grades K-6 will meet in the fellowship hall with adults for a related activity

11:05 - Dismissal

JUNIOR HIGH will meet in 7th & 8th Grade Classroom

SENIOR HIGH "Time to Spare" will meet in the Cry Room

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WILLING SERVANTS ARE STILL NEEDED to staff the Sunday School. Speak with Pastor Niermann or Superintendent Brenda Kruse!

Youth Happenings

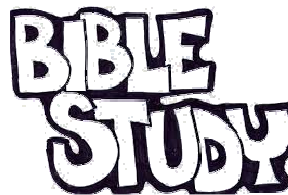
We are gearing up for a great season of youth meetings and events, for both junior and senior high youth.

- **JUNIOR HIGH** – Youth grades 6-8 are invited to join us THIS AFTERNOON for *Pizza, Planning and Play* from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. At our initial meeting we'll brainstorm and discuss plans for the upcoming year. We'll also announce a few dates for upcoming youth events in our area and district. Join us!
- **SENIOR HIGH** – High School youth are part of the *Lutheran Youth Fellowship (LYF)*. Our first meeting this new school year will be NEXT SUNDAY, Sept. 20th at 4:30 p.m. With the national youth gathering coming up next year in New Orleans, there is a lot to discuss and plan. We'll have pizza together and chart the year ahead!

ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY OPTIONS - Starting today, 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

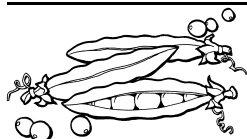
Vicar Yaeger will lead this study from the Lutheran Spirituality series. How do we understand the suffering we experience in our Christian life? Should we avoid it? Or embrace it? What do Baptism and temptation have to do with suffering? Come hear what Jesus has to say to us in the study, ‘Cross: We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

DO I REALLY NEED TO BE IN BIBLE STUDY?

ADULT BELL CHOIR: The Adult Bell Choir will have practices on Wednesdays again this year. Our first practice will be on Wed., Sept. 16th at 6:30 PM. We are always looking for new members to join us. If you think you’d like to get involved and share your talents, please contact *Karan Niebergall* at 419-598-8251.

MILITARY OUTREACH – Once again we are teaming up with *Faith Comes by Hearing* to provide BibleSticks audio Bibles for troops in our nation’s armed forces. So far, nearly half a million of our troops have received these BibleSticks, and the demand is still huge. This morning at the end of our service we will watch a brief video about this unique ministry. After the service there will be a basket on the table in the narthex where you can donate for this cause. It takes \$25 to put one of these BibleSticks into the hand of one troop.

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!



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!

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 9/06/15	\$8,250.00	\$232.00	\$618.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday Evening Service: 41; 9/06/15 Service: 172

LYF ICE CREAM SOCIAL – The LYF will be hosting its annual Ice Cream Social on Sun., Sept. 27, with serving from 10:30 to 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. There is a signup sheet on the table in the narthex for donations of desserts. On the menu: *Chicken Sandwiches, Sloppy Joe's, Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Salad, Chips, Pies, Cakes, Cupcakes, Beverage and Schwan's Ice Cream.* Freewill offering! Carryouts available also! Thrivent Financial will be matching funds for this event. Come out and support the youth of our congregation!

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.

WOMEN OF FREEDOM: The next meeting will be Tues., Sept. 22nd at 7:00 PM. Our speaker will be Kelly Wallace, Admissions/Marketing Director at The Lutheran Home in Napoleon. She will be discussing the many services that the Lutheran Home has to offer to the community. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend!

MISSION GIVING OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS

Tuesday morning during Chapel the *Lutheran Women's Missionary League* of St. John handed out **Mite Boxes** to the students. This morning the Sunday School students will be given their mite boxes. The *Mite Box* is inspired by the widow in **Mark 12** who gave a few mites as her offering – not much monetarily, but it was everything she had and therefore generous beyond measure! The purpose of a *Mite Box* is to collect the “mites” (*coins*) you find in your pockets, in the washer or dryer, on the dresser or under the couch cushions, and to give them as an offering for missions. It's a great way for children and families to share the joy of giving.



The children will have four weeks to gather their ‘mites’ into these boxes. Then on LWML Sunday, October 4, they will be invited forward during worship to present their ‘mite’ offerings to the Lord. Each *mite* is a small amount, but together they fund mighty projects in mission fields. To see a list of these projects, visit www.lwml.org and under the Missions tab click ‘Mission Grants.’

LWML SUNDAY – Celebrate with Women in Mission A special worship service is planned for Sun., Oct. 4, 2015, to celebrate all that God has done through the LWML. LWML wants all women to find joy in Bible study, mite giving, mission service, and reaching the lost and hurting for Christ. Check out our website at www.lwml.org.

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.

ST. JOHN CHURCH LIBRARY – Stop in and check out the growing number of books available in the church library, located in the hall next to the sanctuary. The books in this library have been screened to assure that they are true to the Word of God and can be trusted to be theologically sound. To borrow a book, just take it with you, and then return it to the basket when you've finished reading. A complete list of the books in the church's library can be found by clicking on the "Book Inventory" link on the library page of our church's website. <http://www.sjl.org/library.html>

LABELS FOR EDUCATION (*formerly Campbell's Labels for Ed*): Our school collects labels all year long. **Labels For Education have expanded and now include UPC labels from Post Cereals, BIC, Pop-Secret, and several others.** For a complete listing of sponsors go to www.labelsforeducation.com. These labels earn points for St. John to be redeemed for many school supplies. **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!

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!

EXTENSION FUND –Your savings earn interest for you, while providing loans to congregations for building God's kingdom. To learn more about investment opportunities call 1-800-901-2297 for current rates of interest and application forms.

SAVE THE DATE! Come one, come all, to the Arts & Craft Show to be held here at St. John on Sat., Nov. 7th. The money raised will go toward the Right Hand of Fellowship campaign. Please contact *Diane Norden* (419-598-8234) or *Jackie Ripke* (419-267-5574) with questions. More information to come as it draws near.

MUM SALE – The Henry County 4-H Advisory Council is hosting a Mum Sale – they are \$5.50 for a 9" pot, \$10.50 for a 12" pot, and \$15.00 for a 14" pot. Colors available are red, yellow, orange, bronze, pink, white, pineapple, and purple. Proceeds benefit refurbishing the 4-H building at the fairgrounds and for 4-H Camp Scholarships. **Order deadline is Tues., Sept. 15th.** For more information please contact *Bethann Gerken* at 419-445-7910 or email her at bethann@rteexpress.net.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Guests welcome. Members expected.

“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God..”

(Exodus 20:9-10)