



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 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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SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sermon & Text: "The Twelve" *Acts 1:13*

Order of Service: *Service of Prayer and Preaching*

Hymns: **544 ~ 856 ~ 525**

Chime Choir: Grades 5&6 play "Beautiful Savior"

WELCOME TO OUR VETERANS & VISITORS

On this Memorial Day Weekend, welcome to this service of worship in which we remember, with reverence and thanksgiving, those who gave their lives for our country. Above all, however, we would remember Him whose love includes people of all nations—our Lord Jesus who gave His life for all of us. May the remembrance of His sacrifice bring reconciliation and peace! If you are a visitor today, please fill out a blue pew card from the rack in front of you and pass it to the center aisle during the offering.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✘ Bethann Gerken, *Pianist* ✘ Gavin Gerken & Aden Foor, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Elmer & Pat Maassel, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Eldor & Rosella Gruenhagen, *Visitation* ✘
- ✘ Dave Badenhop, Denny VonDeylen, Jerry Short, Dan Wiechers, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Kathy Badenhop, Sandy VonDeylen, Mary Rettig, *Altar Guild* ✘

GRADUATION CLASS OF 2017 – The Altar Flowers are placed today in honor of the eighth grade graduating class of St. John. The 2017 graduates are:

Madison Dietrich Bostelman

Hope Elizabeth Irene Buchhop

Ella Kathryn Griffith

We wish you all of God's blessings as you begin the next chapter in your lives. Good luck to both of you and CONGRATULATIONS from everyone at St. John!

In God's House This Week		<i>Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl</i>
Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM 11:00AM	8th Grade Graduation and Worship Service Adult Bible Class; "Time To Spare" 8 th Grade Graduation Potluck Luncheon
Tue.	9:00 AM	Exercise Class in gym
Thurs.	6:30 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Men's Bible Breakfast at Hill's Restaurant Exercise Class in gym Thursday Evening Worship
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 6:15 PM	Worship Service Adult Bible Class Vacation Bible School (<i>until 8:20 PM daily thru Thurs., June 8</i>)
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Matthew Schiemann</i> , St. John Lutheran – Defiance

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 and Shirley Sonnenberg*, 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

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School is cancelled for today. 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.

8TH GRADE GRADUATION & POTLUCK: Following the Graduation Worship Service today at 9:00 AM, a potluck luncheon will be held in the fellowship hall at 11:00 AM. The field day activities for this year are cancelled.

Life's Big Questions, God Big Answers - Sunday Bible Study

Evolutionists assume that evolution is true and have been on the lookout for the missing link to prove their theory since Darwin presented it. Despite all their efforts, this link is still missing. We continue this morning by continuing our discussion about the missing link by asking, "**What About The Missing Link?**"

Next week we plan to begin the final of the 10 Big Questions by asking, "**From Where Did the Different Races Come?**" Race and race issues are touchy subjects in our culture, but there is a clear declaration in Holy Scripture concerning where "different races" come from. How does this contrast from what the Theory of Evolution would say the races came about?

Please join us during the Sunday School hour as we grow in grace and in the knowledge of God's Holy Word, and in our own ability to defend the Christian faith.

THANK YOU! We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parent volunteers, Athletic Boosters, PTL, Mystery Readers, and anyone else that helped to make this school year so special for the students at St. John. Be sure to check out the Mystery Reader display in the Narthex today!

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR RECOGNITION – If you are graduating from high school with the class of 2017, we'd like to take a moment or two to recognize you in our worship two weeks from today, **Sunday, June 4th**. On that day we'll have you gather together before worship in the "Cry Room" and be seated together for worship. We'll ask about your plans, and offer prayer for you as well. In the meantime, we'd appreciate having a picture of each graduate that we can project during the recognition. Email them to *Pastor Niermann* at sniermann.sjl@gmail.com, or drop off in the office.

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.

**Men's Breakfast
Bible Study**



MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST – Join on us the first Thursday of each month at Hill's Restaurant in Napoleon for good food, conversation, and spiritual growth! We gather at 6:30 a.m. for one hour. The cost of breakfast is \$7.00 which includes the tip. This Thursday we will be digging deeper in our Lord's "Sermon on the Plain." Morning is a great time to be together in God's Word, as the Psalmist said, "I will sing aloud of your steadfast love *in the morning*. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress." (Psalm 59:16)

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 05/21/17	\$5,650.00	\$163.00	\$430.00

ATTENDANCE: Sunday (5/21/17) Service: 187

THURSDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: May 4th – 36; May 11th – 42; May 18th – 42

MEMORIALS for *Marie Damman*: *St. John School* - \$500; *St. John Endowment Fund* - \$500; *St. John Church Endowment Fund* – School - \$500; *St. John Church Home Fund* - \$300

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.

REPORT CARDS will be available for viewing and or printing via FastDirect Communication as of Sun., June 11th. We will no longer print hard copies from the office. Please check FastDirect on the 11th. 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!

MISSION SEMINAR AND SUNDAY – June 10-11 (Saturday, Sunday)

This year for our annual Mission Sunday we have invited **Rev. Farrukh Khan** to St. John as our guest preacher. Rev. Kahn is originally from Pakistan, having come from a family that converted from Islam to the Lutheran, Christian faith. He spent 17 years in Saudi Arabia as an engineer for a Texas-based multinational corporation. Rev. F. Khan was called to work as a missionary for POBLO (People of the Book Lutheran Outreach) in Toronto, Canada. While there, he helped plant *All Nations Lutheran Church*, a primarily Pakistani and Indian congregation.

He is a graduate of Concordia Seminary's Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology. He has also received church planting training through the Center for U.S. Missions. Since joining POBLO, Rev. Khan has planted new churches and trained existing churches on how to effectively engage in outreach to Muslims and other unreached people groups. Rev. Kahn will be with us on the weekend of June 10-11. There will be a door offering that day to support POBLO, which is the primary outreach of the LC-MS to Muslims.

- **Sat. June 10 6:30 p.m.** – Evening seminar covering three topics:
 1. Sarah – The testimony of a Saudi Covert to Christianity
 2. Allah of the Koran vs. God of the Bible
 3. How to respond to the challenge of Islam
- **Sun. June 11 9:00 a.m.** – **Mission Service, with Rev. Kahn as our guest preacher**
10:15 a.m. – Bible Class with Rev. Kahn
“Unequally Yoked” Especially for youth and their parents

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.

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. Call *Laura Bickel* at 419-267-5203 or *Jenny Behnfeldt* at 419-267-5636 for more info on the flag drill. **Choir:** The Ridgeville Community Choir will also be singing during the service. If you are interested in participating in the Choir, please be at the Legion by 9:45 on Mon., May 29th for a brief rehearsal.

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!

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 and/or Music Instructor** – This individual is responsible for computer instruction and or 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.
- **Freedom's Flock Care Provider** – This individual is responsible for the care of the students in our after-school program each day from 3:00 to 6:00 PM. 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.

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.

LARGE PRINT & CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BULLETINS are available today on the table in the narthex. The Children's Bulletins are coordinated with the Bible texts for each Sunday, and provide activities that tie in with the weekly themes. Pick one up today for your child.

SUNNY D LABELS – Throughout the summer please continue to save labels from *Sunny D* drinks. Classrooms that save 20 *SunnyD* labels earn 20 FREE books. **SEND** the UPC labels to the school office at any time or save them until school resumes in the fall.

'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.

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!

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!

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS: Please note the church office hours during the month of June are Monday thru Thursday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Closed over the lunch hour and all day on Fridays. If making a special trip, please call (419-598-8961) to guarantee someone will be here. Thank you!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Confess your own sins, not your neighbor's!

*We should fear and love God so that we do not...hurt our neighbor's reputation,
but defend him speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.*

(Luther's Small Catechism, Eighth Commandment)