



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

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Mr. M. Brent Keller, Vicar
Rev. Charles Kramer, Principal

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Church Website: www.sjl.org

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "A Life Realignment" *Luke 14:25-35*
Order of Service: *Divine Service, Setting Four (LSB pg. 203)*
Hymns: 825 ~ 688 ~ (Communion: 629, 605, 784) ~ 707

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We welcome all who have come to worship our God with us today! Each day we live is a priceless gift from God, loaded with possibilities to learn something new, to gain fresh insights into His great truths. May we be showered with those blessings as we together profess His Name today. 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

- ✠ Hope Buchhop & Kaleb Woods, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Bob & Diane Norden, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Richard Elling & Harold Behrmann, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Denny Bockelman, Jeff Buchhop, Dave Myles, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Kathy Badenhop, Sandy VonDeylen, Mary Rettig, *Altar Guild* ✠

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY

- **Leviticus** - This morning we conclude our study of the book of Leviticus, which has so powerfully pointed us to the coming of Jesus Christ. We gather for this study in the fellowship hall.
- **Next Sunday**, we begin a new and very timely study titled "**CALLED TO VOTE: A Christian Approach to Elections.**" See more details in the announcement in today's bulletin.
- **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.

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
Mon.		NO SCHOOL – Labor Day
Tue.	8:20 AM 8:35 AM 9:00 AM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Preschool begins for PS 4/5 year olds School Chapel Exercise Class V-ball: Gr. 4-6 vs. St. John – Defiance School Board & Stewardship Board Meetings
Wed.	8:20 AM 6:15 PM	Preschool begins for PS 3 year olds Jr. High Confirmation Class (<i>until 7:30 PM</i>)
Thurs.	9:00 AM 4:30 PM 7:00 PM	School Pictures taken; Exercise Class V-ball: Gr. 4-6 Girls; 5:30 PM Gr. 7&8 @ St. Paul - Napoleon Thursday Evening Worship
Fri.	9:00 AM	School Pictures taken
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 4:30 PM	Worship Service w/Communion following Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; “Time To Spare” Jr. High LYF (<i>until 6:00 PM</i>)
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Keith Witte</i> , St. Paul Lutheran – Liberty Center

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY – During the worship service we will involve the children with a children’s message and a blessing for them and their teachers as the new season of Christian education begins.

There is no greater work a Christian can do than to lead the children to Christ in faith and trust. If it is a blessed thing even to give a cup of water to a child (Matt. 10:42), how much more blessed it is give a child the very Bread of Life – to give them Jesus! Willing servants are still needed to staff the Sunday School. Speak with *Sarah Rosebrock* or *Pastor Niermann* if you would like to share your time and talents with the children of our Sunday School.

Also remember that the Sunday School students will be practicing music for worship during the openings. Be sure your child is present to learn the songs and anthems that will be sung in the Lord’s House once each month.

SO THANKFUL: I would like to thank all of the School Staff and Children of St. John Lutheran School for giving me the opportunity to serve them lunches and to be a part of their daily lives. These jobs have given me the opportunity to expand on my experiences into a new job.

I will truly miss you all and ask that you extend your help to the new cook and janitor. I have truly been blessed by you all. Thank you and God's Blessings, *Liza Gerken*

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 8/28/16	\$5,928.00	\$102.00	\$487.00

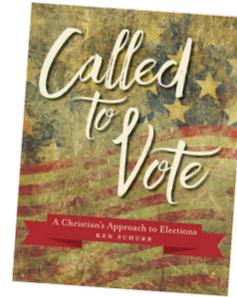
ATTENDANCE: Thursday (8-25-16) Worship Service: 42; Sunday (8/28/16) Service: 161

COMMUNED in August: 345 members; 15 guests

CALLED TO VOTE: A Christian Approach to Elections

Next Sunday we begin a new topic of study that is especially timely. Whether you're certain of who you're voting for this November or still deciding whether to vote at all, this study is for you. While this study is *not* a voting guide – it won't lead you to a specific candidate or party platform – it will spark thoughtful and biblical conversation about voting in a democracy and our duty as Christian citizens.

So before you head to the polls this November, check out this four-week study from Pastor Ken Schurb. You'll be convicted, encouraged, and more prepared than ever to participate in the political process. Let's go to the polls this year informed, not only by our own best thinking, but also by the Word of God.



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:

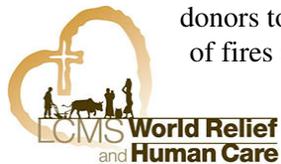
- 1: A Guided Tour of Heaven and Hell
- 2: Daddy, What Happens When We Die?
- 3: The Justice of God and the Fate of the Wicked, Part 1
- 4: The Justice of God and the Fate of the Wicked, Part 2
- 5: The Mercy of God and the Fate of the Redeemed
- 6: Behold, the Dwelling Place of God is With Men
- 7: 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).

ADULT BELL CHOIR: The Adult Bell Choir will have practices on Wednesdays again this year. Our first practice will be on Wed., Sept. 14th 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.

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.

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.



LWML FALL RETREAT – The Fall Retreat will be held on Saturday, September 17th, at St. John Family Center, Stryker, from 9:00 – 2:00 PM, with registration beginning at 8:30 AM. Registration fee is \$12.00 which includes lunch. Registration forms are available on the table in the narthex. Sign up deadline is Friday, Sept. 9th. See flyer on the bulletin board.

LYF ICE CREAM SOCIAL – The LYF will be hosting its annual Ice Cream Social on Sun., Sept. 25, with serving from 10:30 to 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. There is a signup sheet on the table in the narthex for donations of desserts. On the menu: *Chicken Sandwiches, Sloppy Joe's, Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Salad, Chips, Pies, Cakes, Cupcakes, Beverage and Schwan's Ice Cream*. Freewill offering! Carryouts available also! Thrivent Financial will be matching funds for this event. Come out and support the youth of our congregation!

'BREAD FROM HEAVEN' – A note to St. John members needing food assistance – If you could use food assistance from our food pantry, please speak with *Pastor Niermann*. We are required by the *Northwestern Ohio Food Bank* to keep a record with your name, but pastor will keep your record separate and absolutely confidential.

Contributions can be given at any time: monetary gifts can be given to the *Good Neighbor Fund* (note it on your church envelope). Non-perishable **food items can be dropped off any time**. Because of your generous donations, we are able to help 30+ families each month. Any and all contributions are always greatly appreciated. Food items can be placed in the box near the archives display.

MAGAZINE / COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER: Students from St. John Lutheran School only have 4 days left for their magazine and frozen cookie dough sales. There are hundreds of magazines to choose from. There are 12 kinds of frozen tubs of cookie dough to purchase. The profits go for the 6th and 7th graders class trip in two years. Profits for students in the other grades go to buying new playground equipment. Please help our school. Contact the students in our school to make a purchase.

WOULD YOU HOST A JAVA JOY? Every second Sunday of the month, we seek hosts for Java



Joy, a time of refreshment and fellowship following the service. Hosting Java Joy does not have to be expensive – you are welcome to reimburse some or all of your expenses, if you wish, from the ‘kitty’ – so please don’t let that hold you back. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for all the second Sundays of the year. Please sign up, and pick up the sheet of guidelines from the table.

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!

A SIMPLE AND CONVENIENT WAY TO GIVE – This fall, consider signing up for electronic giving. St. John Lutheran Church relies on financial support of the congregation and electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis. One simple, easy to use authorization form can begin or change your electronic contributions amount. Contact *Joyce Wiechers* in the office at 419-598-8961 for more details. Thank you!

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*.

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.

ST. JOHN SCRIP CONTINUES: You may begin ordering SCRIP again. Order forms are on the table in the narthex. Please turn those orders in on Wednesdays, with payment to *St. John School PTL Scrip Program*. The gift cards will be sent home the following week on Tuesday. Payment must accompany orders. **Any questions about SCRIP can be directed to SCRIP Coordinator Kristyn Honemann at 419-966-0207 or email at honemann@embarqmail.com.**

PTL OFFICER NOMINATIONS: We are currently seeking nominations for next school year's PTL officers. Please consider getting involved with PTL by becoming an officer. This is just one way of supporting St. John School and bringing new ideas to the forefront for school activities and fundraisers. We would encourage you to give it some serious thought and contact Kristyn Honemann (419-966-0207) or Shawna Schroeder (419-758-3684).

SUNNY D LABELS – Throughout the school year please save labels from *Sunny D* drinks. Classrooms that save 20 *SunnyD* labels earn 20 FREE books. Here's how it works. **COLLECT** *SunnyD* UPC labels from these eligible products: 1, 2, or 3 liter bottles; 16 oz., 48 oz., 64 oz., 96 oz., or 128 oz. bottles; 6.75 oz.- 6, 8, or 24 pack outer wraps; 6.75 oz.-12 pack cardboard case; 11.3 oz.-6 or 24 pack outer wraps; 12 oz.-12 or 24 pack cans outer wraps. **SEND** the UPC labels to the school office at any time. We can redeem these labels for free children's books for our library or classrooms.

ATHLETIC BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP: Membership is now being taken for the Athletic Booster Club. Prices are \$20.00 for a couple and \$10.00 for an individual. Make checks payable to St. John Boosters and send to school with your child. Forms are available outside the school office or contact any of the Booster officers. Join today and help out the children's athletic program.

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.

LIONS RECYCLE FOR SIGHT – How You Can Help? If you have used **prescription or nonprescription** glasses or sunglasses in your drawers, desks, or closets, you can donate them now! Children's glasses are especially needed. Both plastic and metal frames are accepted. There is a box on the table in the narthex for the collection of these used glasses.

AREA EVENTS:

- **Lutheran Home - Napoleon** is hosting its Open House on **Sun., Sept. 11th from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**. Tours begin at Lutheran Home Lobby. See flyer!
- **The Lutheran Home at Napoleon** is offering a "Drug Addiction! How Does This Happen?" presentation by Cletus Schindler on **Thurs., Sept. 15th at 4:00 p.m.** in the Chapel at the Lutheran Home. Dinner follows. Must RSVP. See flyer on bulletin board!
- **The Filling Home – Napoleon** is hosting its Festival of Tables on **Sat., Sept. 24th at 12:00 p.m.** in the Filling Home Therapy Center. See flyer for more info!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

"Cars are not the only things recalled by their maker."

*"You do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life?
For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes." (James 4:14)*