



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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Church Website: www.sjl.org

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "The Widow's Mite: An Example?" *Mark 12:38-44*

Order of Service: *Matins (LSB pg. 219)*

Hymns: **531 ~ 566**

Chime Choir: Grades 5 & 6 play "Jesus Shall Reign"

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome to God's House of Worship. Come, one and all, and praise the Lord. May the joy of Christ living in us fill His church with thanksgiving. If you are visiting with us today, we are very glad you came. We ask that you 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 to note your presence with us.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘ Bailey Johnson & Madison Bostelman, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Peter & Karen Gerken, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Lawrence & Hildegard Behrmann, *Visitation* ✘
- ✘ Dave Badenhop, Denny VonDeylen, Jerry Short, Dan Wiechers, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Diane VonDeylen, LouAnn Rosebrock, Jeannette Bostelman, *Altar Guild* ✘

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.

Java Joy TODAY since it's the second Sunday of the month. Be sure to stop out in the front hallway this morning for some refreshments and fellowship. Our host today is ***Karen Kruse and Family***, and we thank them for this service of love to us all!



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

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service w/Communion following Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare"; Adult Instruction Class in the Conference Room
Mon.	7:00 PM	PTL Meeting
Tue.	9:00 AM 10:00AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Tuesday Bible Study Church Council Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM 7:00 PM	Junior Confirmation Class (6:15 – 7:30 PM) Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	9:00 AM 3:00 PM	Exercise Class School dismisses – NO Early Dismissal
Fri.		NO SCHOOL – Parent / Teacher Conferences (<i>if needed</i>)
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 1:30 PM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare"; Adult Instruction Class in the Conference Room Ridgeville Community Choir practice
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Stephen Niermann</i> , St. John 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
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, residing at the Orchards of Northcrest - Napoleon
- ❖ *Helen Norden*, residing at Greenbriar Assisted Living in Birmingham, AL
- ❖ Servicemen and women *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, and Connor Gerken*
- ❖ *Delores Badenhop*, recuperating at The Lutheran Home following her surgery
- ❖ *RoseMary Hoeffel* (Christa Bickel's mother), at Univ. of Michigan Hospital, Ann Arbor for testing for kidney and liver transplants
- ❖ *Kyle Elling*, now deployed overseas, that God would guard him and his comrades against all harm and danger

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 11/01/15	\$10,368.00	\$457.00	\$683.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday Evening Service: 27; 11/01/15 Service: 252

COMMUNED in October: 537 members; 10 guests

MARK THE DATE: The *Advent by Candlelight* Ladies Christmas Party will be held on Thursday, Dec. 10th here at St. John beginning at 6:00 PM. More information to follow in upcoming bulletins.

ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Cross; We Suffer with Jesus (*Sundays after worship*)

Our daily crosses—a battle against sin, a disease, a lack of success at work, or a shrinking congregation—make it difficult to believe in a gracious God. We wish God would reveal Himself clearly and deliver us. But God chooses to remain hidden. How can this be good news for us? Come and find out as we continue our study: **Cross, We Suffer with Jesus.**

I Have Good News for You (*Sundays after worship*)

Starting TODAY! With all the bad news in the headlines, would you like to hear some good news for once, about a God who cares for you, a Bible that frees you, a washing that cleanses you? Pastor Niermann will offer this 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. We will meet in the conference room just outside left side door of the sanctuary. Be sure to invite someone to join you, and let's celebrate some good news for once!



A Man Named Martin (*Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m.*)

This Bible Study will meet in the north end of the fellowship hall at 10:00 a.m. each Tuesday morning. Pastor will lead 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. Join us for this fresh and explorative look at an individual who, down through the centuries, has increased in importance and vitality to the Christian church.



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!

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!

DEFENDING THE FAITH, TEACHING THE TRUTH...Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL. This week's topics include: The Jesus of Non-Christian Religions, Seventh Day Adventism, The Movie "Spectre," The Vocation of Soldier, 16th Century Reformer Martin Chemnitz and more. You can listen at your convenience at www.issuesetc.org and on the new Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS ARE JUST AROUND THE CORNER

In just a matter of weeks, the church will turn the page to a new church year and the season of Advent. Please take note of the following...

- **Midweek Advent Services** will be held on the first three Wednesdays of December at 7:00 p.m. These services will focus on the theme, "Stir Up the Power." Join us as we explore how God stirs up within his people the power of hope, preparation, love and joy.
- **Midweek Confirmation Class** on those first three Wednesdays of December will meet from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m.
- **The Children's Christmas Service** will be held on Sun., Dec. 20th at 7:00 p.m. It won't be long until parts will be handed out. Parents please put that date on your family calendar and make this a priority for your young ones. A schedule of rehearsals will be forthcoming.
- **Decoration of the sanctuary** for the season will take place on the weekend following Thanksgiving Day. If you can help, please sign the sheet in the narthex.
- **The Ridgeville Community Choir** will have its Christmas concert in our sanctuary on Sun., Dec. 6th. If you want to sing with this choir, see details elsewhere in the bulletin.



THRIVENT CALENDARS: We received approximately 25 complimentary 2016 calendars from Thrivent Financial this past week. They are available on a "first come, first serve" basis on the desk in the narthex. Help yourself if you so desire!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – For all the ladies filling a shoe box for Operation Christmas Child, this is to let you know that **the due date to turn them in is November 15th**. There are extra sheets on the table in the back of the church that tells you what to pack if you need one. You should place your filled shoe box on the counter in the back of the Fellowship Hall or you can place it on the table in the back of the church. Any questions, call *Marian Damman*.

POINSETTIA SALE –The poinsettia sale for Christmas is now underway, and green order forms are on the narthex table. **The deadline for ordering is next Mon., Nov. 16th**. The cost is \$8.00 per plant. You may put your form and check payable to *St. John Lutheran School* in the box on the narthex table. Be sure to fill in the line, "*In Loving Memory of*" or "*In Honor of*". This information will be published in the church bulletin as an insert the Sunday the poinsettias are placed in the sanctuary.



PTL MEETING: The next PTL Meeting will be held on Mon., Nov. 9th at 7:00 PM.

STEWARDSHIP & THANKSGIVING: In this season of thanksgiving, a sincere 'thank you' is in order to everyone who supports our congregation throughout the year with their attendance, service, and regular financial contributions. For those of you who are interested, the church offers electronic giving options for making donations on a scheduled, automated basis. It's convenient for you and provides much-needed financial consistency for the church. Pick up an authorization form in the office to get started today!

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.

CHRISTMAS CHEER PROGRAM – Henry County Christmas Cheer has begun its annual campaign for the collection of food for low income and needy persons in Henry County. From now through **Mon., December 7th** a barrel is placed in the narthex and cafeteria/fellowship hall for the collection of canned goods, dry goods and paper products. No Microwave items! Suggestions are: *Canned Vegetables, Fruit, Soup, Stews, Meats; Macaroni & Cheese Mixes, Spaghettio's, Spaghetti Sauce, Tomato Juice, Broths, Noodles, Rice, Spaghetti; Instant Potato, Stuffing, Cake Mixes; Cereals, Syrups, Crackers, Peanut Butter, Pudding, Jell-o, Frostings, Fruit Juices, Coffee, Kool-aid, Chocolate Drink Mixes; Tissues, Toilet Tissue, Paper Towels; Bar Soap, Toothpaste, and Shampoo.*

CHRISTMAS SWEETS & TREATS! Just like last year the Stewardship Board is organizing a Christmas fundraiser for the Right Hand of Fellowship capital campaign. Put it on your calendar for Sun., Dec. 20th following the worship service that day. The variety last year was amazing --- and delicious! Please put some thought into what you might be able to provide for this event.

Here is how it will work. You can make a freewill donation and receive a small or large gift box, after which you will go to tables, set up in the hallway and pick out any of the baked goods to fill your box with Christmas goodies. All money raised will be given toward the Right Hand of Fellowship campaign.

Stop by on Dec. 20th and let us brighten your Christmas season with a handpicked box of sweets and treats! Any questions about this fundraiser should be directed to *Karen Norden* (419-267-3477) or *Kim VanValkenburg* (419-519-0437). More information will be forthcoming requesting donations of your favorite holiday cookies, candies, bars, etc. for this fundraising event. Stay tuned!

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!

LARGE PRINT & CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BULLETINS are available today on the table in the narthex. The Children's Bulletins are coordinated with the Bible texts for each Sunday, and provide activities that tie in with the weekly themes. Pick one up today for your child.

USE OF THE FELLOWSHIP HALL – If you would like to use the Fellowship Hall for any occasion, on a certain date this year, **please contact the church/school office at 419-598-8961 or 419-598-8702**. In addition to calling the office, you may want to check the online master calendar at <http://www.dynacal.com/sjl/> (*you can also link to it from www.sjl.org*).

SOUP & PIE DINNER CANCELLED: Due to refrigerator problems, the Soup & Pie Dinner at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Liberty Center, scheduled for today has been cancelled. Thank you!

NAPOLEON ZONE FALL CHRISTIAN LIFE WORKSHOP to be held on Sat., Nov. 14th, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, St. Rt. 109, Hamler. Registration, a continental breakfast at 8:30 AM, and the program from 9:00 – 11:15 AM will complete the workshop which 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!

TREE OF LIGHTS – Helping Hands, Loving Hands Christmas Tree of Lights – You are invited to join fellow Christians with your "*helping hands and loving hands*" by honoring/remembering a loved one with a name on the ribbon to help decorate the "*Christmas Tree of Lights*" at The Lutheran Home in Napoleon. If interested, pick up a order sheet from the table in the narthex, fill it out and send it, along with your donation to: The Lutheran Home, *c/o Linda Miller*, 1036 South Perry Street, Napoleon, OH 43545.

SYMPHONY OF TREES will be presenting the *JINGLE BELL JAM & SUNDAY BRUNCH* on Sun., Nov. 22nd with serving until 1:00 PM at The Armory Arts & Event Center, 127 E. Clinton St., Napoleon. The cost is \$8.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children 4-10 years old, and free for those 3 and under. Proceeds to benefit child abuse programming for the Center for Child and Family Advocacy, Henry Co. CASA Program, and the Henry County Hospital.

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...

Is faith important? You'd better believe it!

*"For by grace you have been saved through faith.
And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God." (Eph. 2:8)*