



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

October 25, 2015

VOL. 80

NO. 43

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Church Website: www.sjl.org

REFORMATION DAY (OBSERVED)

Sermon & Text: "Why Won't You Play With Us?" *Matthew 11: 16-19*

Order of Service: *See printed Service Folder*

Hymns: 656 ~ 668 ~ 953 ~ 434, stz.1 ~ [Communion: 645,632,658] ~ 644

Children's Choir: *Gr. K-4 sing "Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"*

A PRAYER UPON

We thank God this day for His work through Martin Luther to bring

ENTERING CHURCH

to light the Gospel of Jesus. May He reform us and renew us as we seek

His purposes under the power of this Gospel. The church gathers under

the Gospel of Christ. It is the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes. You are

welcome as our guest this morning. 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. May the Lord bless our worship.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

✠ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✠ Caleb Bockelman & Brooks Behnfeldt, *Acolytes* ✠

✠ Lois Arps & Evelyn Rohrs, *Greeters* ✠

✠ Eldor & Rozella Gruenhagen, *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 in honor of the 80th Birthday of *Lois Arps* and are placed by the Arps Family. Lois will be turning eighty on Wednesday, Oct. 28th. Happy Birthday to you, Lois!

PIANO FLOWERS are placed in celebration of the marriage of *Joshua Jones & Stephanie Buchhop* here at St. John's yesterday, Oct. 24th. May God bless their marriage and grant them many happy years together. Congratulations to the newlyweds!

MANY THANKS - A big thank you to everyone who sent cards, made a visit (*especially Pastor Niermann*), and prayed a prayer for me during my recent surgery. It is so good to be "pain free" at this time. Thanks again! *Rozella Gruenhagen*

In God's House This Week

Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl

Date	Time	Activities
Today		**REFORMATION SUNDAY**
	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare"
Mon.	5:30 PM 6:00 PM	<i>Bread From Heaven</i> Food Pantry distribution (until 6:30 PM) V-ball: Gr. 4-6 Girls; 7:00 PM Gr. 7&8 Girls vs. Toledo Hornets (H)
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:00 AM 10:00AM 7:00 PM	Chapel led by Gr. 7&8; Offering: <i>LCC – K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry</i> Exercise Class Tuesday Bible Study Women of FREEDOM Meeting and Board of Elders
Wed.	6:15 PM 7:00 PM	Junior Confirmation Class (6:15 – 7:30 PM) Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	9:00 AM 7:00PM	Exercise Class Thursday Evening Praise (the final one for this year)
Fri.		End of 1 st Quarter Grading Period
Sun.	2:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:20AM 10:20AM	Turn your clocks back one hour as Daylight Saving Time ends Communion Service – <i>All Saints Day</i> 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. Dale Kern</i> , retired, St. John Lutheran - Stryker

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
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, residing at the Orchards of Northcrest - Napoleon
- ❖ *Helen Norden*, residing at Greenbriar Assisted Living in Birmingham, AL
- ❖ Servicemen *Justin Atkinson, Kyle Elling, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, and Connor Gerken*
- ❖ *Delores Badenhop*, recuperating at The Lutheran Home following her surgery
- ❖ *Lawrence Langenhop*, recuperating at home now following hip surgery

ALL SAINTS DAY – Next Sunday, November 1st we will celebrate *All Saints*. On that day the Church remembers all of the saints of God who have fought the good fight, have finished their race, and are with the Lord. Specifically, we will remember the members of our own church family who have died since the last celebration of *All Saints* and have taken their place at the throne of God's Lamb. They are *Edwin Rosebrock, Walter Delventhal, Esther Schroeder, Yvonne Volkman, and Will Gruenhagen*.

ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY OPTIONS

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.'

"I Have Good News for You"

Starting SUNDAY November 1st, Pastor Niermann will offer an Adult Instruction Class which is a basic course in Christian doctrine for prospective members who may wish to join our congregation, and for current members who wish to refresh their faith. This study will take place during the Sunday School/Bible Study hour after worship each Sunday and will meet in the conference room just outside left side door of the sanctuary. Be sure to invite someone to join you! Invitational brochures are available in the narthex. (Note: the start date has been postponed one week.)



FINANCIAL FACTS:

	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 10/18/15	\$8,120.00	\$167.00	\$478.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday Evening Service: 21; 10/18/15 Service: 210

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY – Starting this **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.**

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!

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING: The Budget Committee will be meeting on Wed., Oct. 28th at 7:00 PM. **The Budget Committee consists of the following 2015 office holders:** *Church Treasurer*, two second year **Trustees**, *two of the four Board of Ed members currently serving their second and third year*, two **Church Deacons**, *two Financial Trustees currently serving their second and third year*, the **Elder** completing his term of office, *and two Stewardship members, one serving their first year and one their second year*. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting on October 28th.

UPDATE FROM THE CALL COMMITTEE: The Call Committee is meeting on a regular basis as the search continues for a Principal / 7th & 8th Grade Teacher here at St. John. They are reaching out to members of the congregation and community asking for names and contacts of anyone interested and qualified to fill this dual position. Please contact *Brad Rosebrook's* cell (419-966-3099) with any referrals. Thank you in advance!

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.

ST. JOHN SPORTS SCHEDULE – Please keep in mind that in order to view the games for the volleyball or basketball seasons, you can go to either FastDirect directly (*thru the school*) or you can enter the church's website (*wp.sjl.org*), click on "School" at the top of page, click on "FastDirect School Info. System" on the left side of page, click on "BulletinBoard/Calendar" on the left side of page, and then scroll down to James Wagner, Athletic Director and click on his "Calendar".

PTL S.T.O.P. PENNY DRIVE will wrap up this Fri., Oct. 30th. Send your pennies in to school with your child or grandchild. The winning classroom will be awarded a pizza party. Every penny adds up to a lot of support for the school. Let's keep those pennies coming in!

SCRIP AT ST. JOHN: The *SCRIP* campaign has begun and will run for the remainder of the school year. *Make a Note* – The final order before Christmas break is due on Wed., Dec. 9th for delivery on Thurs., Dec. 17th. For those that don't know, *SCRIP* is gift cards that you purchase through PTL for full face value. They work for both in store purchases and online shopping. PTL works through a company that purchases these gift cards from participating retailers. A percentage of the purchase stays with PTL and a percentage goes to the student's enrollment/tuition. This fundraiser nets the PTL approximately \$300-\$500 each year. Think ahead--if you give out gift cards for Christmas consider purchasing them from PTL instead of at the store so that a portion of that sale stays with St. John Lutheran School. Order forms and program information are posted on FastDirect under 'Links,' titled *SCRIP Order Forms* and *SCRIP Program Info*. There are also hard copy order forms in the 'School Info' rack outside the office and on the table in the narthex. Please feel free to share with family and friends. Payment must accompany orders. Any questions about *SCRIP* can be directed to the *SCRIP* Coordinator *Kristyn Honemann* at 419-966-0207 or email at honemann@embarqmail.com.

LETTERS MAILED – Letters were mailed recently 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!

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 today.** 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.*

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 from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM.** 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.

COMMUNITY CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT – The Ridgeville Community Choir along with the Junior Choral Society will be presenting a Christmas concert on Sun., Dec. 6 right here at St. John Lutheran Church. The Community Choir's first rehearsal will be held on Sun., Nov. 15 at 1:30 PM, and their remaining rehearsal schedule is as follows: ***Tues., Nov. 17 at 7:00 PM; Sun., Nov. 22 at 1:30 PM; Tues., Nov. 24 at 7:00 PM; and Tues., Dec. 1 at 7:00 PM.*** All rehearsals will be held at St. John – Freedom. Please contact *Steve Basselman* with questions at 419-445-4656 or steveb@the-welcome-place.org.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

"I know not the way God leads me, but well do I know my Guide." *Martin Luther*
"For You are my rock and my fortress; For Your name's sake You will lead me and guide me."
(Psalm 31:3)