



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

August 28, 2016

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NO. 35

Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor  
Mr. M. Brent Keller, Vicar  
Rev. Charles Kramer, Principal

Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181  
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Church Website: [www.sjl.org](http://www.sjl.org)

### FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Remember Your Leaders" *Hebrews 13:1-17*

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

Hymns: 837 ~ 566 ~ 941 (sub for Te Deum) ~ 842

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### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

*Welcome to the service of God's House and the fellowship of this congregation. We hope that you will be both comforted and challenged by the Word of God from us today. If you are new to our community; we hope you will consider making this your church home. 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.*

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### **SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING**

- ✘ Bethann Gerken, *Pianist* ✘ Brooks Behnfeldt & Landon Willeman, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ The Niermann Family, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Eldor & Rozella Gruenhagen, *Visitation* ✘
- ✘ Denny Behnfeldt, Elmer Maassel, Bob Norden, Ted Ripke, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Kathy Behnfeldt, Pat Maassel, Anita Badenhop, Deb Durham, *Altar Guild* ✘

**NEW BABY – NEW FAMILY:** *Nick & AnneMarie Damman* are very happy to announce the arrival of their first child a daughter, *Maisie Jane*, born on August 11<sup>th</sup> at Toledo Hospital. All are doing well and getting settled in with all that goes along with being new parents. Proud grandparents, Carey & Sharon Damman, are sure to enjoy and welcome a little granddaughter into their family. Congratulations to Nick and AnneMarie!

**THANKS, EVERYONE!** We extend a great big THANK YOU to everyone who helped with last Sunday's ***Outdoor Service***. God gave us a gorgeous day to be outside and to worship Him. Thank you to the Stewardship Board for preparing the cookies and beverages, and to the Outdoor Service Committee for all your work in prepping the blacktop and in setting up the stage and sound equipment. Thanks also to the Altar Guild members for their extra work in making it possible for us to receive the Lord's Supper. Well done, good and faithful servants!



<b>In God's House This Week</b>		<i>Online church calendar: <a href="http://www.DynaCal.com/sjl">www.DynaCal.com/sjl</a></i>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Adult Bible Class
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:00 AM 5:30 PM	School Chapel Exercise Class V-ball: Gr. 4-6; 6:30 PM Gr. 7&8 @ MCA
Wed.	6:15 PM	Jr. High Confirmation Class <i>(until 7:30 PM)</i>
Thurs.	6:30 PM 9:00 PM 7:00 PM	Men's Bible Breakfast at Hill's Restaurant Exercise Class Thursday Evening Worship
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion 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
- ❖ *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*
- ❖ *Connor Gerken*, serving in the military and now deployed to the Middle East for 6 months
- ❖ *Stan Moll*, recuperating from hip surgery from a fall he took recently
- ❖ *Liza Gerken*, for knee surgery this past week

**ATTENTION ALL HIGH SCHOOL & YOUNG ADULTS:** Join us in the Cry Room after church next Sunday for Bible Study, fellowship, and snacks. Feed your soul and your body to start your week out right! Looking forward to having you join us each week! *Sharon Damman*

**SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

- **Leviticus** - This morning we will resume our study of this book of ancient Israelite laws that so powerfully point us to the coming of Jesus Christ. We gather for this study in the fellowship hall. Today we will also discuss our next topic of study. Join us!
- **Cross Explorations for Adults** – Starting Sunday, Sept. 11, the Vicar will be conducting a Bible study especially for parents of Sunday School students (*but also open to all*). Each Sunday we will take an adult look at the same Bible narratives our children are hearing that day in Sunday School. This will help parents discuss the day's lesson with their children, so that together families may grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.
- **Men's Bible Breakfast** also meet this Thursday morning, 6:30 am, at Hill's Restaurant in Napoleon. It's a great way to start the day – good food, great fellowship, and God's Word!



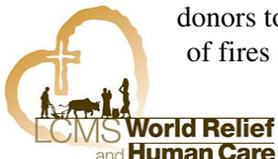
**WEDNESDAY EVENING CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTION** resumes this Wednesday, August 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:15 p.m. Young people going into the 7<sup>th</sup> grade should have received a letter announcing this. If for some reason you didn't get the letter, please call the Pastor for more information or to ask any questions you may have. We're looking forward to a great year of growth in God's Word as we study together the Small Catechism and its six chief parts of Christian teaching.

**ADULT BELL CHOIR:** The Adult Bell Choir will have practices on Wednesdays again this year. Our first practice will be on Wed., Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 PM. For returning Bell Choir members, please contact Karan if this is a conflict for you. We are always looking for new members to join us. If you'd like to get involved and share your talents, please contact *Karan Niebergall* at 419-598-8251.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 8/21/16	\$6,020.00	\$327.00	\$522.00

**ATTENDANCE:** Thursday (8-18-16) Worship Service: 28; Sunday (8/21/16) Service: 185

**LCMS DISASTER RESPONSE** – There is a lot going on right now in our nation that is causing human misery and suffering, and presenting as Christians a way of extending God's mercy and love. With a gift to LCMS Disaster Response, you can join your resources with those of thousands of other donors to make a difference in the lives of people who are suffering right now because of fires (in California) and flood (in Louisiana). To learn more about what's going on, visit the LCMS Disaster Response webpage at:



<https://www.lcms.org/disaster> Use the "GIVE NOW" link to make a gift. Also stay tuned for other ways in which we might be able to extend help.

**NEW *LifeLight* BIBLE STUDY – Sign up now!**

Join us for a new study titled "HEAVEN AND HELL," starting September 12 & 13 (Monday evening and Tuesday morning). This is a topic about which people have many questions, and God's Word has much to say. This study is part of the *LifeLight* series that offers in-depth studies on many Bible books and topics; it is designed to give growth in faith to all who participate. The "Heaven and Hell" study includes these nine sessions:

- 1: A Guided Tour of Heaven and Hell
- 2: Daddy, What Happens When We Die?
- 3: The Justice of God and the Fate of the Wicked, Part 1
- 4: The Justice of God and the Fate of the Wicked, Part 2
- 5: The Mercy of God and the Fate of the Redeemed
- 6: Behold, the Dwelling Place of God is With Men
- 7: And They Will Be His People
- 8: For the Healing of the Nations
- 9: Living Heavenward



You can sign up for either the Monday or Tuesday study groups. We'll meet the first, second and fourth weeks of each month (Mondays 7-8:15pm, Tuesdays 10-11:15am).

**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.



## Sunday School / Christian Education

It's time to gear up for another season of Christian education at St. John. Some exciting things are happening! Sunday School grades K-6 will be using the 'Cross Explorations' curriculum that will have them rotating to three sites...

1. **ENGAGE** ~ 10:15-10:25 a.m. in the sanctuary  
Combined opening worship for all students, grades K-6
2. **EXPLORE** ~ 10:30-10:45 a.m. in two classrooms  
The Bible lesson for the day (K-3 in 1-2 classroom; 4-6 in 5-6 classroom)
3. **EXPRESS** ~ 10:50-11:05 a.m. in the fellowship hall

While the students are in ENGAGE and EXPLORE, all adults and Sunday School parents are invited to sit down with Vicar in the fellowship hall for an adult version of that day's lesson. Then the children will join the parents and adults for the EXPRESS part of the schedule to share some intergenerational, parent-child time doing an activity that reinforces the day's lesson. Meanwhile, preschool, junior and senior high classes will continue their normal schedule. Here's the calendar of what's coming...



- **Today, and Sunday, Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> – No Sunday School**
- **Sunday, Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>** - Regular Sunday School classes begin

**WILLING SERVANTS ARE STILL NEEDED** to staff the Sunday School. Speak with *Sarah Rosebrock* if you would like to share your time and talents with the children of our Sunday School.

### **SCHOOL NOTES:**

- ✓ **BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP** – St. John Booster membership for the 2016-17 school year are: \$20.00 for husband and wife; \$10.00 for single. Make checks payable to *St. John Boosters*.
- ✓ **SCHOOL PICTURES** will be taken by *Emilie Parsons* of Emilie's Photo Design this year and are scheduled for Thurs., Sept., 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM for the 4/5-year old Preschool class and Gr. K-8; and Fri., Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM for 3-year old Preschool class and anyone absent on Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>. Order forms will be sent home shortly after school starts.
- ✓ **SCRIP PROGRAM** will be offered again this school year. Anyone willing to help the PTL with this fundraiser can contact *Kristyn Honemann* at 419-966-0207.
- ✓ **PTL MEETING** will be held on Mon., Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. This will be a business meeting. Plan to attend and support the school.

**PRINCIPAL'S NOTE:** God has blessed St. John Lutheran School with 62 students in Preschool to 8th grades. Pastor Niermann opened our school year with a chapel service. It was based on our theme "upon this ROCK" The ROCK is Jesus on whom we teach, trust, and believe. To God alone be the glory!

**POSITION OPENING** – St. John Lutheran School is seeking someone to fill the position of **Athletic Director**. This individual is responsible for overseeing all the athletic functions and events involving St. John Lutheran School. This is paid position. If interested in this position or you would like more details, please speak with *Principal Kramer* or Board Pres., *Sunday Griffith*.

**GOT SOME TIME?** Why not be an adult volunteer at St. John School. You could listen to children read, talk about your time in the military, work with flash cards, or tell children about a hobby or craft you enjoy doing. The possibilities are endless and your time with them will be priceless!

If you would be interested in volunteering this 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 St. John Lutheran.

**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.

**VOLLEYBALL SEASON:** *Chelsea Mouch* will be our grades 4-8 volleyball coach this season. Volleyball will be open for all girls involved in St. John Lutheran Church and School along with St. Augustine, Napoleon. Throughout the season we will be looking for parents and family members to assist with volleyball activities, this may include line-judging, scoreboard, concessions, and helping at the St. John Freedom Volleyball Invitational in October. Thank you all!

**BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS** need to be turned in to the office by Wednesday of each week in order to be included in the Thursday and Sunday bulletin. Please note this. Thank you!

**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!

**COUNCIL MINUTES** – This is just a reminder that council meeting minutes are not published until they are approved a month later. If you would like to read about the most recent council meeting, an unofficial and unapproved copy of the minutes is available for viewing in the church office, usually within a week after the meeting.

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

**“Faith is the Christian’s eyes.”**

*“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” (Heb. 11:1)*