



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

September 11, 2016

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NO. 37

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

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SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "The Lost Coin" *Luke 15:1-10*

Order of Service: *Morning Prayer (LSB pg. 235)*

Hymns: **864 ~ 609 ~ 740**

Children's Choir: *Gr. 7&8 Bell Choir rings "Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens Adore Him"*

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

- ✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘ Hannah Wachtman & Madison Bostelman, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Jerry & Nancy Short, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Lawrence & Hildegard Behrmann, *Visitation* ✘
- ✘ Denny Bockelman, Jeff Buchhop, Dave Myles, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Kathy Badenhop, Sandy VonDeylen, Mary Rettig, *Altar Guild* ✘

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are placed in memory of the 5th Anniversary of the passing of *LaVerne Sonnenberg* on September 11, 2011, by his family. Please keep Karen and family in your thoughts and prayers at this time of year.

NEW FAMILY: *Seth & Kacie* (nee Hodson) *Handy* are very proud to announce the arrival of their first child a daughter, *Brynlee Nicole*, born on September 2nd at Bryan Community Hospital. All are doing well and getting settled in with all that goes along with being new parents. Proud grandparents, Tim & Renee Hodson, and great-grandparents, Wilbur & Irene Joost, are sure to enjoy holding and hugging little Brynlee at any chance they can get. Congratulations to the Handys!

In God's House This Week		Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl
Date	Time	Activities
Today	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.	7:00 PM 7:00 PM	PTL Meeting <i>LifeLight</i> Bible Study
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:00 AM 10:00AM 5:30 PM 7:00 PM	Chapel led by <i>Pastor Kramer</i> ; Offering: <i>Orphan Grain Train</i> Exercise Class <i>LifeLight</i> Bible Study V-ball: Gr. 4-6; 6:30 PM Gr. 7&8 vs. Toledo Hornets Church Council Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM 6:45 PM	Jr. High Confirmation Class (<i>until 7:30 PM</i>) Adult Hand Bell practice
Thurs.	9:00 AM 5:30 PM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class V-ball: Gr. 4-6; 6:30 PM Gr. 7&8 @ Trinity – Toledo Thursday Evening Worship with Communion
Sat.	9:00 AM	LWML Fall Retreat at St. John Lutheran, Stryker (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 4:30 PM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare" Sr. High LYF (<i>until 6:00 PM</i>)
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Logan Scheiwe</i> , St. Paul Lutheran – Napoleon

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

HOLY COMMUNION will be offered this morning following the Worship service. Those who wish to attend should fill out a Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and give it to the usher during the collection of the offering this morning. Return immediately to the front pews.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 9/04/16	\$8,317.00	\$143.00	\$513.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday (9/01/16) Worship Service: 39; Sunday (9/04/16) Service: 154

MEMORIALS for *Magdalena Volkman*: \$1,330 to St. John Lutheran Church Memorial Fund (25%); St. John Lutheran Church Building Fund (25%); St. John Lutheran School Memorial Fund (50%)

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS – 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 to give a child the very Bread of Life – to give them Jesus! Anyone interested in volunteering their time and talents can email Sarah Rosebrock at srosebrock@napoleonareaschools.org or call Sarah at 419-783-8242. You can also speak with Pastor Niermann to jump onboard.



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.

NEWS ON LYF:

- **JR. HIGH** – There is a meeting today, Sept. 11th from 4:30 – 6:00 PM. Come and enjoy some snacks, fellowship, and games to start off the school year. All current 6th – 8th graders are welcome and students may also bring friends who do not go to our church. Parents are encouraged to come to the beginning part of the meeting as we will be talking about fundraisers as well as upcoming events.
- **SR. HIGH** – There will be a meeting on Sun., Sept. 18th from 4:30 – 6:00 PM at Miss Bartok’s house. We are planning on a bonfire to kick off the new school year. Also, roasting marshmallows and having fun with some games. There will also be discussion about important dates for the year and upcoming fundraisers. Contact Miss Bartok for directions to her house, if needed. Come and enjoy some fellowship and fun!

WOMEN OF FREEDOM: The next meeting will be Tues., Sept. 20th at 7:00 PM. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend!

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.

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.



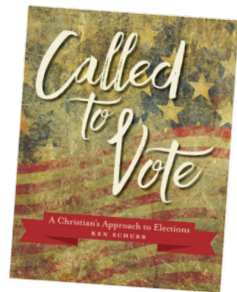
COUNCIL MINUTES – This is just a reminder that council meeting minutes are not published until they are approved a month later. If you would like to read about the most recent council meeting, an unofficial and unapproved copy of the minutes is available for viewing in the church office, usually within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

NEW **LifeLight** BIBLE STUDY – Begins this week!

Join us this week (even if you didn't sign up) for a new study titled "HEAVEN AND HELL." 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. Through advance preparation and reflection, as well as group discussion, *LifeLight* studies will always challenge you and give you growth in faith. This week's chapter of our study is titled "A Guided Tour of Heaven and Hell" (study pamphlets can be picked up in the narthex this morning). Please come and grow with us in God's Word, **either Monday evening at 7:00 pm or Tuesday morning at 10:00 am.**



CALLED TO VOTE: A Christian Approach to Elections



Today Pastor Niermann begins a very timely study titled, "Called to Vote." Whether you already know who you're voting for this November or are 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.

CROSS EXPLORATIONS FOR ADULTS – New start date is next Sunday, Sept. 18.

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. The goal is to assist the parents and adults in taking a journey through God's Word with our children. Vicar Keller will be around this morning passing out information for this new study.



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!

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.

ST. JOHN CHURCH LIBRARY – Stop in and check out the growing number of books available in the church library, located in the hall next to the sanctuary. The books in this library have been screened to assure that they are true to the Word of God and can be trusted to be theologically sound. To borrow a book, just take it with you, and then return it to the basket when you’ve finished reading. A complete list of the books in the church's library can be found by clicking on the "Book Inventory" link on the library page of our church's website. <http://www.sjl.org/library.html>

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!

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.

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* in the office at 419-598-8961!

FACEBOOK PAGE: Please "like" and "share" our page to bring all our St. John School news to your screen. Our Facebook page will be a great way to share lessons going on in the classroom, special student recognitions, important events, and announcements. The link is <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnlutheranschoolnapoleon/>

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.

PTL MEETING will be held on Mon., Sept. 12th at 7:00 PM. This will be a business meeting. Plan to attend and support the school.

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).

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? St. John School is looking for adults who would be willing to volunteer in the school. Listening to children read, talking about your time in the military, working with flash cards, and telling children about a hobby or craft are some of the areas that you can volunteer.

If you would be interested in volunteering in the next 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 our school.

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.**

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...

“Have the Elephant and Donkey let you down? Try the Lamb.”

“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!” (Rev. 5:12)