



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

September 10, 2017

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NO. 37

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

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

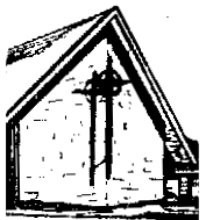
Sermon & Text: "Holding the Body Together" *Matthew 18:15-20*

Order of Service: *Matins – LSB pg. 219*

Hymns: (Baptism: *Borning Cry, 588*) ~ 852 ~ 843 ~ 920

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We welcome all who have come to worship our God with us today! Each day we live is a priceless gift from God, loaded with possibilities to learn something new, to gain fresh insights into His great truths. May we be showered with those blessings as we together profess His Name 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.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘ Hannah Wachtman & Claire Wachtman, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Esther Layton & Phyllis Silveus, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Lawrence & Hildegard Behrmann, *Visitation* ✘
- ✘ Denny Bockelman, Dave Myles, Tim Badenhop, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Linda Riefers, Marian Damman, Ruth Mahnke, Mabel Bischoff, *Altar Guild* ✘

BAPTISM THIS MORNING – Today we rejoice with **Jakob & Marlea Myles** as they present their infant daughter, **Henley Rae**, for Holy Baptism. **Henley** was born on July 27th at the Fulton County Health Center in Wauseon. Her baptismal sponsors are Jordan Myles and McKenzie Myles (*Jake's brother and sister*). Henley's grandparents are Dave & Sara Myles and Daniel & Daryce Rolander. Scripture says, "Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from Him." (Psa 127:3) We rejoice with this family as they celebrate the life that God has given them together as family and forever through one baptism into Christ!



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

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM 4:30 PM	Worship Service w/Communion following <i>Java Joy</i> ; Adult Bible Class; Sunday School Jr. High LYF (<i>until 6:00 PM</i>)
Mon.	7:00 PM	PTL Meeting
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:00 AM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Chapel led by <i>Pastor Kramer</i> ; Offering: <i>Orphan Grain Train</i> Exercise Class V-ball: Gr. 4-6; 6:00 PM Gr. 7&8 @ Toledo Hornets Church Council Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM 6:30 PM	Jr. High Confirmation Class (<i>until 7:30 PM</i>) Adult Hand Bell practice
Thurs.	9:00 AM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class V-ball: Gr. 4-6; 6:00 PM Gr. 7&8 vs. Trinity - Toledo Thursday Evening Worship with Communion
Fri.	6:30 PM	Wedding Rehearsal – <i>Hesterman / Ewen</i>
Sat.	9:00 AM 2:00 PM	LWML Fall Retreat at St. John Lutheran, Stryker (<i>see bulletin note</i>) Wedding Ceremony – <i>Joe Hesterman / Bailey Ewen</i>
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 4:30 PM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; “The Lamp” Sr. High LYF
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Logan Scheiwe</i> , St. Paul Lutheran - Napoleon

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

- ❖ Shut-Ins: *Norma Damman, Renetta Homan, Delores Badenhop*
- ❖ *Delora Winkelman, Marian Buchhop, and Anna Brodman*, at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Lucia Delventhal*, at Fulton Manor, Wauseon
- ❖ *Melba Elling*, in Assisted Living at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *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
- ❖ *Don Dickmann*, moved back home and receiving Home Health Care
- ❖ *Elmer Maassel*, recovering from a heart attack
- ❖ *Stan Moll*, moved to Genacross Lutheran Home – Napoleon for recuperation
- ❖ *Pat Kramer*, recovering at home from a knee procedure at Cleveland Clinic
- ❖ *Ezekiel Damman*, dealing with health issues at this time

HOLY COMMUNION will be offered this morning following the Worship service. Those who wish to attend should fill out a Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and give it to the usher during the collection of the offering this morning. Return immediately to the front pews.

SUNDAY SCHOOL – During the worship service we will involve the children with a children’s message and a blessing for them and their teachers as the season of Christian education begins.

There is no greater work a Christian can do than to lead the children to Christ in faith and trust. If it is a blessed thing even to give a cup of water to a child (Matt. 10:42), how much more blessed it is to give a child the very Bread of Life – to give them Jesus! Willing servants are still needed to staff the Sunday School. Speak with *Zoe Foor* or *Lisa Brown* if you would like to share your time and talents with the children of our Sunday School.



Also remember that the Sunday School students will be practicing music for worship during the openings. Be sure your child is present to learn the songs and anthems that will be sung in the Lord’s House once each month.

"THE LAMP" HIGH SCHOOL & BEYOND BIBLE STUDY!

The “Time To Spare” Bible study has a new name - "**The Lamp.**" The name change is a reflection on the words of Psalm 119:105, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Everyone high school age and beyond is invited to this class held after church in the Cry Room. In this confusing world, it is so important to light our journeys with “The Lamp” of God’s Word. Please come and enjoy food for your soul and body and some great social time! The first session for this new season of Christian education will be **next Sunday, Sept. 17th**. Spread the word, invite a friend, and join us as God’s Spirit enlightens us through His Word.

JAVA JOY TODAY! It’s the second Sunday of the month, and that means **Java Joy** following the service. Take a little time to enjoy a bite to eat and some fellowship. A table is set up in the front hallway. Your gifts to the “kitty” help keep **Java Joy** alive and going. We thank *Jim & Nancy Hogrefe* for hosting Java Joy for September. NOTE: We really need members to be **Java Joy** hosts? It’s such a good way to get involved on Sunday mornings. Please sign up on the table in the narthex.

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“HERE AM I, LORD!” – At its meeting this past week, the Stewardship Board began the process of identifying nominees for the various offices of our congregation. If there is a congregational office in which you would like to serve, please speak with *Cheryl Sausser* or *Pastor Niermann* to let them know. And as always, please keep this process in your prayers that God would raise for us congregational leaders who love the Father’s House and delight in tending to its business.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 09/03/17	\$9,862.00	\$118.00	\$310.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday (8/31/17) Service: 43 Sunday (09/03/17) Service: 149

ADULT BELL CHOIR: The Adult Bell Choir will have practices on Wednesdays again this year. Our first practice will be on Wed., Sept. 13th at 6:30 PM. For returning Bell Choir members, please contact Karan if this is a conflict for you. We are always looking for new members to join us. If you’d like to get involved and share your talents, please contact *Karan Niebergall* at 419-598-8251.

NEWS ON LYF:

- **JR. HIGH** – There is a meeting today, Sept. 10th from 4:30 – 6:00 PM in the fellowship hall. Come and enjoy some snacks, fellowship, and games to start off the school year. All current 6th – 8th graders are welcome and students may also bring friends who do not go to our church. Parents are encouraged to come to the beginning part of the meeting as we will be talking about fundraisers as well as upcoming events.
- **SR. HIGH** – There will be a meeting on Sun., Sept. 17th from 4:30 – 6:00 PM at Miss Bartok's house. We are planning on a bonfire to kick off the new school year. Also, roasting marshmallows and having fun with some games. There will also be discussion about important dates for the year and upcoming fundraisers. Contact Miss Bartok for directions to her house, if needed. Come and enjoy some fellowship and fun!

PTL MEETING: The first PTL Meeting of the school year will be held on Mon., Sept., 11th at 7:00 PM. This will be a business meeting. Please plan to attend and support the school!

WOMEN OF FREEDOM: The next meeting will be Tues., Sept. 19th at 7:00 PM. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend!

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES THIS NEW SEASON

As we approach the 500th anniversary of the Reformation on October 31st, 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

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.

LYF ICE CREAM SOCIAL – The LYF will be hosting its annual Ice Cream Social on Sun., Sept. 25, with serving from 10:30 to 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. **There is a signup sheet on the table in the narthex for donations of desserts.** On the menu: *Chicken Sandwiches, Sloppy Joe's, Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Salad, Chips, Pies, Cakes, Cupcakes, Beverage and Schwan's Ice Cream.* Freewill offering! Carryout available also! Thrivent Financial will be matching funds for this event. Come out and support the youth of our congregation!

LWML RETREAT – Ladies, please consider attending the LWML Fall Retreat at St. John Lutheran Church, Routes 6 & 66, on Sat., Sept. 16. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with the program beginning at 9 until 2 p.m. The theme is “We Are God’s Handiwork.” Guest speaker is *Diana Schnack* of Columbus, who is presently an officer of the Ohio District LWML and has been an inspirational speaker/humorist at Ohio District functions. The cost for the Retreat is \$12, which includes a salad bar lunch. Registration forms are on the table in the narthex, and you may leave your completed form with payment in the box provided. Final day to register is Friday September 8. Contact *Nancy Glaser* at 419-598-8432 with any questions. All ladies are invited – come join us!!

HYGIENE ITEMS NEEDED – In conjunction with the LWML Fall Retreat, the Women of Freedom are collecting travel size hygiene items to put into kits. These kits will be given to the Defiance Area Hospice Center for use by family members and others who are visiting/staying with those in hospice. Please donate travel size shampoo, deodorant, soap/body wash, scrubby, toothbrush, toothpaste, mouthwash, comb, hair spray. Items are needed prior to September 15. A box is on the table in the narthex, or contact *Nancy Glaser* at 419-598-8432 to arrange for pickup of items. Thank you!

A SIMPLE AND CONVENIENT WAY TO GIVE – This fall, consider signing up for electronic giving which is now called *Joyful Response*. St. John Lutheran Church relies on financial support of the congregation and electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis. One simple, easy to use authorization form can begin or change your electronic contributions amount. Contact *Joyce Wiechers* in the office at 419-598-8961 for more details. Thank you!

HURRICANE HELP:

- Hurricane Harvey has flooded the people of southern Texas. To help the people of Texas, St. John School is collecting monetary donations for Orphan Grain Train in Norfolk, NE during the entire month of September. These can be either cash or check donations. Please make checks payable to St. John Lutheran School and write “Texas Flooding” on the memo line. Donations can be sent in to the school office where there is a big blue box labeled “Help for Texas Hurricane Flooding”. Join us as we help send aid to the many families devastated by Hurricane Harvey...and continue to keep all of them in your prayers.
- Getting involved as a Thrivent member! Thrivent Financial, as a membership organization of Christians committed to guiding members to be wise with money and live generously, is supporting your generosity to the hurricane victims in the following way. Thrivent members can make personal donations online through Thrivent.com to specific disaster relief organizations responding to Hurricane Harvey. Thrivent will match up to \$500,000 of donations made to these disaster relief organizations. The dollar-for-dollar match will lead to a total combined impact of up to \$1 million. For more details and to see the list of organizations included in the match, visit the Disaster Response page on Thrivent.com.
- Another way to help is by leading a Thrivent Action Team! Get your friends, family and coworkers to band together to help raise funds for those affected by Hurricane Harvey by forming a Thrivent Action Team. Use promo code “TX Hurricane,” and you’ll receive your Thrivent Action Kit –containing T-shirts, seed money and promotional materials – 5 to 7 business days after approval. Get started today!



ST. JOHN CHURCH LIBRARY – Stop in and check out the growing number of books available in the church library, located in the hall next to the sanctuary. The books in this library have been screened to assure that they are true to the Word of God and can be trusted to be theologically sound. To borrow a book, just take it with you, and then return it to the basket when you've finished reading. A complete list of the books in the church's library can be found by clicking on the "Book Inventory" link on the library page of our church's website. <http://www.sjl.org/library.html>

MISSION FESTIVAL INVITATION – Our friends at **Zion Lutheran in Ridgeville** are having a Mission Festival TODAY. They invite you to a **hog roast at 11:30 a.m. (no cost)** and a **mission presentation at 1:30 p.m.** about the Missouri Synod's *Worldwide Spanish Speaking Initiative* to recruit and train Spanish speaking pastors. The presenter is Rev. Donald Wiley from our Fort Wayne seminary, who served formerly as a missionary to Panama. A free-will offering will be received.

COLOR FUN RUN/WALK FUNDRAISER – Join our 7th & 8th Grade students as they host a Color Fun Run/Walk on Sat., Sept. 23rd beginning at 1:00 PM. Come run or walk around the designated route on the church grounds and get covered with lots of different colors. Food and water will also be available and is included in the price. The price to participate is \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children. Please, no pets during the race and throughout the course. Sign up for the event on Facebook or email Sarah Bartok at sbartok@sjl.org. See "color" flyers in the hallway too!

RSVP BY THE 18TH! On Sat., Sept. 30th, Thrivent Reps. *Doug and Tyler Kossow* are hosting an event to raise funds to benefit St. John Lutheran School's playground. This will be a fun filled day of food, a corn hole tournament, and college football on the big screen. The money raised will go towards the construction of a Gaga Ball pit. **The RSVP deadline is Mon., Sept. 18th.** Call the Ridgeville Corners Thrivent office at 419-267-0113 or email doug.kossow@thrivent.com or tyler.kossow@thrivent.com.

There will be burgers, hot dogs, and other snack foods. The corn hole tournament begins at 10:30 AM (registration at 10 AM). **Corn hole entry is \$20/team with the winning team getting 2 tickets to the upcoming Ohio State vs. Illinois game on Nov. 18.** There will be a freewill donation taken for the food. All proceeds will go to benefit the construction of a Gaga Ball pit on the playground. Plan to come and make this a reality for the kids!

4-H MUM SALE: The Henry County 4-H are having a Mum Sale with proceeds to support the 4-H Youth and activities in Henry County. **Order deadline is Sept. 11th.** Color of mums available are: Red, White, Yellow, Orange, Bronze, Pink, Purple and Rainbow. Plant sizes and prices are 9" (\$6.00), 12" (\$12.00), 15" (\$17.00), Oval Planter (\$12.00), and Hanging Basket (\$12.00). For more information and if you want to place an order, please contact *Bethann Gerken* at 419-445-7910 or email bethann@rteccexpress.net

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

A successful marriage isn't finding the right person... It's being the right person!

"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her." (Eph. 5:25)