



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

April 10, 2016

VOL. 81

NO. 15

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Mr. Aaron Yaeger, Vicar
Rev. Charles Kramer, Principal

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THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sermon & Text: "Apprehended by Love" *Acts 9:1-22*
Order of Service: *Service of Prayer & Preaching – LSB pg. 260*
Hymns: **466 ~ 510 ~ 518**, *stz 12, 3 ~ 483*

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

The Lord calls all of us to a new way of living under His wonderful grace in our Savior. If you are our guest this morning, it is a pleasure to have you worshipping with us. Please help us get to know who you are by introducing yourself to our pastor and by filling out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you. Simply pass it to the center aisle during the offering.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✂ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✂ Aden Foor & Anna Gerken, *Acolytes* ✂
- ✂ Steve & Linda Miller, *Greeters* ✂
- ✂ Lawrence & Hildegard Behrmann, *Visitation* ✂
- ✂ Carey Damman, Craig Drewes, Scott VanValkenburg, *Ushers* ✂
- ✂ Linda Riefers, Marian Damman, Ruth Mahnke, Mabel Bischoff, *Altar Guild* ✂

BIBLE STUDY THIS MORNING

- **Leviticus** – This ancient book is filled with laws regulating the religious and civil life of God's people, Israel. Though many of the regulations no longer apply in this time of Christ, they greatly enrich our understanding of Christ. Now our study moves on to the priesthood itself. Aaron and his sons from the tribe of Levi were appointed to serve as intermediaries between God and His people, and as such are a picture of Christ who mediates our relationship with God. Join Pastor Niermann in the study of this ancient book of the Israelites in the north fellowship hall.
- **Marriage and Family** – Vicar Yaeger is leading a Bible Study in the south fellowship hall, especially for our Sunday School parents and anyone else interested. We'll look at such topics as: Foundations of Marriage and Family in Creation; Biblical Intimacy, Exercising Faith and Love, More Than Romance, and Leaving a Legacy for the family.

In God's House This Week

Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl

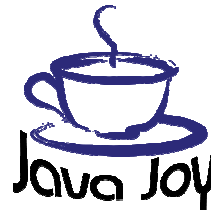
Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM 4:30 PM	Worship Service w/Communion following <i>Java Joy</i> ; Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare" St. John Athletic Banquet
Mon.	7:00 PM	<i>Trinity LifeLight</i> Bible Study
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:00 AM 10:00AM 12:45PM 7:00 PM	Chapel led by Pastor & Vicar; Offering: The Lutheran Home-Napoleon Exercise Class <i>Trinity LifeLight</i> Bible Study Kindergarten Clinic Church Council Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM	Junior Confirmation Class (6:15 – 7:30 PM)
Thurs.	9:00 AM	Exercise Class
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 1:00 PM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare" 4-H Meetings (<i>All 3 Clubs</i>)
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Lee Genter</i> , Christ Our Savior Lutheran, Defiance

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

- ❖ Our Shut-Ins: *Stan Moll, Norma Damman, Don Dickmann, and Lucia Delventhal*
- ❖ *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
- ❖ Servicemen and women, *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Kyle Elling, Emily Schroeder, and Connor Gerken*
- ❖ *Lois Rosebrock*, recovering at home after hip replacement
- ❖ *Vernon Kruse*, hospitalized this past week and diagnosed with a spot of lung cancer
- ❖ *Betty Ashbaugh*, rehabilitating at The Lutheran Home following hip replacement
- ❖ *Pastor Stephen Post*, missionary to Belize, and the impoverished people with whom he shares the Gospel of Christ

Java Joy TODAY! 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 hosts today are **Roger & Karen Lulfs** and **Matt & Shawna Schroeder**, and we thank them for this service of love to us all!

- **WOULD YOU CONSIDER HOSTING JAVA JOY?** *Hosting does not have to be expensive – you are welcome to reimburse some or all of your expenses, if you wish, from the 'kitty' – so please don't let that hold you back. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for all the second Sundays of 2016. Please sign up, and pick up the sheet of guidelines from the table. Thank you!*



SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTES

- **There are a few holes to fill in the Sunday School Staff. We need a few more teachers in the rotation for Preschool and Grades 3-6,** and perhaps also a few people who could be stand-by teachers. Teachers rotate on a three-week schedule, teaching every third Sunday. Please pray about this, and step up to serve by talking with Pastor Niermann or Superintendent Sarah Rosebrock. Thanks!



- **All Sunday School students will be practicing songs and anthems each Sunday in preparation for singing on the third Sunday of each month.** Practices will be held immediately after Sunday School opening each Sunday, starting this morning. The children are scheduled to sing next Sunday.

QUARTERLIES: The Quarterlies for the Women of Freedom are ready to be picked up from the table in the narthex. Our next meeting will be Tues., April 19th at 7:00 PM.

LWML SPRING RALLY - The Women of Freedom are invited to a Spring Rally to be held at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Flatrock, on Saturday, April 16th with registration at 8:30 AM and the program from 9-11:00 AM. The guest speakers will be presenting a program of mission work in Panama. The collection will go to support their mission, as they are only allowed 50 pounds in luggage and will use the offering from this rally to buy the supplies needed once they arrive in Panama.

LifeLight Bible Study –The Holy Trinity

We have seen how the doctrine of the Holy Trinity is revealed to us in part in the Old Testament, and more clearly in the New Testament. We have also studied some of the controversies surrounding this doctrine. Next up, we take a good look at God’s attributes, all those things that describe the God we know and love, such as omniscience, mercy, love, and justice. Join us as we take a closer look at these attributes which are so important for a right understanding of our Triune God.



LifeLight Bible in April will meet on the regular 1st, 2nd and 4th Mondays and Tuesdays (April 4-5, 11-12, and 25-26). The Monday group meets at 7:00 p.m., the Tuesday group meets at 10:00 a.m.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 4/03/16	\$10,165.00	\$200.00	\$585.00

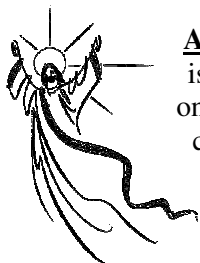
ATTENDANCE: 4/03/16 Service: 230

FACEBOOK PAGE: Please "like" and "share" our page to bring all our St. John School news to your screen. Our Facebook page will be a great way to share lessons going on in the classroom, special student recognitions, important events, and announcements. The link is <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnlutherschoolnapoleon/>

ATHLETIC BANQUET: The St. John Athletic Banquet is scheduled for today at 4:30 PM with a potluck meal. Honorees will be all St. John athletes (Gr. 4-8), the Mini-Eagles (Gr. 1-3). Everyone welcome! NOTE: Today at 4:30 PM is the deadline for silent bidding on the Booster's popcorn machine. Minimum bid of \$50 required.

SR. LYF STICKY BUNS FUNDRAISER: **Selling Next Sunday, April 17th!!!** The sticky buns fundraiser is back! This fundraiser is to help our Sr. High LYF raise money for their trip to the National Youth Gathering this July. There are pre-order sheets in your bulletin and on the narthex table that we are asking you to fill out so that we can assure that we have enough for Sunday the 17th. Once your pre-order sheet is filled out, you may drop it into the box that will be labeled "Sticky Bun Pre-Orders." We will have extras available on those Sundays as well. Thanks for supporting LYF!

LYF HEADS TO THE MOVIES! Next Sunday, April 17th, the Jr. High and Sr. High LYF members will be going to Skye Cinema in Wauseon to watch the movie God's Not Dead 2. Afterward, we will be having a discussion about what happened in the movie and how does this affect us as Christians. Showtime is still to be determined but will be around 4:00 or 5:00 PM. Please RSVP by emailing Miss Bartok at sbartok@sjl.org. LYF will be paying for the tickets. Youth who do not RSVP ahead of time will be asked to pay at the door. Youth can either meet us at the theater that day or they may meet Miss Bartok in the parking lot at church for a ride to the theater. Stay tuned for official times next week through Remind 101.



ASCENSION SERVICE WITH SISTER CONGREGATIONS – Ascension Day is an oft-forgotten holy day on the church calendar, probably because it always falls on a Thursday (40 days after Easter). This year, however, we will not forget. Our congregation, with Emmaus and St. Luke (Wauseon), and St. Paul (Liberty Center) will gather for a joint service that Thursday evening, May 5th, to celebrate Christ's ascension and all that it means for us. The service will be held at 7:00 p.m. at St. Luke, Wauseon. *Rev. Keith Witte* will be the preacher this year.

“On Christ's ascension I now build the hope of my ascension!” (LSB 492:1)

THURSDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICES will begin in May.

- The first Thursday in May (5/5) is **The Ascension of Our Lord** when we will join our circuit sisters and brothers for the annual joint Ascension service at St. Luke Lutheran, Wauseon with Rev. Keith Witte as this year's preacher.
- **Thereafter, our Thursday evening worship services will be held each week through October at 7:00 p.m.** Until the school year is finished, we will gather in the sanctuary. Holy Communion will usually be on the Thursday evenings prior to regular Communion Sundays.

PORTALS OF PRAYER BOOKLETS for the next quarter, *April, May, June*, are on the desk in the narthex. There are also large print booklets available for anybody to pick up.

LUTHERAN WITNESS RENEWAL – It's time to renew your subscription to the Lutheran Witness for this year. To subscribe or renew your subscription, **simply place \$17.00 in an envelope**, along with your name and address, and place it in the Sunday collection plate or bring it down to the church office. **Deadline for subscriptions is May 16th**.

"HUNDREDS" FUNDRAISER: The Sr. High LYF is conducting a fundraiser for our trip to the National Youth Gathering. In the back of the church you will find envelopes with numbers from 1-100. We are asking you to pick one of these envelopes and donate the amount that is listed on the front. Please fill out the paper that is inside the envelope because we would like to thank you for your donation. You can return your envelope back to the church throughout the month. Just look for the big Kraft envelope that says "SJL Sr. High LYF" or you can return it to the church office. Questions? Email Sarah Bartok at sbartok@sjl.org or you can call the church office.

Growing Together MARRIAGE RETREAT – May 20-21

"It's so hard to find time together..." "I can't remember the last time we had a date..."

"It's like we're living separate lives..." "I wish we had time to reconnect..."

For the second year St. John is teaming up with sister congregations in our area to provide a marriage retreat opportunity for all interested married or engaged couples.

This retreat is scheduled for May 20-21 (Friday evening and Saturday) at the beautiful *Lial Renewal Center* in Whitehouse. Information on this retreat is available in the narthex or from the link on our webpage, www.sjl.org. For just \$20 each couple will have a wonderful time away when they can focus on growing together. The cost includes a Friday evening wine and cheese party, and Saturday breakfast and lunch. If you want to lodge overnight at the Renewal Center, the cost is just \$60 more.



PRESCHOOL PACKETS ON FASTDIRECT: The Preschool Handbook and Registration Forms are now available online via FastDirect. They are located in the "Everybody" section, titled "Preschool Handbook" and "Preschool Registration & Physical Forms." Please refer to this information as you consider enrolling in the 2016-17 Preschool program. You may also request a hard copy packet through Mrs. Bree at any time. Thank you!

K-CLINIC & ELIGIBILITY CHANGES for students entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2016! The K-clinic will be held on Tuesday, April 12th beginning at 12:45 PM. There WILL BE Kindergarten class until 11:30 AM on April 12th.

GRANDPARENT'S DAY: A reminder that Grandparent's Day at St. John School for Grades K-8 will be held on **Friday, May 6** from 12:30 - 3:00 PM. *Lunch is not included.*

4-H MEETINGS – The Gerald Busy Fingers 4-H Club, the Freedom Royal Farmers 4-H Club, and the Cloverbuds will be having their next meeting on Sun., Apr. 17 at 1:00 PM at St. John.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

"The entire plan for the future has its key in the resurrection." Billy Graham

He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." (Rev. 21:5)

