



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

July 17, 2016

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NO. 29

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

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NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "The Greater Service" *Genesis 18:1-10a*
Order of Service: *Divine Service, Setting One (LSB pg. 151)*
Hymns: [Baptism: "Borning Cry", 740, st. 1,3] ~ 798, st. 1-4, 9
[Communion: 973, 575, 578] ~ 933

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Now is the hour of worship. God speaks to us and we listen and respond with our hymns, prayers and praises. Together we bless the Lord whose purpose is to save us and keep us in His faithful flock. He is The God of Grace and The God of Glory. 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

- ✠ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✠ Colin Johnson & Bailey Johnson, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Joyce & Dan Wiechers, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Delbert & Marian Damman, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Carey Damman, Craig Drewes, Scott VanValkenburg, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Diane VonDeylen, LouAnn Rosebrock, Jeannette Bostelman, *Altar Guild* ✠

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are placed in recognition of the marriage of *Nick McCarthy* and *Jenelle Hesterman* which took place here at St. John yesterday, July 16th. We rejoice with Nick & Jenelle as they begin their life together as husband and wife, and wish them many years of happiness together. Congrats to the McCarthys!

BIBLE STUDY will be held this morning in the north end of the fellowship hall. We will continue our study of **LEVITICUS**. Today we dig into the tenth and final chapter of this study about the holy days and years appointed by God for His people. As with all things in Leviticus, these holy times and seasons point us to Jesus Christ who fulfills them all. Come discover God's Word with us!

In God's House This Week

Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class
Mon.	3:30 PM	Girls' Basketball Open Gym (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Tue.	9:00 AM 3:30 PM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Girls' Basketball Open Gym Women of Freedom Meeting
Thurs.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Thursday Evening Worship
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Adult Bible Class
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Donald Luhring</i> , St. John Lutheran, Defiance

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

- ❖ Our Shut-Ins: *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, and Emily Schroeder*
- ❖ *Vernon Kruse, Mary Rettig, and Dan Wiechers*, recuperating at home now
- ❖ *Connor Gerken*, serving in the military and now deployed to the Middle East for 6 months
- ❖ *Stan Moll*, for successful hip surgery from a fall he took this past week



BAPTISM TODAY – This morning we rejoice to witness the baptism of **Levi James Leonard**, infant son of **Brad & Kailee (Rosebrock) Leonard**. Levi was born at the Henry County Hospital in Napoleon on May 31st. His baptismal sponsors are *Rev. Matthew Rosebrock and Greg Leonard*. Levi's grandparents are *Dave & Karen Rosebrock and Scott & Juleen Leonard*. Let us rejoice together as Levi is received in God's kingdom by the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Spirit. Today Levi is God's own child. May the good work begun in baptism be brought to completion on the day of Jesus Christ!

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

Currently twelve of our youth and their chaperones are with thousands of other youth in New Orleans for the triannual **National Youth Gathering**. The youth are deeply appreciative of the congregation's support of all the fund raisers for this trip, including the recent Color Run/Walk. Now that the gathering time is here, let's continue to surround these young people with our love and prayers. May God give them growth in faith as they celebrate salvation in Christ alone!



FAREWELL TO VICAR YAEGER – Sunday, July 31st

A year sure does fly by, and it's time to send Vicar Aaron and his family back to the Fort Wayne seminary for his final year of preparation and study for the holy ministry. Here are things to note:

1. **Vicar Aaron's final sermon** at St. John will be on Thursday evening, July 28th and Sunday morning, July 31st.
2. **Potluck Dinner** – On Sunday (July 31st) after the service and Bible Study, we will reconvene in the fellowship hall at 11:30 a.m. for a farewell potluck for the Yaegers.
3. **Moving the Yaegers** – We will load the Yaegers belongings into trailers on Sunday evening, July 31st. The following Monday morning, Aug. 1st, we will move them back to Fort Wayne. **Volunteers needed!** There will be little to nothing to move to Napoleon for the new vicar.

OFFICE HOURS: Please note the church office hours during the month of July. They are Monday thru Thursday: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Please call 419-598-8961 to guarantee someone will be here.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 7/10/16	\$5,880.00	\$278.00	\$728.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday (7-07-16) Worship Service: 37; Sunday (7/10/16) Service: 180

COMMUNED in July: 394 members and 23 guests

BYLAWS PROPOSED CHANGES – Recently a committee has been at work reviewing and revising the congregation's bylaws. A copy of their proposed changes is available today in the narthex. Most of the proposed changes are minor and are for the sake of consistency or to bring the bylaws in line with current congregational practices. A brief statement of rationale is included with each proposed change. The proposed changes have been presented to the Church Council and will be considered at the next Voters' Assembly meeting. The four most substantive changes are:

1. the addition of a sentence under the Church Council responsibilities that addresses a process for the periodic review and revision of the bylaws;
2. the addition of language that allows the first Voters' Assembly each year to take place in January *or February*, so that year-end financial reports have adequate time can be fully prepared and audited in time for that first meeting;
3. the addition of a sentence clarifying the president's *ex officio* status;
4. the addition of a paragraph under Board of Stewardship authorizing the Board to maintain accounts as deemed beneficial and to submit records of all accounts to the audit process.

In addition, the cemetery regulations have undergone significant revision, again, mostly for clarification. These changes, along with updated prices, have already been approved the Church Council and are available to you for your information.

OUTDOOR SERVICE INFO – Don't forget to mark your calendar, for the annual **Outdoor Service on Sunday, August 21st** (*the Sunday before the new school year begins*). We will worship at 10:00 a.m. that morning across the road next to the old school building. Please bring a chair with you, and reserve parking around the old school for those who need it most. This year we will celebrate Holy Communion at this service, so we will maintain an aisle for people to approach the Lord's Table. It would be helpful if we could balance the congregation on both sides of that aisle.

ARCHIVES DISPLAY: The Archives Committee has a new display in the two showcases in the side hallway. This display has a wealth of information and history on our church as it highlights our former pastor, *Rev. George Maassel*. Come and check it out! You'll be glad you did!

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 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** – Nancy Short has graciously invited us to her house for a book club discussion of this book on Wednesday, July 27th. Join us at 7:00 p.m. as *Diana Yaeger* leads us in a discussion.

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*). As we prepare for Brent, Hanne, and Annalise's arrival here in Freedom Twp. there are a few things we need to do to get prepared.

1. **A place to live** – The Church Council has approved renting an apartment for the vicar in Napoleon.
2. **Furnishings** – Thank you to everyone who has provided items to furnish the vicar's apartment. **The main item we still need is a set of dining table chairs.** Since we have duplicates of some items, the Keller's may not be able to use everything. If you brought something that they don't ultimately need, please be prepared to let us know what to do with it.
3. **Pantry items for the new vicar** – During the coming weeks we will be gathering necessary items to help the new vicar and family get started in their apartment. Suggested items include: non-perishable foods, toilet paper, infant diapers and wipes, toothpaste and brushes and whatever else you can think of that they could use. Please drop of items in the designated spot in the narthex.
4. **New Vicar Installation and Reception** – **The new vicar, Brent Keller, will be installed on Sunday, August 14th in the morning service.** After the service we'll take up a little offering for the Keller's to help them get started, then gather in the fellowship hall for a welcome reception. Please join us as we welcome and receive our new vicar!

PRAYER CALENDAR NOTE: Please be aware that if you would like your wedding anniversaries printed on the prayer calendars, you will have to post them each year. Just list them on the blank calendars posted on the bulletin board in the narthex throughout the year. Thank you!

WHY SEND YOUR CHILD TO ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL? Our Lutheran teachers are dedicated men and women who are role models in the students' lives. The pastor, the school board, the principal, and the teachers love and fear the Lord in their teaching students. 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.

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.

UPCOMING SCHOOL DATES TO REMEMBER:

- ✓ **Annual School Cleaning** has been set for **Mon., Aug. 1 and Wed., Aug. 3 starting at 5:00 PM** both nights. Please read the Parent Participation Policy in FastDirect with all the details about family requirements for School Cleaning. The carpets will be cleaned on Tues., Aug. 2.
- ✓ **Parent's Meeting** – On **Mon., Aug. 22 at 7:00 PM** there will be a Parent's Meeting with children in Grades K-8 held in the Fellowship Hall. Parents will be informed about student expectations in the classrooms. All parents are encouraged to attend this informational meeting.
- ✓ **School Fundraiser** – The Magazine & Cookie Dough Sales for Grades Preschool thru 8 will begin on **Mon., Aug. 29th at 8:30 AM**. It will run through Wed., Sept. 7th. The cookie dough will be delivered on Tues., Oct. 11th.

SPORTS PHYSICAL FORMS: Those St. John students in Grades 4 – 8 must complete an Emergency Medical Authorization Form in order to participate in the sports programs offered at St. John. **Only students entering Grades 7 & 8 are required to have a sports physical.** Forms are available in the "School Info" rack outside the school office and also thru the FastDirect Communication system.

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!

OHIO ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN: The Ohio Division OGT is located in the north end of the Culligan Water Conditioning building on Independence Drive in Napoleon. Someone is usually there to receive items on the first Tuesday of the month from 9:00-11:00 AM. If you need to drop off items at another time, please contact *Nancy Helmke* (419-758-3539), *Diann Meyer-Grieser* (419-267-3485), *Vicki Grieser* (419-445-2986), or *Harold Behrmann* (419-598-8311) and they will be happy to meet you and open the facility to receive your donations! PLEASE do not drop off items at the warehouse when it is closed. Thank you!

EXERCISE CLASS: Need to work off a few pounds or just want to exercise your heart? St. John hosts an exercise class in the gym. Classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-10 AM and the cost is \$5 per class (pay as you come). This is a light aerobics and strengthening program. (If you have your own weights, bring them with you.) Please contact *Nancy Glaser* (419-598-8432) with any questions.

COLLECTING STAMPS: The LWML is collecting stamps “For Missions.” A box is on the table in the narthex. Here is what you do: Cut the stamps from the envelopes allowing ¼ inch margin or more around the stamp. The stamp may not be damaged and the perforations around the stamp must be perfect. You need not trim the stamp; we have someone who trims and sorts the stamps. Do not remove stamps from envelopes, albums, and older postcards. An “old” postcard is usually from 1930 or before. The most valuable stamps are commemorative, foreign, and stamp denominations larger than 46 cents. It only makes sense that you purchase and use commemorative stamps for your personal mailing. When purchasing stamps, ask the post office for commemorative stamps. Colorful and large stamps are desirable. Collecting stamps is an easy way to participate in a mission project sponsored by the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League.

AREA EVENTS:

- **German Lutheran Heritage Society** holding their meeting **today at 2:00 PM** at the Lutheran Social Services Building, St. Rt. 66 near St. Rt. 34. The speaker is *Robert Stockman*.
- **Lutheran Home – Napoleon** presenting a seminar called Stop & Smell the Flowers – “Don’t Let Stress Get the Best of You” on Thurs., July 21st at 4:00 PM in the chapel. See flyer!
- **Homemade Ice Cream Social** hosted by Zion Lutheran Church, Ridgeville Corners, OH on **Sun., July 24th** with serving from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. Free will donation! See flyer!
- **The 9th Annual Stephanie Kossov Memorial Golf Outing** will be held on **Sat., July 30th**, with a 1:00 PM shotgun start. Registration forms available on the narthex table!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Jesus is the light in the tunnel!

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)