



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

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

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### FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sermon & Text: "Be Led to the Door" *John 10:1-10*

Order of Service: *Divine Service, Setting Four (LSB pg. 203)*

Hymns: **846 ~ 700 ~ [Communion: 710, 620, 602] ~ 711**

Adult Choir: "A Faithful Shepherd Is My Lord" and "Taste and See"

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### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

*The Lord calls all of us to a new way of living under His wonderful grace in our Savior. If you are our guest this morning, it is a pleasure to have you worshipping with us. Please help us get to know who you are by introducing yourself to our pastor and by filling out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you. Simply pass it to the center aisle during the offering or register your name in the Guest Book in the Narthex.*

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

- ✠ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✠ Madison Bostelman & Gavin Gerken, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Dan & Joyce Wiechers, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Richard Elling & Harold Behrmann, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Dave Badenhop, Denny VonDeylen, Jerry Short, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Kathy Badenhop, Sandy VonDeylen, Mary Rettig, *Altar Guild* ✠

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are placed in loving memory of our son, brother, uncle, and best friend, *Ryan Rosebrock*, who went to be with the Lord on May 3, 2009. As the years go by, our hearts still yearn to see that sparkle in his eye and to hear his laughter. Prayers today for *Randy, LouAnn, Michael, Michelle & Ben, Ryan and Lucy*

NEW ORLEANS MISSION GROUP MEETING – Next Sunday the group that has signed up to go to New Orleans will meet together during the Sunday School hour in the Fellowship Hall to begin making final plans for their trip.

**In God's House This Week**Online church calendar: [www.DynaCal.com/sjl](http://www.DynaCal.com/sjl)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM 11:30AM 6:30 PM	<b>Communion Service and Teacher / Staff Anniversary Recognition</b> Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare" Teacher / Staff Anniversary Potluck Movie Screening – <i>Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World</i>
Mon.	7:00 PM	Adult Instruction Class
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Chapel led by Vicar Keller 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Quiz Bowl Tourney at NWOESC in Archbold Exercise Class Church Council
Wed.	6:15 PM	Jr. High Confirmation
Thurs.	9:00 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Quiz Bowl Tourney at NWOESC in Archbold Exercise Class Thursday Evening Worship
Fri.	9:15 AM	Field Day Fun with St. John Lutheran – Defiance
Sat.	4:30 PM	Jr. High LYF
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 10:30AM	Worship Service w/Communion following <i>Java Joy</i> ; Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare" New Orleans Mission Group Meeting
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Stephen Niermann</i> , St. John Lutheran, Napoleon

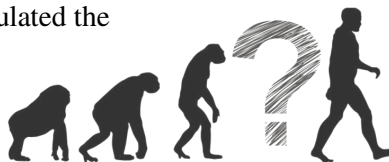
**MATTERS FOR PRAYER** – Please keep these people in your prayers:

- ❖ Shut-Ins: *Norma Damman, Renetta Homan, Stan Moll, and Delores Badenhop*
- ❖ *Delora Winkelman, Marian Buchhop, and Anna Brodman*, at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, residing at the Ohio Veteran's Home, Sandusky
- ❖ Servicemen, *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, Connor Gerken, and Seth Handy*
- ❖ *Annetta Rosebrock, Evelyn Rohrs, and Shirley Sonnenberg*, all dealing with health issues
- ❖ *Don Dickmann*, moved to the Orchards of Northcrest for rehab
- ❖ *Lucia Delventhal*, at Fulton Manor, Wauseon, for rehab
- ❖ *Ron Germann*, at home recuperating from knee surgery this past week
- ❖ *Florence Fitzenreiter*, moved to Defiance Area In-Patient Hospice this past week

**STAFF & TEACHER ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION:** The flowers on the piano today are honoring several teachers and a staff member for their many years of service to the students of St. John. A potluck meal (*with Brookview pulled pork provided*) will be served at 11:30 AM today. Those being recognized include the following individuals: *Rev. Charles Kramer* – 40 years; *Mr. Lowell Petzoldt* – 40 years; *Mrs. Bonnie Niermann* – 15 years; *Joyce Wiechers* – 10 years (*as church & school secretary*). Congratulations to all!

**THANK YOU!** I want to extend a very grateful & heartfelt thank you to my St. John family at this very difficult time for my family & me at the passing of my father. The flowers & memorial stones that were at Dad's visitation & service were beautiful & I thank you all so much for them. I have appreciated all the prayers & messages I have received over these last 3 months when my Dad's health began to fail. I was hoping to have more time with my Dad when I traveled back to Cedar Rapids on April 19th but our Lord called him home. I will remember that last night I spent with him & his peaceful passing to reunite to be with my mom. I will always thank both my parents for the instruction, guidance, love & faith I was raised to believe & which brought Lowell & I to St. John. In His risen name, *Lowell & Renee, Blake & Kristin, Courtney & Todd*

**WHERE'S THE MISSING LINK?** When Charles Darwin postulated the theory of evolution, he also expressed some degree of doubt when he wrote, **“Why, if species have descended from other species by insensibly fine gradations, do we not everywhere see innumerable transitional forms?”** This question haunts paleontologists to this day, and ever since Darwin wrote these words in 1859, the search has been on for the so-called “missing link” that will prove evolution to be true. How is the search going? What can we learn from Scripture about God’s plan for the reproduction of the species? Join us this morning for our Adult Bible class.



### **NEW MOVIE SCREENING THIS EVENING**

#### **Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World**

Martin Luther triggered a seismic upheaval that rocked the western world in the 1500s—with an impact that continues to reverberate to this day. This new film tells the great adventure story of his life. At the same time, it examines his quest for truth—questions we all must face—including "Who am I?" "What is my purpose?" and "How do I get right with God?"



**Now you can see this compelling new movie at a special screening right here at St. John THIS EVENING at 6:30 p.m.** The movie has received high marks for its content, production and message. In addition to the movie, there will be concessions and door prizes of some fun Luther memorabilia. We are also inviting the community and our circuit brothers and sisters to join us for this event. **Plan to come, and invite someone out to the movies with you!** (*This is a Thrivent Action Team event*)

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2017**

- **June 4-8 (Sunday to Thursday), 6:15 – 8:20 p.m.**
- **Enroll students** using the form in the narthex, or online using the link on our website, [www.sjl.org](http://www.sjl.org)
- **Bible Storytelling and Bible Challenge** – where our students will hear and memorize the Word of God
- **Crafts – Snacks - Games**
- **Sponsorship** - \$10 sponsors a VBS student. Sign up in the narthex.
- **Material Support** - Supply items for snacks & crafts; watch for more details



**EAGLE NEWS**: The Eagle News publication is being passed out today after the service. It is also 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-April/May” in the “Everybody” column. Enjoy!

**THURSDAY EVENING SERVICES BEGINNING** – From now through October; you will have the opportunity of worshipping on **Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m.** Until school is out for the summer, these services will be held in the sanctuary; once school is out, they will move to the north end of the fellowship hall. These services will use the readings and hymns for the following Sunday. Holy Communion will be offered on the Thursdays prior to regular Communion Sundays.

**BULLETIN NOTES**: With Thursday night services starting, bulletin announcements 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 make a note of this. Thank you!



**Next Sunday is Mother's Day**, and we honor those Christian mothers who help to raise their children in the fear and love of the Lord. The Vicar will have a children's sermon next Sunday during which the children will receive a little something to give to their mothers to honor them. Join us, as always, in the house of the Lord!

**JR. HI LYF**: On Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 – 6:00 PM the Jr. Hi youth will be gathering at the church for games, snacks, a Bible study, and fun. Come and join us if you can and enjoy some great fellowship together!

**2016 CHURCH ANNUAL** is available on the desk and table in the narthex following the service today. Thanks to everyone for your information submitted to be included in this report.

#### **SUMMER MISSION TRIP TO NEW ORLEANS**

##### **NEXT PHASE – MATERIAL SUPPORT**

**We have a good group of folks signed up to go to New Orleans to help with hurricane and tornado relief efforts through Camp Restore.** From now until the time they leave (in approximately a month) we will receive donations for material support of our group. This is not required by Camp

Restore, but depending on the work our group does, they will be using materials (i.e. construction materials) to assist those who need help. These are provided by the donations of God's people from all around the *Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod*. If you would like to help defray expenses for materials that our group will be using, there will be a basket in the narthex to receive your gifts for the next month. As always, thank you for your support of this mission trip!

**ARCHIVES DISPLAY**: The Archives Committee members have put up a display of past Confirmation classes ranging from 1937 (*80th anniversary*) to 2012 (*celebrating their 5th anniversary*). Come and check it out in the showcases in the hallway by the church. We are sure you will find a familiar face in the display.



**JAVA JOY COORDINATOR NEEDED** - Java Joy on the second Sunday of each month has been a real blessing, but the individual who has coordinated it in the past needs to step away from that task. We're looking for a replacement. The task is fairly simple. It would mean watching the Java Joy sign-up list to make sure someone is signed up for each second Sunday. If no one is signed up, it would mean approaching people to ask if they would consider hosting. If you are interested to serve in this way, or for more information on what this task entails, please speak with Rosella Gruenhagen or Pastor Niermann. Thanks for thinking about it!



**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!

<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 04/30/17	\$5,336.00	\$360.00	\$360.00

**ATTENDANCE:** Sunday (4/30/17) Service: 184

**COMMUNED in April:** 425 members; 7 guests

**LUTHERAN WITNESS RENEWAL** – It's time to renew your subscription to the Lutheran Witness for the year. To subscribe or renew your subscription, **simply place \$16.00 in an envelope**, along with your name and address, and place it in the Sunday collection plate or bring it to the church office. **Deadline for subscriptions is May 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**ST. JOHN SCHOOL POSITION OPENINGS** – St. John Lutheran School is seeking several people to fill the following positions that will be open after this school year.

- **Computer Instructor** – This individual is responsible for computer instruction one day per week for Grades K thru 8. This is a paid position.
- **Music Instructor** – This individual is responsible for classroom music instruction one day per week for Grades K thru 8. This is a paid position.
- **School Cook** – This individual is responsible for preparing and serving daily lunches for the students and staff, and submitting reports in regard to the lunch program at St. John. This is a paid position.
- **School Janitor** – This individual is responsible for all the janitorial duties involved with the functioning of the school, including classrooms, cafeteria, gym, locker rooms, and restrooms. This is a paid position.
- **Volleyball Coach** – We received word that *Chelsea Mouch* will not be returning as our volleyball coach next year. Please contact *AD Brad Rosebrook* at 419-966-3099 as soon as possible if you are interested in volunteering as volleyball coach.

If you are interested in more information on the Computer and/or Music Instructor positions, please speak with Principal Kramer or the chairman of the School Board, Sunday Griffith.

**PRESCHOOL'S GRADUATION** will be **Wed., May 17<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00 PM in the fellowship hall.

Everyone invited to this big day for the preschoolers. There will be a short program followed by light refreshments. **The Preschoolers last day of preschool is on Thurs., May 18<sup>th</sup>** (both classes). This will be a Field Day that both classes can participate in. The Field Day starts at 10:00AM. A flyer was sent home last week explaining all the details. Come and enjoy!

**LAST DAY OF SCHOOL AT ST. JOHN** will Thurs., **May 25<sup>th</sup>** with early dismissal at 2:00 PM.

Closing Day festivities include: Closing chapel at 12:40 PM; as well as Kindergarten graduation, awards, prizes. All parents are welcome to come. This is for students in K-garten through Grade 8. Academic and Attendance Awards will be handed out as well as other awards. **Please note: This service will include Kindergarten Graduation.**

**BOX TOPS PAYOUT:** The PTL continues to collect box tops from many different products. As a result of the box tops sent in over the Christmas break, we received a check in the amount of \$210.50 last week. Please continue to send your box tops in with the student's name on the bag. Collection boxes are in each of the classrooms. **The turn in date prior to the end of school is Mon., May 15<sup>th</sup>.** Please direct any questions to *Renee Bostelman* at 419-758-3335.

**FIELD DAY OF FUN AND FELLOWSHIP:** On Friday, May 12 at 9:15 AM, we will be hosting a combined school field day with St. John – Defiance. This is for students in grades K thru 8. St. John – Defiance is organizing most of the events for the day, but there are a few items we are in need of for some of the events. We will need 6 tricycles and 6 wagons. If you are able to loan us either of these items on May 12<sup>th</sup>, please FastDirect Joyce Wiechers or call the school office at 419-598-8702. A hotdog, chips, fruit, and bottled water lunch will be provided by St. John – Freedom. We would also like to have several St. John parents volunteer to help with this combined school field day on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH – LIBERTY CENTER:** Huge Annual Garage Sale at the corner of County Rds. 8 & T on May 10 (4-6 PM); May 11 & 12 (8:30 AM – 4 PM); May 13 (8:30 AM – Noon). Lots of Clothes, shoes, kitchen items, tools, toys, furniture, educational toys, crafts, linens, and much, much more. Stop in and shop!

**RIDGEVILLE FIRE DEPT. AUXILIARY** will be hosting a Drive Thru Chicken BBQ on Sun., May 21<sup>st</sup> at the Ridgeville Fire Station. Serving begins at 11:00 AM until gone. Menu consists of: *½ Chicken (Brookview), Potatoes, Coleslaw, Roll, and Butter.* Freewill offering. Come and support your local Fire Dept. Sponsored by Ridgeville Fire Department Auxiliary.

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

**“You are loved by someone who died to know you!”**

*“For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.”*

*(1 Peter 3:18)*