



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16-035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

September 25, 2016

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

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Church Website: www.sjl.org

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Kyrie Eleison!"

Order of Service: *See printed Service Folder*

Hymns: 904 ~ 944 ~ 508 ~ 781 ~ 924

Children's Choir: *Grades Preschool – Gr. 6 sing "I've Got the Joy"*

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Warm greetings and love in Christ are extended to all members and guests. We trust that you will experience the warmth of Christian fellowship, the inspiration of worship and the peace that comes from an awareness of God's presence. 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

- ✠ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✠ Taylor Dietrich & Hope Buchhop, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Dan & Deb Wachtman, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Eldor & Rozella Gruenhagen, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Denny Bockelman, Jeff Buchhop, Dave Myles, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Kathy Badenhop, Sandy VonDeylen, Mary Rettig, *Altar Guild* ✠

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are placed in honor of the 61st Wedding Anniversary of *Ron & Elaine Hesterman* by Todd & Chris Hesterman and their family. They wish Ron & Elaine many more happy years together. Their actual anniversary is today. Congratulations Ron & Elaine!

ADULT BIBLE STUDIES HAVE BEEN CANCELLED THIS MORNING because of the LYF Ice Cream Social. Both studies will resume next Sunday in the fellowship hall.

A LETTER MAILED TO YOU – Please check your mail this upcoming week for a letter regarding the cash-flow situation we are currently facing. Read it carefully, and pray about this matter. It is an issue that we need to confront and solve. May God guide and lead us!

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

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Sunday School; LYF Ice Cream Social (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Mon.	5:30 PM 7:00 PM	<i>Bread From Heaven</i> Food Pantry distribution <i>LifeLight</i> Bible Study
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:00 AM 10:00AM 7:00 PM 7:30 PM	Chapel led by Gr. 3&4; Offering: <i>Orphan Grain Train</i> Exercise Class <i>LifeLight</i> Bible Study Shepherd Committee Board of Elders
Wed.	6:15 PM 6:45 PM	Midweek Confirmation Class Adult Hand Bell Practice
Thurs.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Thursday Evening Worship
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM TBD	Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare" Sunday School Staff Meeting following the Sunday School hour
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. David Goehmann</i> , St. Luke Lutheran – Wauseon

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

- ❖ Our Shut-Ins: *Norma Damman, 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, Emily Schroeder, and Connor Gerken*
- ❖ *Stan Moll*, recuperating nicely at home now

FINANCIAL FACTS:

	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 9/18/16	\$7,618.00	\$490.00	\$405.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday (9/15/16) Worship Service: 39; Sunday (9/18/16) Service: 217

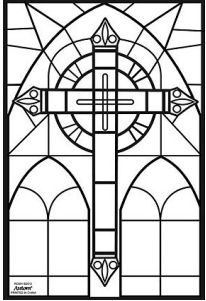
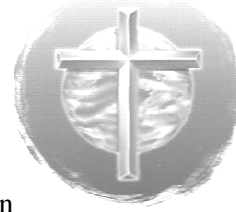
LYF ICE CREAM SOCIAL is today with serving from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit the LYF servant events and future youth conventions. On the menu: *Chicken Sandwiches, Sloppy Joes, Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Chips, Pies, Cakes, Cupcakes, Beverage and Schwan's Ice Cream*. Freewill offering! Carryout available! A Thrivent Action Team event! Come out and support the youth of our congregation!

PORTALS OF PRAYER BOOKLETS for October, November, and December are on the desk in the narthex. There are also large print copies available.

LifeLight BIBLE STUDY – “Heaven and Hell”

LifeLight meets this week on Monday evening (7pm) or Tuesday morning (10am). It's not too late to join us! Many people have questions about heaven and hell, and God's Word has much to say on the subject. Our next chapter is titled, “Daddy, what happens when we die?” Please come and grow with us in God's Word at either session.

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.



STAINED GLASS WINDOW UPDATE – The stained glass window project has been on hold for about a year as Sue Hurst, the designer and artist, has been dealing with cancer and chemotherapy treatments. She is now finished with her treatments and has been declared cancer-free, praise be to God! She is feeling better and is about ready to return to our project. At the same time, the bulk of the gift from the *Oliver & Juanita (Maassel) Thorpe* family has been received. The remainder will be sent to us after the New Year. The pieces are falling into place, and it's time for us to reconstitute a Stained Glass Window Committee to get to work with Sue Hurst. If you would be interested in serving on this committee, please speak with Pastor Niermann or President Bob Norden.

EAGLE NEWS: The Eagle News publication is available online via FastDirect. Just go to <http://www.fastdir.com/stjohnfreedom/>, click on “Links” at the top of the page, then click on “Eagle News-September” in the “Everybody” column. There are printed copies available on the narthex table. Hope you enjoy it!

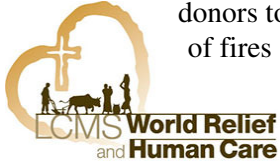
CHURCH PROPERTY MATTERS

- **EAST BALL FIELD BACK STOP** – The Church Council discussed removing the back stop on the east ball field since this field has not been used for ballgames for many years and the fence inhibits the full removal of snow during heavy winters. If anyone would like to claim the steel posts and chain link fencing, they would be available for free to anyone who removes them for us.
- **LANDSCAPING MAINTENANCE** – The ladies who have taken care of the landscaping over the past years (*especially weeding and mulching*) are not able to do so any longer, so we're looking for some volunteers who could help with this work from time to time as needed.

If you can help with either of these church property matters, please speak with Pres. Bob Norden or a Trustee. Thank you for considering this service to Christ and His people!

CHRISTMAS DECORATING COMMITTEE: Still searching for that group of individuals who would be interested in decorating the church and surroundings for the Christmas season. So put some thought into this effort and before the time comes to decorate the church and surroundings this year, contact Pastor Niermann or the church office. If no one volunteers, this responsibility would revert back to the School Board, as was done in the past. So please give it some thought, and contact the church office if you would like to volunteer. Thank you!

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.

COLLECTING OLD BIBLES: This year our school will be working on a service project. We would ask that you look around your homes for any unused Bibles. What next, you ask? Bring them in to the office and St. John School will donate them to Orphan Grain Train. Orphan Grain Train will then distribute them to individuals and families that have had their homes destroyed by hurricane, tornado, or flood. Often times these people have nothing left in their homes. Giving them a Bible that you don’t need is one way that we can reach out to families that are suffering a loss. This will be ongoing for the school year, so keep them coming and tell your extended families too.

2017 NOMINATIONS FOR CHURCH OFFICES – Very soon now the Stewardship Board will begin the process of nominating and appointing people for the various offices of our congregation. As they prepare to do so, please take note of the following:

- If there is an office in which you’d like to serve, please offer your name to the Stewardship Board for consideration. Speak with *Pastor Niermann*.
- If you are approached about serving in an office, give it careful and prayerful thought. You are being asked because the Stewardship Board, with prayers for God’s guidance, has identified you as someone whose service in that office will be a blessing to us all!

THE LUTHERAN HOUR – The Lutheran Hour Ministries can be heard on several radio stations in our area. They cover many interesting topics relevant to today’s issues. Broadcasts can be heard Sundays on: Holland’s WPOS 102.3 at 7:00 AM; Archbold’s WMTR 96.1 at 7:30 AM; Defiance’s WONW (AM)1280 at 10:30 AM; Napoleon’s WNDH 103.1 at 12:00 PM.

“WORSHIP FOR SHUT-INS”: “Worship for Shut-Ins” has joined the WLMB-TV40 line up. If you have a relative or friend who is homebound, hospitalized, or recovering from a recent surgery, you may suggest this 30-minute LCMS worship service to them. So tune in to WLMB-TV40 on Sundays at 6:30 AM and get your Sunday started off right!

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!

S.T.O.P. FALL PENNY DRIVE – The PTL Fall Penny Drive at St. John School begins on Mon., Oct. 3rd and runs thru Mon., Oct. 31st. Send your pennies in to school with your child or grandchild. The winning classroom will be awarded a pizza party.

PARENT VISITATION & OPEN HOUSE – St. John School has scheduled their **Parent Visitation Open House** for the evening of **Thursday, October 20**, from 7:00 – 8:00 PM. This will run in conjunction with the PTL Scholastic Book Fair in the fellowship hall.

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.

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 a paid position. If interested in this position or you would like more details, please speak with *Principal Kramer* or Board Pres., *Sunday Griffith*.

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. Our programs here at St. John give our students a sense of sportsmanship, discipline, structure and self-confidence needed to go out into the world.

SCRIP AT ST. JOHN: Let's plan ahead! Scrip is great for having "extra money" in your wallet. Purchase gift cards to use for personal shopping or going out to eat. Plan ahead now for birthdays and holidays! Scrip orders will be received on Wednesdays, ordered on Fridays and delivered on Tuesdays. Here is a new twist...the 5/6 graders will be going to Outdoor Education in April 2017. Any Scrip purchased from now until March by those students' families could apply 1/2 of their Scrip proceeds toward defraying the cost of their child's share to attend OE. They can use all of their proceeds if they choose, but if they wanted to split it 50/50 that half could be used for OE and the rest could be applied toward their school payment for 2017-2018 school year. Order forms and program information are posted on FastDirect under 'Links,' titled SCRIP Order Forms and SCRIP Program Info. There are also hard copies in the 'School Info' rack outside the office and on the table in the narthex. Please feel free to share with family and friends. Payment must accompany orders. **Any questions about SCRIP can be directed to the SCRIP Coordinator Kristyn Honemann at 419-966-0207 or email at honemann@embarqmail.com.**

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!

PTL MEETING: An additional PTL Meeting will be on Mon., October 3rd at 7:00 PM. This is so we can discuss sportswear apparel and fundraisers in the upcoming couple months. As a result of the first PTL meeting, the officers will remain the same. They are: President – *Kristyn Honemann*; Vice-President – *Shawna Schroeder*; Secretary – *Zoe Foor*; Treasurer – *Amy Rosebrook*.

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.

PRESCHOOL GRANDPARENTS' DAY – **Preschool Grandparents' Day** will be held from 9:00 – 11:00 AM on **Thurs., Oct. 20th for the 4 & 5-year old class** and same time on **Fri., Oct. 21st for the 3-year old class**. Grandparents should plan to arrive at 9 AM and report to the gym. Grandparents will also have the opportunity to take their grandchild through the PTL Scholastic Book Fair those days. Come and enjoy all the fun in Preschool!!!

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.

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!

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.

LADIES' VOLLEYBALL – The ladies from St. Paul Lutheran, 1075 Glenwood Ave., Napoleon, would like to invite the ladies from St. John to join them on Monday evenings from 7:30 – 9:00 for volleyball. They play every Monday night, as long as St. Paul has had school that day also.

AREA EVENTS: **St. Paul Lutheran – Liberty Center** invites you to an Organ Recital today beginning at 3:00 PM at the church. See flyer on bulletin board!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

“Worry less, pray more.”

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” (Phil 4:6)