



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

July 3, 2016

VOL. 81

NO. 27

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

Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181
Cell: 989-607-4566
School: 419-598-8702 Cell: 567-277-1339
Church Website: www.sjl.org

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Peace" *Luke 10:1-20*

Order of Service: *See printed Service Folder*

Hymns: 594 ~ [Communion: 601, 606, 830] ~ 656 ~ 827

WELCOME TO OUR FRIENDS AND VISITORS

Warm greetings and love in Christ are extended to all members and guests. We trust that you will experience the warmth of Christian fellowship, the inspiration of worship and the peace that comes from an awareness of God's presence. If you are a visitor, we ask that you fill out a Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and pass it to the center aisle during the offering this morning. Your presence is a blessing to us.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠ Lydia Babcock & Bailey Johnson, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Rich & Bev Elling, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Rich Elling & Harold Behrmann, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Carey Damman, Craig Drewes, Scott VanValkenburg, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Diane VonDeylen, LouAnn Rosebrock, Jeannette Bostelman, *Altar Guild* ✠

BIBLE STUDY will be held this morning in the north end of the fellowship hall. We will continue our study of **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. Currently we are studying the way God's makes us holy, after which we will look at the Holy Days and Years of Israel and wrap up this study. Come discover how it all points to Jesus Christ!

OUTDOOR SERVICE CHANGE OF DATE – The church council decided at its meeting to move up by one week the date of the outdoor service. The new date is Sunday, August 21st (*the Sunday before the new school year begins*). Please mark your calendar!

In God's House This Week		<i>Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl</i>
Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class
Tue.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class School Board & Stewardship Board Meetings
Thurs.	6:30 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Men's Bible Breakfast at Hill's Restaurant Exercise Class Thursday Evening Worship
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 1:00 PM	<i>Commissioning of Nat'l Youth Gathering Youth</i> Worship Service w/Communion following Adult Bible Class 4-H Meetings
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Jeff Corder</i> , St. John Lutheran, Stryker

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

- ❖ Our Shut-Ins: *Stan Moll, Norma Damman, Don Dickmann, Lucia Delventhal, and Renetta Homan*
- ❖ *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, *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Kyle Elling, Emily Schroeder, and Connor Gerken*
- ❖ *Vernon Kruse, Mary Rettig, and Dan Wiechers*, recuperating at home now
- ❖ *Brent & Hanne Keller*, on the birth of their first child, *Annalise Michelle*, on June 27. To send a card, here is the address: 6723 S. Anthony Blvd., Apt. S304, Fort Wayne, IN 46816
- ❖ *The Family of Pam Volkman* (LaVern Volkman's daughter-in-law and Magdalena Volkman's granddaughter), mourning her passing this past week

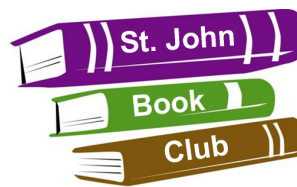
NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING COMMISSIONING SERVICE

During worship next Sunday, July 10th, we will formally commission and send off the youth of our congregation and chaperones who will be heading to New Orleans later that week for the LCMS National Youth Gathering. We have 9 youth attending this year. **They are deeply appreciative of the congregation's support of all the fund raisers for this trip, including last Sunday's Color Run/Walk.** Let's all surround these young people with our love and prayers as they head south for this unique, exciting and inspirational event.



JULY OFFICE HOURS: Please note the change in church office hours during the month of July. They are Monday thru Thursday: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM. If making a special trip, please call (419-598-8961) to guarantee someone will be here. Thank you!

BOOK CLUB SUMMER READING – This summer we are reading “*House of Living Stones*” by Katie Schuermann. It’s the story of the people of Zion Lutheran Church in the little town of Bradbury. The backdrop of this delightful novel is the hiring of a new choir director that sets in motion a chain of events that turns the life of his congregation upside down. You will laugh as you read the antics of Zion’s members, and perhaps even see a little bit of yourself in some of the characters. All of our SJL copies have been claimed, but you can still order a copy from CPH.org (\$12.99) or from Christianbook.com (\$9.99) --- just type the title in the search box.



- **SJL BOOKCLUB DISCUSSION** – We have set **Wednesday, July 27th** as a date for gathering to discuss this book together. Would anyone be willing to host this discussion group in your home? Please speak with the Pastor or Vicar.

NEW VICAR PREPARATIONS – One the second Sunday of August we will receive and install our new vicar, **Mr. Michael B. Keller** (*he goes by Brent*). Brent hails from Sanger, Texas (just north of Dallas). He and his wife Hanne are expecting their first this month. As we prepare for the Keller’s arrival here in Freedom Twp. there are a few things we need to do to get prepared.

1. **A place to live** – We are looking for a house or apartment we can rent for the vicar and his wife and child. If you have any places available or know of any, please speak with Pres. Bob Norden.
2. **Furnishings** – The Kellers inform us they don’t have much for furnishings, so we will be trying to pull together some items. A list of needed items is posted in the narthex and in the front hall at the 7-8th Grade classroom where we will collect the items. If you can either loan or donate any of these items, please bring them to the 7-8th Grade classroom for summer storage, then check the item off the list posted next to the door. *If you have any items no listed that you think may be helpful, please contact Pastor Niermann.*

GIRLS’ BASKETBALL OPEN GYM: St. John Girls’ Basketball Open Gym will be July 18 & 19 from 3:30 – 5:00 PM. Any girl going into grades 4-8 with interest in playing basketball during the 2016-17 school year is invited to attend. If you are a returning player, please bring your uniform to be turned in. Have any questions – call a coach!! Hope to see you there!! *Coaching staff: Krista Gerken, James Wagner, Todd Wachtman*

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL POSITION OPENINGS – St. John Lutheran School is seeking persons to fill the following positions that are currently open for the upcoming school year. If interested in any of these positions and you would like more details, please speak with *Principal Kramer* or new Board Pres., *Sunday Griffith*.

- **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. This is a paid position.
- **School Janitor** – This individual will be responsible for all the janitorial duties involved with the functioning of the school. This is a paid position.
- **School Cook** – This individual will prepare daily lunches for the students and staff, as well as overseeing the operation of the lunch program at St. John School. This is a paid position.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 6/26/16	\$6,562.00	\$50.00	\$395.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday (6-23-16) Worship Service: 31; Sunday (6/26/16) Service: 181

WHY SEND YOUR CHILD TO ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL? Anti-Christian behavior such as homosexuality and abortion is shown to not be pleasing to the Lord. Christ-like behavior is taught and modeled every day. Whether in the classroom, on the gym floor, or at recess, your children receive a Christian education. If you are interested in more information about the preschool through eighth grade education at St. John Lutheran School please call 419-598-8702 or e-mail us at ckramer@sjl.org.

AREA EVENTS:

- **The Historical Society of Grand Rapids Ohio** will present “The Wizard of Oz” on **Fri., Sat., and Sun., July 8-10th** at the Grand Rapids Town Hall. Show times are Friday and Saturday at 7:30 PM and Sunday at 2:30 PM. Our very own Lydia Babcock is playing the role of Dorothy in this musical presentation. See flyer on bulletin board!
- **The 9th Annual Stephanie Kossow Memorial Golf Outing** will be held on **Sat., July 30th**, with a 1:00 PM shotgun start. Registration forms available on the narthex table!

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHTS FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY

Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. John 8:34-36



As we celebrate Independence Day, we celebrate the freedoms we have in our country. 240 years ago 13 colonies declared their independence from the crown of England. 11 years later the Constitution was adopted and 4 years after that the first 10 Amendments put into writing the freedoms we celebrate today, including the freedom of religion.

The freedoms in our country have been great, but they are nothing compared to the freedom we have in Jesus. In Christ, we have freedom from sin and death and this freedom is forever. No matter what the future brings for the freedoms in our country, we can stand secure in the freedom that Jesus gives through His work on the cross. Praise the Lord!

Prayer: Dear Jesus, Thank you for the United States of America and thank you for the freedom we have always enjoyed in this nation to exercise faith in You. Bless our nation. Guard our liberties from all who seek to diminish them. Above all, thank You for the greater freedom we have in You that can never be taken away and which brings us newness of life in You. Amen.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Worship and Bible Study – the best “cross” training of all!

“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.” (Matt. 16:24)