



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

May 21, 2017

VOL. 82

NO. 21

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

Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181
Cell: 940-390-3065
School: 419-598-8702 Cell: 567-277-1339
Church Website: www.sjl.org

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sermon & Text: "God's Offspring" Acts 17:16-31
Order of Service: *See printed Service Folder*
Hymns: 594 ~ 725 ~ [Communion: 605, 618, 588] ~ 655
Adult Bell Choir: "Children of the Heavenly Father"

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

A warm welcome to all, especially friends and relatives of our Confirmation Class. If you are visiting with us this morning, help us get to know you better by filling out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and pass it to the center aisle during the offering. You can also register your name in the Guest Book in the Narthex and introduce yourself to the Pastor.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✠ Hannah Wachtman & Clay Behnfeltd, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Marietta Damman & Arlene Wallace, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Delbert & Marian Damman, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Dave Badenhop, Denny VonDeylen, Jerry Short, Dan Wiechers, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Kathy Badenhop, Sandy VonDeylen, Mary Rettig, *Altar Guild* ✠

CONFIRMATION 2017 – This year there are three confirmands in our class of 2017. They are **Madison Bostelman, Hope Buchhop, and Aden Foor**. This class has chosen a confirmation theme based on the words of Acts 17:28, "We are indeed his offspring." The theme, "God's Offspring," is a reminder to them and all of us that we belong to God by virtue of His having created us, but even more so by virtue of His having redeemed us in Christ our Lord. Please pray for these youth on this day of their confirmation that God will continually live in them even as they live, move, and have their being in Him.

Confirmation is not the end of the journey of Christian education and growth, but the very beginning. Let's ALL set a good example for them by a personal commitment to worship and the study of the Scriptures as we "hold His Word sacred and gladly hear and learn it!"



In God's House This Week		<i>Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl</i>
Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM 10:30AM	Confirmation and Communion Service Sunday School; "Time To Spare" and Sr. High LYF (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Mon.	5:30 PM	<i>Bread From Heaven</i> Food Pantry distribution
Tue.	9:00 AM	Exercise Class
Thurs.	9:00 AM 12:40PM 2:00 PM 7:00 PM	<i>Last Student day of school</i> Exercise Class Closing Chapel Service ; Kindergarten Graduation; Academic Awards Early Dismissal Joint Ascension Worship Service (<i>see bulletin note</i>) Greeters: Richard & Bev Elling Ushers: Dave Badenhop, <u>Denny VonDeylen</u> , <u>Jerry Short</u> , Dan Wiechers Altar Guild: Kathy Badenhop, Sandy VonDeylen, Mary Rettig
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 11:00AM	8th Grade Graduation and Worship Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "Time To Spare" 8 th Grade Graduation Potluck Luncheon
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. James Strawn</i> , St. James Lutheran – Archbold

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

FLOWERS TODAY:

- Altar flowers are placed by this year's Confirmation Class.
- Piano flowers are placed in honor of *Madison Bostelman's* Confirmation today and are from Grandpa & Grandma Dietrich
- Piano flowers are also placed today in memory of the 10th anniversary of the passing of *Joan Badenhop* and are placed by her family. Please keep them in your thoughts at this time of remembrance for them.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: There will be no Sunday School for the months of June, July, and August. We will resume Sunday School the first Sunday in September, which will be promotion Sunday.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY IS CANCELLED TODAY. Next Sunday the vicar will continue our discussion about missing links in the “evolutionary chain.” These missing links provide a daunting problem for those who believe in evolution, but for those who believe the Word of God, they are exactly what we would expect. Join us next Sunday!

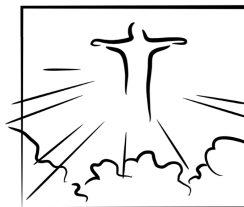
SR. HIGH LYF & SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY: As a kickoff to summer, the Sr. High LYF and “Time To Spare” Sunday School class will be meeting at Carey & Sharon Damman’s house today from 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM. A brunch/lunch will be served by the Dammans. Hope to see you there!

CAMP RESTORE CREW – (Volunteer Forms) Camp Restore requires all volunteers to fill out an information form and a medical form. We have these and need to send the completed forms ASAP. These are on the table in the narthex, or see Vicar Keller today after bible study to receive the forms.

ARCHIVES DISPLAY: The Archives Committee members have put up a display of past Confirmation classes ranging from 1936 (*80th anniversary*) to 2011 (*celebrating their 5th anniversary*). Come and check it out in the showcases in the hallway by the church.

FEAST OF THE ASCENSION, JOINT SERVICE - Forty days after our Lord's resurrection, He "ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things." (*Eph. 4:10*) Our Lord's ascension was not His "swan song," but the beginning of an entirely new and better way of being present with His Church.

Ascension Day is Thursday, May 25th. That day at 7:00 p.m. join your circuit brothers and sisters for an Ascension Divine Service hosted right here at St. John. Participating congregations are Emmaus and St. Luke (*Wauseon*), St John (*Freedom Twp.*), St. Paul (*Liberty Center*), and Zion (*Ridgeville*). Join us for the celebration!



8TH GRADE GRADUATION will be held on Sunday, May 28th at 9:00 AM. A potluck luncheon will be held in their honor following the 9:00 AM Worship Service in the fellowship hall. The field day activities for this year are cancelled. Our 8th grade graduates are: *Madison Bostelman, Hope Buchhop, and Ella Griffith.*

ST. JOHN KINDERGARTEN: There have been several inquiries about St. John kindergarten class for next year. We know that our numbers are down for eligible children for kindergarten. The Board of Education, Pastor Kramer, and our kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Niermann, are committed to offer a kindergarten for the 2017-18 school year. If you know of anyone interested in enrolling in our kindergarten please have them call the school office at 419-598-8702.

THURSDAY EVENING WORSHIP HAS RESUMED – From now through October, there is an option for you to worship on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. We will worship in the Sanctuary until the school year is finished, after which we will gather in the north end of the fellowship hall. These Thursday services are ordinarily previews of the coming Sunday. Holy Communion will be available on Thursdays prior to Communion Sundays.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 05/14/17	\$8,717.00	\$330.00	\$380.00

ATTENDANCE: Sunday (5/14/17) Service: 267

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!

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
- **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. There is a snack sign-up sheet on the VBS table in the Narthex. In order, to help with expenses we are hoping that our snack needs will be donated.



CALLING ALL JR. & SR. HIGH LYF: VBS will be held June 4 – 8 from 6:15 – 8:20 PM. This is where you come in...we still need Group Leaders and Helpers. Also, if you are going to be a high school senior in 2017-2018 you will receive community service hours for helping with VBS. Please contact Mary Rettig (419-966-6160) if you are able to help. Thank you!



SUMMER MISSION TRIP TO NEW ORLEANS

The sign-up period has come and gone. We have confirmed that we have a crew of nine heading to New Orleans in less than a month! From now until the time they leave we will receive donations for material support of our group, such as:

- Monetary donations for construction materials
- Vans for their travel there and back

While donations for materials are not required by Camp Restore, 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.

The crew also has to travel to New Orleans and back. If vans are rented for this, it would be the most expensive part of the trip. If you have a van you would be willing to donate, please contact Vicar Keller, Pastor Neirmann, or Joyce Wiechers and let them know. As always, thank you for your support of this mission trip!

JAVA JOY COORDINATOR NEEDED - We're looking for a person to watch 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!

WOMEN OF FREEDOM: The Napoleon Zone is in need of a Christian Life Chairperson. It would be a two year commitment with an opportunity to serve two additional years. There would be one or two meetings to attend a year plus this person would coordinate with the hosting church and pastors for the LWML Christian Workshop each fall (*usually in November*). Please prayerfully consider serving in this position. Contact *Deb Volkman* at ddvolkman2@gmail.com or call 419-446-9234.

SCRIP FOR GRADUATION: Why not use the PTL SCRIP Program to order gift cards for those graduating seniors in your lives. Order forms are inserted in today's bulletin and are also available online via FastDirect or in the School Info rack outside the school office. 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.**

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.

If you are interested in more information on any of these positions, please speak with Principal Kramer or the chairman of the School Board, Sunday Griffith.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL AT ST. JOHN will Thurs., **May 25th** 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.**

SAVE THE DATE: The *10th Annual Stephanie Lynn Kossow Memorial Golf Outing* will be held on Sat., July 22nd, with a 1:00 PM shotgun start. Registration forms now available on the narthex table!

‘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 made at any time. Monetary gifts can be given to the *Good Neighbor Fund* (note it on your offering envelope). Food donations for our pantry can be dropped off in the box by the Archives display cases. Any and all contributions are always greatly appreciated. Thank you so much! As we learned in the meaning of the Fifth Commandment, “*We should fear and love God that we...help and support our neighbor in every physical need.*” (*Small Catechism*)

WOMEN OF FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIPS: Here is another opportunity to encourage and help young people prepare for service to the church as pastors, teachers, lay workers, deaconesses, and parish workers. \$500 per year Women of Freedom Scholarships are available to any young person attending one of our synodical schools. Simply contact any Women of Freedom member for details.

SERVANT EVENT: Families Serving Families Outreach Camp brings local families together to act out their Christian faith through serving other families in need in Henry & Fulton Counties. These families will participate in various service projects including painting, roofing, and yardwork and cleaning. Event Details (bright orange) and **Registration forms (white)** are available on the narthex table and are **due by either May 28th** for the June 2-4 event **or July 16th** for the July 21-23 event.

RIDGEVILLE FIRE DEPT. AUXILIARY will be hosting a Drive Thru Chicken BBQ on Sun., May 21st 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.

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE: The Ridgeville Corners Memorial Day service to remember those who served our country will be held on **Mon., May 29 at 10:30 AM** at the Ridgeville American Legion. **Flag Drill:** Children age PreK thru 4th Grade are invited to participate in the flag drill during the Ridgeville Memorial Day service. Practices will be on Tues., May 23rd and Thurs., May 25th. Call *Laura Bickel* at 419-267-5203 or *Jenny Behnfeldt* at 419-267-5636 for more info on the flag drill.

LYF COLOR RUN/WALK FUNDRAISER – Mark your calendar for Sunday, July 8th, at 1:00 PM, the LYF will be hosting a Color Run/Walk on our church grounds. The price to participate is \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for kids. Sign up for the event on Facebook or email Sarah Bartok at sbartok@sjl.org. See “color” flyers in the hallway too!

✂ ✂ ✂

FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable.” 2 Tim. 3:16

As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me; Let Your Word in me take root.

(LSB 589, 4)