



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

April 17, 2016

VOL. 81

NO. 16

Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor
Mr. Aaron Yaeger, Vicar
Rev. Charles Kramer, Principal

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – Good Shepherd Sunday

Sermon & Text: “Vision in HD” *Rev. 7:9–17*
Order of Service: *Divine Service, Setting One – LSB pg. 151*
Hymns: 709 ~ 799 ~ (Communion: 740, 675, 710) ~ 812

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Jesus said, “I am the Bread of Life.” Our Savior invites us to His table, a table of love that has been prepared for us. Jesus, our Savior, lived, died and lives again for each one of us. Let us worship our God today and praise Him for His love. If you are a visitor today, please fill out a blue pew card from the rack in front of you and hand it to the usher as you leave the church this morning.



SERVING IN GOD’S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✘ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✘ Bailey Johnson & Maggie Weller, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Esther Layton and Phyllis Silveus, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Delbert & Marian Damman, *Visitation* ✘
- ✘ Carey Damman, Craig Drewes, Scott VanValkenburg, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Linda Riefers, Marian Damman, Ruth Mahnke, Mabel Bischoff, *Altar Guild* ✘

VICARAGE PROGRAM APPROVAL – At its meeting last Tuesday, the council took note that even though the voters approved a line item in the 2016 budget for the continuation of the vicarage program, the program itself was never formally approved for another year. In 2015 the program was separately approved for only one year. We have had our vicarage application in for some time now, and the placement service is a week from Tuesday. Nevertheless the council felt that the congregation needs to give its approval to continuing this program, especially because of budget considerations.

This morning at the end of the worship service, we will take a few minutes to discuss this matter and to answer questions. Then the congregation will take a ballot vote, YES or NO, on the question of whether to continue this program at St. John.

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

Date	Time	Activities
Today	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.	6:30 PM	Musical Practice until 8:00 PM (<i>Grades K-8</i>)
Tue.	9:00 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Musical Practice until 8:00 PM (<i>Grades K-8</i>) Women of Freedom Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM	Jr. Hi Confirmation Class
Thurs.	9:00 PM	Exercise Class
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 1:00 PM	Worship 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

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*, 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

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 are held immediately after Sunday School opening each Sunday. The children are scheduled to sing next Sunday, April 24th.



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. We'll meet 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.

***LifeLight* Bible Study** is not scheduled to meet this week. We meet the 1st, 2nd, and 4th weeks of the each month on Monday evenings and Tuesday mornings. This month we will meet again next week on April 25-26 and study together lesson 9 of our materials.

2015 ANNUAL REPORT should be ready to be put together on Saturday, April 23rd at 1:00 PM. We are asking **all members of last year's 2015 council**, and anyone else interested, to please come and help us assemble this. If we have enough volunteers, it only takes about an hour. Thanks to anyone (young and old) who can help us out.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 4/10/16	\$6,632.00	\$153.00	\$378.00

ATTENDANCE: 4/10/16 Service: 246

MEMORIALS for *Helen Norden*: St. John Lutheran Church - \$215.00; St. John School - \$480.00

SR. LYF STICKY BUNS FUNDRAISER: **Selling TODAY!!!** This fundraiser is to help our Sr. High LYF raise money for their trip to the National Youth Gathering this July. If you forget to fill out a pre-order sheet, that's okay! We will have extras available. Find us in the hallway by the 7th & 8th Grade classroom. Thank you for your support!

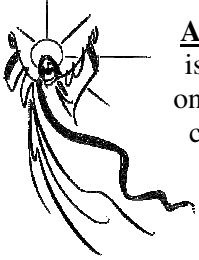
LYF HEADS TO THE MOVIES! Today the Jr. High and Sr. High LYF members will be going to Skye Cinema in Wauseon to watch the movie God's Not Dead 2. Afterward, we will be having a discussion (*back at church*) about what happened in the movie and how does this affect us as Christians. The show begins at 5:00 PM, so we are asking that you be at the theater by 4:40 PM. If you need a ride, please let Miss Bartok know and we will be meeting at the church at 4:20 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.

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**.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL POSITION OPENINGS – St. John Lutheran School is seeking a few good people to fill two positions that will be opening after this school year.

- **Freedom's Flock Care Provider** – This individual is responsible for the care of the students in our after-school program each day from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.
- **Librarian** – This person will assist SJLS students on their library days to check out books from our library and maintaining appropriate records.

If you are interested in more information, please speak with Principal Kramer or the chairman of the School Board, Brad Rosebrook.



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.

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.

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.



Growing Together

ST. JOHN SPRING MUSICAL: “Alice in Wonderland Jr.” is being presented by St. John Lutheran School students on Fri., April 29 at 7:00 PM and also on Sun., May 1 at 2:00 PM in the school gym. Kindergarten through 8th grade students are involved in this musical. There will be a free will admission donation. Many people have put a lot of time and effort into this production, so plan to come and enjoy a very entertaining evening and afternoon with us. Refreshments will be served following each of the performances.



GOT SOME TIME? St. John School is looking for adults who would be willing to volunteer in the school. Listening to children read, talking about your time in the military, working with flash cards, and telling children about a hobby or craft are some of the areas that you can volunteer.

If you would be interested in volunteering in the next school year, please call the school office at 419-598-8702 and give us your name and a contact number. The school will contact you. Thank you in advance for thinking about volunteering at our school.

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/stjohnlutheranschoolnapoleon/>

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.*

S.T.O.P. PENNY DRIVE – The PTL Spring Penny Drive at St. John School has begun and runs thru Fri., May 6th. The classroom collecting the most pennies will be treated to a pizza party. All other classrooms will get an ice cream party. Save those pennies and give them to one of our students or turn your pennies in at the school office. Remember to **Save Those Old Pennies!**

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

ST. MARTIN'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT SERIES presents...*Let the Church Say "Amen"* hymn festival on Sunday, Apr. 24 at 4:00 PM at St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 203 S. Defiance Street, Archbold, OH. This will feature *Steve Basselman*, organist at St. Martin's and the St. Martin's Chancel Choir accompanied by a variety of instrumentation. The concert is free and made possible through the generous donations of the members of St. Martin's in celebration of the congregation's 150th anniversary. Join them afterwards for a freewill offering meal! See flyer!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

**Jesus Christ did not come into this world to make bad people good;
He came into this world to make dead people live.**

“But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ.” (Eph. 2:4-5)