



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

July 31, 2016

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NO. 31

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

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Church Website: www.sjl.org

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "The Me Monster" *Luke 12:13-21*

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

Hymns: 791 ~ 696 ~ 730 ~ 422 ~ 850

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome guests to this place of praise and prayers as we gather together as part of the family of our Heavenly Father. We invite you to join us now and return again to celebrate the salvation we have in Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord. If you are a visitor, 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.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘ Brooks Behnfeldt & Bailey Johnson, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Steve & Linda Miller, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Jim & Linda Meyer, *Visitation* ✘
- ✘ Carey Damman, Craig Drewes, Scott VanValkenburg, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Diane VonDeylen, LouAnn Rosebrock, Jeannette Bostelman, *Altar Guild* ✘

HAPPY 103RD BIRTHDAY TO MAGDALENA VOLKMAN! That's right! Magdalena turns 103 years young on Mon., Aug. 1st. We continue to wish her well each year of her God given life. If you would care to send a card, here is her address: Heartland Nursing Home, 303 Leggett St., Wauseon, OH 43567. She would sure enjoy hearing from her St. John congregation.

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. 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!

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

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM 7:00 PM	Worship Service Adult Bible Class Load trailer to move Vicar Yaeger and family (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Mon.	9:00 AM 5:00 PM 5:00 PM	Haul Vicar Yaeger's belongings to Fort Wayne Annual School Cleaning (<i>see bulletin note</i>) Girls' Volleyball Open Gym (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Tue.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Stewardship Board Meeting
Wed.	5:00 PM	Annual School Cleaning (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Thurs.	6:30 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Men's Bible Breakfast at Hill's Restaurant Exercise Class Thursday Evening Worship with Communion
Fri.	6:00 PM	Wedding Rehearsal – <i>Call / Elling</i>
Sat.	3:30 PM	Wedding Ceremony – <i>AJ Call / Kara Elling</i>
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Eric Moquin</i> , St. John Lutheran, Sherwood

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 and Mary Rettig*, 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 recently

FAREWELL TO VICAR YAEGER – TODAY

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. Aaron will preach his final sermon this morning. **You are invited back to the fellowship hall at 11:30am for a potluck dinner with the Yaegers as our guests of honor.**

- **This evening we will be loading up the Yaegers** for their move back to Fort Wayne tomorrow. If you can help us load, join us at 7:00 PM at the vicar's house (V180 County Road 17, Napoleon). The following day (Monday at 9:00 AM) we will move them to Fort Wayne, where we will also pick up the new vicar's boxed belongings (*and two pieces of furniture*) to be brought back to St. John for temporary storage.

THANK YOU: I would like to thank everyone for the cards, visits, and many prayers during my recent surgery and recuperation. It's been a long haul for me, but with the power of your prayers I have returned to work and am doing well. Thank you again! *Dan Wiechers*

OFFICE HOURS: The church/school summer office hours will be Monday thru Thursday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Closed on Fridays until school begins. If making a special trip, please call (419-598-8961) to guarantee someone will be there.



SHARE THE BOUNTY OF SUMMER – This morning a table has been set up under the carport where you can bring any spare produce from your garden and share it with others in the congregation. Bring whatever you can and take whatever you can use, and share the bounty of summer! The table will be set up each Sunday through mid-September or so.

NEW VICAR PREPARATIONS – On 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 have a new baby daughter, Annalise Michelle, born on June 27th. As we prepare for the Keller's arrival in Freedom Twp. here are a few things we need to do to get ready.

1. **Furnishings** – Thank you to everyone who has provided items to furnish the vicar's apartment. Since we have duplicates of some items, the Keller's will not be able to use everything in their small duplex. If you brought something that they don't ultimately need, please be prepared to let us know what to do with it.
2. **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 off items in the designated spot in the narthex.
3. **Meal Train** – For the first week or 10 days until the duplex is ready, Kellers will be living in a room at the Best Western Hotel in Napoleon. Starting this Tuesday, Aug. 2nd, we are planning a meal train to provide the Kellers one good home-cooked meal each day. You can prepare them something special, but please keep in mind they don't have space to keep a lot of leftovers. Or you can prepare more of whatever you're having anyway, and box up a couple of dinners using Styrofoam boxes available today after worship. Then deliver it to their room between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. No need to worry about beverages, plastic ware, plates, napkins, or cups - they will have a supply of these. If you can help, please see the schedule and sign up after worship; take as many Styrofoam boxes as you'll need for the meals you'll be preparing and delivering.
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 Kellers 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!

LUTHERAN PRAYER BOOKS: There are several copies of The Lutheran Prayerbook available on the narthex table. This is a collection of prayers and inspirations for every Lutheran. We hope you can use and enjoy it!

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 7/24/16	\$4,883.00	\$248.00	\$278.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday (7-21-16) Worship Service: 41; Sunday (7/24/16) Service: 155

LAWN SIGNS: Today we are making available **St. John Lutheran School** lawn signs for display in your front yard or any visible area you can think of. These free signs can be taken from the back of the narthex. You make take as many as you need in order to give our school some good advertising.

OUTDOOR SERVICE – Sunday, August 21st

It's going to be a special morning with a special musical group being assembled to help lead us in worship (including Mike and Micah Nicol, Mrs. Niermann's brother and his son). Here's the schedule:



- **9:45 am** – Enjoy **15 minutes of special preservice music** by our musical guests
- **10:00 am** – **Worship with Holy Communion** (we'll use only the individual cups)
- **11:00 am** – **More special music.** Leave if you must, but you are encouraged to stay for a cup of coffee or juice and a doughnut as we enjoy another 20-30 minutes of music with our guests.

Please bring a chair with you, and reserve parking around the old school for those who need it most. To facilitate the celebration of Holy Communion, 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, so please consider that when finding your spot.

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.

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!

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.

GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL OPEN GYM: St. John Girls' Volleyball Open Gym will be held every Monday from 5:00 – 6:30 PM until school starts. Any girl going into grades 4-8 for the 2016-17 school year is invited to attend. Hope to see you on Wednesdays!! *Coach Chelsea Mouch*

HELP WANTED: The Lutheran Laymen's League is asking for some volunteer time to help man the LLL booth at the Henry County Fair on Sat., Aug. 13th. There is a sign-up sheet on the narthex table for anyone interested in helping out. The time slots are broken down into 2-hour increments beginning at 10:00 AM and concluding at 10:00 PM. If you cannot fulfill a 2-hour time slot, we would accept any time that fits into your schedule. Sign-up deadline is Sunday, August 7th. Please contact *Carlan Badenhop* (419-337-9106) for more information.

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.

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.

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.

RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP FUNDRAISER: The Stewardship Board is offering “for sale” the Ultimate Cloth® as a fundraiser. These are a MiraFiber® technology cloth that cleans with water only. More effective than harsh cleaning chemicals and soaps. See Karen Norden (419-267-3477) for more information and pricing. This will be an on-going fundraiser for the Right Hand of Fellowship gift matching campaign.

PROJECT CONNECT – There are many free booklets in the rack in the narthex. Be sure to check for some good reading. Some titles are: “*Why Do Bad Things Happen To Me,*” “*Has God Abandoned Me,*” “*Dealing with Depression,*” “*Coping with Cancer,*” “*Who Is Jesus,*” “*Just Stress?*”, “*Overcoming A Painful Childhood,*” “*Where’s God in All of This?*”, “*Why Should I go to Church?*” and many more. These booklets are furnished through the Lutheran Hour Ministries.

HEARING ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE: If hearing in worship has been a problem for you, pick up one of the receiver units for our hearing assistance system. An usher will assist you and you’ll hear much more clearly. (*Also, please let us know how the system is working for you.*)

For those who use the hearing assistance system regularly and for the sake of hygiene, we ask that you claim one of the ear buds as your own and keep it with you in your purse, pocket, etc. Bring it with you when you come to church, and simply plug it into one the receivers. At the end of the service, unplug the ear bud to take with you until the next time.

ST. JOHN WEBSITE: Did you know you can listen to *Pastor Niermann’s* sermons on the internet? Just click on the “Media” tab on our website. There is also a “For Kids” tab which allows you to listen to the Children’s Sermons at St. John, or follow the link to fun and games at JCPlayZone.

AREA EVENTS:

- **Kevin Schwiebert Memorial Fund Chicken BBQ** to be held on **Sun., Aug. 7th** from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM at the Napoleon American Legion. Presale tickets only. See flyer!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Jesus said “I shall return” long before General MacArthur did.

“And if I go and make ready a place for you, I will return and take you to be with me, that where I am you also may be.” (John 14:3)