



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

October 18, 2015

VOL. 80

NO. 42

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

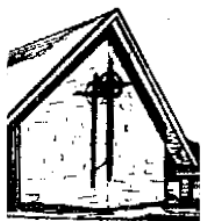
Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181
Cell: 989-607-4566
School: 419-598-8702 Cell: 419-966-6160
Church Website: www.sjl.org

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Rest" *Hebrews 4*
Order of Service: *See printed insert*
Hymns: 553 ~ 556, stz.1-6 ~ 556, stz.7-10 ~ 716
Adult Bell Choir: "The Peace of Christ"

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 new to our community, we hope you will consider making this your church home. Fill out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and give it to the usher as you leave the church this morning.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✧ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✧ Maggie Weller & Hope Buchhop, *Acolytes* ✧
- ✧ Dan & Deb Wachtman, *Greeters* ✧
- ✧ Delbert & Marian Damman, *Visitation* ✧
- ✧ Denny Behnfeldt, Elmer Maassel, Bob Norden, Ted Ripke, *Ushers* ✧
- ✧ Marietta Damman, Deb Wachtman, Sharon Badenhop, Nancy Short, *Altar Guild* ✧

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are placed in honor of the 60th Wedding Anniversary of *Willie & Arlene Gerken* by their family. Willie and Arlene were married on October 16, 1955 by Pastor Maassel. We thank God for the many years he has blessed them with and only wish them many more years together. Happy Anniversary to the Gerkens!

COMMUNION CHANGE FOR OCTOBER: In Pastor's absence today and with Reformation Sunday coming up next week, we have rescheduled Holy Communion for next Sunday, Oct. 25th instead of today. Thursday Evening Communion will fall on Thurs., Oct. 22nd.

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

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare"
Tue.	8:35 AM 5:00 PM	Napoleon Public Library (<i>Gr. K-8</i>) V-ball: Gr. 4-6 Girls; 6:00 PM Gr. 7&8 Girls vs. Trinity-Toledo (H)
Wed.	6:15 PM 6:30 PM 7:30 PM	Jr. Hi Confirmation Class (<i>until 7:30 PM</i>) Adult Bell Choir practice Adult Choir practice
Thurs.	8:30 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	PTL Book Fair (<i>until 11:00 AM</i>) Grandparents' Day for PS 4/5 yr olds (<i>until 11:10 AM</i>) Exercise Class PTL Book Fair (<i>until 8:30 PM</i>) Thursday Evening Praise (<i>with Communion</i>) Parent Visitation Open House (<i>until 8:00 PM</i>)
Fri.	8:30 AM 9:00 AM 6:30 PM	PTL Book Fair (<i>until 11:00 AM</i>) Grandparents' Day for PS 3 yr olds (<i>until 11:10 AM</i>) Wedding Rehearsal – <i>Jones / Buchhop</i>
Sat.	TBD 3:30 PM	St. John Defiance Girls Volleyball Tournament Wedding Ceremony – <i>Joshua Jones / Stephanie Buchhop</i>
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 10:30AM	**REFORMATION SUNDAY** Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare" Adult Instruction Class in the Conference Room
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Charles Kramer</i> , St. Paul Lutheran – Napoleon

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

- ❖ Our Shut-Ins: *Stan Moll, Marian Fitzenreiter, Norma Damman, and Don Dickmann*
- ❖ *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 at Greenbriar Assisted Living from a recent fall
- ❖ Servicemen *Justin Atkinson, Kyle Elling, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, and Connor Gerken*
- ❖ *Lawrence Langenhop*, recuperating at The Lutheran Home following hip surgery
- ❖ *Susan Nye and Rozella Gruenhagen*, recuperating following recent surgeries
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, residing at the Orchards of Northcrest - Napoleon
- ❖ *Delores Badenhop*, recuperating at The Lutheran Home following her surgery

DECORATING COMMITTEE UPDATE: We have had a few individuals step forward as volunteers to decorate the church and surroundings for Christmas. We could still use a few more helping hands, so if this is something you've been pondering, why not jump on board and be a helper. Please give it some thought, and contact the church office if you would like to volunteer. Thank you!

ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY - Cross; We Suffer with Jesus

What hardships are you experiencing in your life? How can a good and gracious God allow you to suffer? What is God's will for your life? *Vicar Yaeger* is leading this study from the Lutheran Spirituality series. Suffering is often misunderstood as an important part of our life with Christ. Should we avoid it? Or embrace it? Come hear what Jesus has to say to us in the study, 'Cross: We Suffer With Jesus.'

THE NEXT FEW SUNDAYS are going to be special.

- **REFORMATION SUNDAY** is next Sunday, October 25th. We will give thanks to God for the Gospel which has been handed down to us as our most precious heritage. Our former vicar, *Reed Shoaff*, will be joining us to play the trumpet as we sing "A Mighty Fortress" and other great hymns. Be sure to join us in God's house.
- **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY** is the Sunday after that, on November 1st. With thanks to God we will remember all the saints who have departed this life to be with the Lord, with a special focus on those who have left us since our last celebration of All Saints.



ADULT INSTRUCTION CLASS starts on Sunday, October 25th

Starting next Sunday, Pastor Niermann will be offering a basic course in Christian doctrine titled, "I Have Good News for You." This study will take place during the Sunday School/Bible Study hour after worship each Sunday in the conference room next to Pastor's office. Everyone is invited! This is a membership class for those who wish to join our congregation, but it's also for current members who want to be refreshed in the faith. An information brochure is available in the narthex. The brochure is also invitational, so that you can give it to a friend or family member and invite them to this class.



LETTERS MAILED – Letters were mailed this past week requesting nominations and appointments for the various offices of our congregation for 2016. Please take note of the following:

- If there is an office in which you'd like to serve, please offer your name to the Stewardship Board for consideration. Speak with *Pastor Niermann*.
- If you are approached about serving in an office, give it careful and prayerful thought. You are being asked because the Stewardship Board, with prayers for God's guidance, has identified you as someone whose service in that office will be a blessing to us all!

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 10/11/15	\$6,339.00	\$137.00	\$588.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday Evening Service: 21; 10/11/15 Service: 210

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPENINGS; A REQUEST – This year we are holding openings for the Sunday School in the sanctuary immediately after worship. In weeks past we have noticed that it is difficult to hold these openings and to gain the attention of the students when there is a lot of noise and commotion. We are therefore requesting that adults in the narthex after worship be mindful that these openings are taking place and help hold down the level of sound. Thank you so much!

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY – Starting on **Tuesday, October 27th**, Pastor and Vicar will offer a morning Bible study. This study group will meet in the north end of the fellowship hall at 10:00 a.m. each Tuesday morning.

Pastor will kick things off with a video study from *Lutheran Hour Ministries* titled “**A Man Named Martin – Part 1, The Man.**” The influence and impact of Luther's life is the stuff of serious study. As a forlorn sinner feeling lost before a stern and exacting Judge, Luther desponded of all hope for eternity. But as one who came to cling to the Spirit-delivered truths of justification by faith and the liberty believers experience by God's grace, he rebounded to become a triumphant ambassador for the Gospel.



The details of Luther's life -- his childhood with his parents Hans and Margaret, his university pursuits, his decision to become a monk, his protestation of Catholic practices, his voluminous and erudite scholastic output, his life in hiding, and his roles as husband and father -- are all considered in this study. “A Man Named Martin” is a fresh and explorative look at an individual who, down through the centuries, has increased in importance and vitality to the Christian church. **Be sure to join us Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m., starting October 27.**

WOMEN OF FREEDOM: The next Women of Freedom meeting will be Tues., Oct. 27 at 7:00 PM. Our speaker will be *Arllys Ross* from Liberty Center. She is going to talk to us about "Operation Christmas Child." This is where people fill boxes to give to children at Christmas. All ladies of St. John invited to come. This would be a nice possibility for a mission effort from our unit. Bring your mite box to the meeting.

NAPOLEON ZONE FALL CHRISTIAN LIFE WORKSHOP to be held on Sat., Nov. 14th, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, St. Rt. 109, Hamler. Registration and a continental breakfast at 8:30 AM and followed by the program from 9:00 – 11:15 AM. The workshop will be led by Rev. Jeffrey Corder, our Napoleon Zone Counselor. A Mites offering will be taken to help reach the goals set by the Ohio District for their mission projects. Please bring your Bible. The theme this year is "Rest in the Lord" based on Psalm 37:7. All women of St. John are invited!

ST. JOHN CRAFT SHOW! 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. There will also be a booth/table set up for donated homemade craft items from our congregation members who wish to contribute to and support the Right Hand of Fellowship. Please contact *Diane Norden* (419-598-8234) or *Jackie Ripke* (419-267-5574) with questions.

CUTLERY FOR SALE: The Ladies Aid sells 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.

S.T.O.P. PENNY DRIVE – The PTL Fall Penny Drive at St. John School has begun and runs thru Fri., Oct. 30th. Send your pennies in to school with your child or grandchild. The winning classroom will be awarded a pizza party.

PARENT SCHOOL VISITATION & OPEN HOUSE (see cookie note): St. John School has scheduled their Parent Visitation Open House during the evening on October 22 from 7:00 -8:00 PM. The PTL will be sponsoring a book fair that evening also. **NOTE: Each family is asked to bring one dozen cookies to the open house for refreshments. Thank you!**

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR – St. John PTL will be having a **Scholastic Book Fair** which is open to the public on **Thursday, October 22**, from 6:30 – 8:30 PM; and again on **Friday, October 23** from 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM. A lot of help is needed, so call *Sara Buchhop* (419-966-8638) or contact her via FastDirect if you can help.

PRESCHOOL GRANDPARENTS' DAY – **Preschool Grandparents' Day** will be held from 9:00 – 11:00 AM on **Thurs., Oct. 22nd for the 4 & 5-year old class** and same time on **Fri., Oct. 23rd for the 3-year old class**. Grandparents should plan to arrive at 9 AM and report to the gym. Grandparents will also have the opportunity to take their grandchild through the PTL Scholastic Book Fair those days. Come and enjoy all the fun in Preschool!!!

SCRIP: Coordinator *Kristyn Honemann* will be out of town from October 15-25, so there will be no SCRIP orders placed during this time period. Any questions, please contact *Kristyn* at 419-966-0207.

2015 THRIVENT MEMBER APPRECIATION EVENT: The Henry County Chapter of Thrivent Financial will be hosting an evening of fun and fellowship Sun., Nov. 8 at the Ridgeville American Legion, S031 County Road 19, Napoleon. Registration and music by “Happy Times Polka Band” will begin at 4:00 PM. Dinner will be served at 6:00 PM. Bingo with prizes will be played before and after the meal. Reservation deadline is Sun., Oct. 25th. Please contact *Jean Cohrs* at 419-592-6451, Ext. 1237 or email her at *jean.cohrs@gmail.com* to make your reservations. *NOTE: Please bring a non-perishable food item to be donated to Henry County Christmas Cheer and/or the Henry County Food Banks.*

RECYCLING PROGRAM: The School Board decided to implement a recycling program at St. John School last September. This will be done through Zack's Recycling, Napoleon. There are green flyers explaining the recycling program in the “School Info” rack outside the office or contact a school board member with any questions.

COUNTRY CORNER CRAFT BAZAAR – Today, St. John Lutheran Church, Stryker, at the corner of St. Rt. 6 & 66, is hosting a craft show from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM, with a freewill lunch served from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM. See flyer!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

A person without God's Word is like a horse without a bridle!

“All the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes.” (Judges 17:6)



RaisingOurKids.com

Peter told many people about Jesus, God's Son.