



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 Co. Rd. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

August 13, 2017

VOL. 82

NO. 33

Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor  
Rev. Charles Kramer, Principal

Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181  
School: 419-598-8702 Cell: 567-277-1339  
Church Website: [www.sjl.org](http://www.sjl.org)

### TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Seeing Ourselves As God Sees Us"

Order of Service: *Service of Prayer & Preaching (LSB pg. 260)*

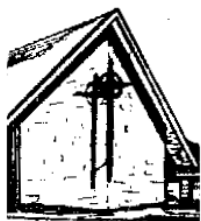
Hymns: 915 ~ 563 ~ 917

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### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

*Now is the hour of worship. God speaks to us and we listen and respond with our hymns, prayers and praises. Together we bless the Lord whose purpose is to save us and keep us in His faithful flock. He is The God of Grace and The God of Glory. If you are visiting with us 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.*

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

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠ Ashton Niese, *Acolyte* ✠
- ✠ Lois Arps & Evelyn Rohrs, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Lawrence & Hildegard Behrmann, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Denny Behnfeldt, Bob Norden, Ted Ripke, Elmer Maassel, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Diane VonDeylen, LouAnn Rosebrock, Jeannette Bostelman, *Altar Guild* ✠

**ARCHIVES DISPLAY:** The Archives Committee has been busy again, and this time they are highlighting the Mother- Daughter Banquets held here at St. John over the years. Did you know the first Mother-Daughter Banquet was held on June 27, 1967? And 30 years later, the last banquet was held on May 7, 1997. All the program booklets, committee members for each year, and the themes are being displayed. If you're a middle-aged to senior-aged woman, you should well remember going to a Mother-Daughter banquet in past years. Be sure to stop by the display to reminisce.

<b>In God's House This Week</b>		<i>Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl</i>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Today	9:00 AM	Worship Service with Communion following
Tue.	9:00 AM	Exercise Class
Thurs.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Thursday Evening Worship
Fri.	9:00 AM	Staff Meeting
Sun.	9:00AM 10:00AM 10:20AM 11:00AM	Communion Service Classrooms open; Preschool Open House ( <i>till 11:00 AM</i> ); Pay school fees Adult Bible Study PTL Family Game Day
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Theodore Rellstab</i> , St. John Lutheran, Holgate

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

- ❖ Shut-Ins: *Norma Damman, Renetta Homan, Stan Moll, Delores Badenhop*
- ❖ *Delora Winkelman, Marian Buchhop, and Anna Brodman*, at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Lucia Delventhal*, at Fulton Manor, Wauseon
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, residing at the Ohio Veteran's Home, Sandusky
- ❖ Armed Services: *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, Connor Gerken, Seth Handy*
- ❖ *Shirley Sonnenberg*, dealing with health issues
- ❖ *Melba Elling*, moved to Assisted Living at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Don Dickmann*, recuperating at The Orchards of Northcrest
- ❖ *Bev Elling*, recuperating from rotator cuff surgery this past week

**MANY THANKS:**

- A big “THANK YOU” to all the school families who teamed up to tackle the big job of cleaning the school building. There was a lot of support this year again, and because of that, the cleaning went very smoothly. Great job St. John families!!
- A special thanks St. John to Reldon (*Shorty*) Bischoff for donating a life size wooden eagle sculpture (made with a chain saw), and also thank you to Kailee (Rosebrock) Leonard for painting the eagle. The sculpture can be seen at the Henry County Fair and in the gym lobby.
- Thank you to the Women of Freedom for hosting the farewell potluck this past Sunday for Vicar Keller, Hanne, and Annalise. The selections of food were fantastic! Great job!
- Thank you to the group that volunteered to load up and move the Keller's back to Fort Wayne. There is a lot of behind the scenes planning to get this job done, and with everyone's effort last weekend, the move went very smoothly.

**VICAR BRENT KELLER'S CURRENT ADDRESS:** For anyone wishing to send *Vicar Keller & Hanne* a note, here is their new mailing address: 10503 Lagoon Drive, Grabill, IN 46741.

**WOMEN OF FREEDOM:** The Women of Freedom will not be meeting in August. Our next meeting will be Tues., Sept. 19. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend!

**ST. JOHN'S FAIR BOOTH** – St. John Lutheran School will be having a booth at the Henry County Fair this year. We are asking for some help to work at the booth and share information about our amazing school. You can still sign up to man the booth during the week by simply going to St. John Lutheran School's Facebook page. If you would like to help out at more times, you are free to sign up for those as well. Any questions??? Contact *Sarah Bartok* at (734)752-9893.

**LYF ASSISTANCE NEEDED** – *Sarah Bartok*, our LYF leader, is seeking assistance with this youth ministry in our congregation for both the Junior High and Senior High levels. If you would be interested in volunteering, please speak with Sarah. Your service would be a blessing to her and to our youth whom she is serving.

**SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES THIS NEW SEASON**

As we approach the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation on October 31<sup>st</sup>, our Sunday Bible studies will focus on Reformation-related topics on which we still need to reflect even half a millennium later. Join us starting next Sunday for these studies. You'll come to appreciate the profound impact Martin Luther had in both church and human history.



**A Man Named Luther – Part 2: The Moment (starts Sunday, Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>)**

This video-based Bible study from *Lutheran Hour Ministries* examines the errant teachings and wayward traditions of the Late Medieval Church that eventually prompted Luther's writing of the 95 Theses that sparked the Protestant Reformation. This Bible study takes a close look at the widespread teachings of purgatory, penance, celibacy, prayers for the dead, transubstantiation, the treasury of merits of Christ, devotion to Mary and the rosary, the institution of the papacy, and the one most often linked to the Reformation: the sale of indulgences.

**A Man Named Luther – Part 3: The Movement (following Part 2)**

In this study, we will see how the Reformation transformed European society and, eventually, left a profound impression around the globe on culture and citizen alike. Everything from education, politics, science, theology, marriage, and the family – and even extending to one's view of vocation and his relationship to God – came under the shaping and seminal influence of the Reformation. Ultimately, the Reformation contributed a number of ideas that traveled across the Atlantic which, in turn, influenced our Republic via ideas of individual rights and representative democracy.

<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 08/06/17	\$8,979.00	\$488.00	\$904.00

**ATTENDANCE:** Thursday (8/03/17) Service: 53      Sunday (8/06/17) Service: 161

**COMMUNED in July:** 372 members and 10 guests

**LUTHERAN PRAYER BOOKS:** There are several copies of The Lutheran Prayer book available on the narthex table. This is a collection of prayers and inspirations for every Lutheran. We hope you can use and enjoy it!

**OUTDOOR SERVICE 2017** – The annual outdoor service is scheduled for Sunday, August 27. The schedule for the morning is as follows:

- 9:45 a.m. Fellowship Time** (coffee, lemonade, coffee cake, cookies)  
**10:00 a.m. Hymn Sing** (we'll sing the 5 or 6 hymns that receive the most votes)  
**10:15 a.m. Worship Service**



**HYMN SING VOTING** – Let's sing the hymns *you* want to sing! The outdoor service will begin with a hymn sing of the five or six hymns that receive the most votes. Please vote by completing a green ballot found on the table in the narthex. Vote early, but don't vote often; one vote per person, please. Return your ballot to the box in the narthex!

CELEBRATING  
**150**  
YEARS

**IT'S TIME TO FORM A 150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE!** In about a year and a half, we will turn the calendar to the year 2019 – the year our congregation will celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding in 1869. It's an anniversary we will want to celebrate in many ways with joy and thanksgiving. If you would like to be part of the anniversary committee, please speak with Pastor Niermann, and we will have our first meeting this fall.

**STAINED GLASS FROM THE OLD CHURCH** – The word is that there are a few members of the congregation who have in their possession pieces of stained glass from the windows in the old church. If you are willing to part with these, we could incorporate that glass into the new stained glass windows that are currently being planned and built. This would provide a beautiful and interesting link to our history. Contact Pastor Niermann if you have some of that old glass you'd like to contribute.

**PARENT HANDBOOKS:** The 2017-18 Parent Handbook will be posted and available via the FastDirect Communication network early next week. A message will be sent to each family through FastDirect. Handbooks will only be printed for those St. John families that do not have internet access via computers, cell phones, i-Pads, etc. Simply go to [www.fastdir.com/stjohnfreedom](http://www.fastdir.com/stjohnfreedom) and click on "Links" at top of page.

**SCHOOL REFERRAL LETTERS & CARDS** – We are again offering "School Referral Discounts" to all school families encouraging them to help "market" St. John Lutheran School to their friends and neighbors. The referral letters and cards are available in the school office for any St. John member that may wish to help "market" our school within the community. We look forward to growing God's kingdom through St. John Lutheran School.

**FREEDOM'S FLOCK** – St. John's after school program will begin at 3:00 PM on the first day of school, August 23. The Freedom Flock Aide will be *Lydia Badenhop*. Ms. Badenhop will be in charge Monday thru Friday. Please contact Director *Karen Riefers* to pre-register your child(ren) and pay the \$15 per family registration by August 23, if possible. You can also access the Freedom's Flock Handbook and Registration/Medical forms on FastDirect. If any adult or student (16 or older) would like to volunteer to also help with the program, you may contact Karen at 419-598-8686.

**ST. JOHN SCHOOL POSITION OPENINGS** – St. John Lutheran School is seeking several people to fill the following positions that will be open for the 2017-18 school year.

- **Music Instructor** – This individual is responsible for classroom music 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.

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

**VOLLEYBALL SEASON:** *Amy Dietrich* will be our grades 4-8 volleyball coach this season. Volleyball will be open for all girls involved in St. John Lutheran Church and School along with St. Augustine, Napoleon. Throughout the season we will be looking for parents and family members to assist with volleyball activities, this may include line-judging, scoreboard, concessions, and helping at the St. John Freedom Volleyball Invitational in October. Thank you all!

**Girls' Volleyball Practice:** St. John Girls' Volleyball Practices will be held on the following dates: **Mon., Aug. 7 – Tues., Aug. 8 – Mon., Aug. 21** from 5:30 – 7:30 PM until school starts. As of Wed., Aug 23 (first day of school) practice will run from 3:30 – 4:45 PM. Any girl going into grades 4-8 for the 2017-18 school year is invited to attend. Please direct any questions to Amy at 419-966-7345. Hope to see you at practice!! GO EAGLES! *Coach Amy Dietrich*

**UPCOMING SCHOOL & PRESCHOOL DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- ✓ **School & Preschool Open House** – The St. John School and Preschool will be holding an open house on Sun., Aug. 20th from 10:15 – 11:00 AM for Preschool, and Kindergarten thru Gr. 8 families. Everyone is encouraged to come, parents and children, so you can meet the teachers and check out your classroom!
- ✓ **Preschool Parent's Meeting** – On **Mon., Aug. 21 at 7:00 PM** there will be a Preschool Parent's Meeting held in the Fellowship Hall. Parents will be informed about student expectations in the classroom and also the basics of navigating in the FastDirect Communication system. **All Preschool parents are encouraged to attend this meeting.**
- ✓ **School Fundraiser** – The Magazine & Cookie Dough Sales for Grades Preschool thru 8 will begin on **Wed., Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:30 AM**. It will run through Thurs., Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>. The cookie dough will be delivered sometime in mid-October.

**OFFICE HOURS:** The church/school summer office hours will be Monday thru Thursday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Closed on Fridays until school begins. If making a special trip, please call (419-598-8961) to guarantee someone will be there.

**PASTOR AARON YAEGER'S ADDRESS:** Pastor Yaeger and Diana are now homeowners and for anyone wishing to send them a note, here is their current mailing address: 207 Langhorne Lane, Lynchburg, VA 24501.

## **SCHOOL NOTES:**

- ✓ **1st DAY OF SCHOOL** for St. John is Wed., Aug. 23 , with classes beginning at 8:20 AM. Students arriving after that time will need to report to the school office.
- ✓ **OPEN HOUSE** – (PS, Gr.K-8) On Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM for Preschool, and Kindergarten thru Gr. 8. All classrooms will be open and we invite parents and students to come in and bring in their school supplies..
- ✓ **SCHOOL & PRESCHOOL PARENTS' MEETING** – There will be a Preschool Parents' Orientation meeting on Mon., Aug. 21 beginning at 7:00 PM in the fellowship hall. This will include an overview of the FastDirect Communication information system we have implemented at St. John.
- ✓ **SCHOOL OFFICE** will be open on Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM for anyone that wants to pay their enrollment fee and purchase supplies from the book store. Payment of fees can also be mailed to St. John Lutheran School, 16035 County Road U, Napoleon, Ohio 43545. The office will also be open from 8:30 – Noon on Mon., Aug. 21 and Tues., Aug. 22 for payments. ***Also return any St. John Library books from last school year at this time.***
- ✓ **OPENING SERVICE** will be Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:35 AM in the church. Following the service, *Principal Charles Kramer* will welcome our new students. Once back in their rooms the children, by classrooms, will have the opportunity to purchase school supplies from our book store if they have not already done so. **All are welcome to attend this Opening Service!**
- ✓ **LUNCH PROGRAM** – The Lunch Program is still being determined. We are still searching for a cook. Until one is hired, students will need to pack lunches every day. Milk will be available each day at a cost of 50¢ per carton. Be patient as we continue our quest for a lunchroom cook.
- ✓ **BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP** – St. John Booster membership for the 2017-18 school year are: \$20.00 for husband and wife; \$10.00 for single. Make checks payable to *St. John Boosters*.
- ✓ **SCHOOL PICTURES** will be taken by *Emilie Parsons* of Emilie's Photo Design this year and are scheduled for Thurs., Sept., 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM for the 4/5-year old Preschool class and Gr. K-8; and Fri., Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM for 3-year old Preschool class and anyone absent on Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>. Order forms will be sent home shortly after school starts.
- ✓ **EMERGENCY PROCEDURE AND EARLY CLOSING FORMS(yellow)** will be available on a table outside the school office as a handout on Sun., Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>. They can be completed and turned in with your fees that Sunday or turned in to the school office by the first day of school. Write all family members on one card.
- ✓ **STATE FUNDS(light blue)** is to be filled out by parents, one per family, listing the names of your children and their grade level. We need to keep this in our files every year as required by the State of Ohio. Return this light green card the first day of school.
- ✓ **SCRIP PROGRAM** will be offered again this school year. Anyone willing to help the PTL with this fundraiser can contact *Kristyn Honemann* at 419-592-0643.