



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

February 25, 2018

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NO. 8

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

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Sermon & Text: "The Ishmael Shortcut" *Genesis 17:1-7,15-16*

Order of Service: *See printed Service Folder*

Hymns: 798, stz.1-5 ~ 798, stz.6-9 ~ 935 ~ 936 ~ 433 ~ 763

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We invite you to celebrate God's love as we pray to a Heavenly Father who cares for us, and as we hear His powerful Word to us. May God richly bless your worship today! If you do not have a local church home, we extend a warm invitation to you to become a part of our church family. Fill out a blue pew card from the rack in front of you and hand it to the usher as you leave this morning.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠
- ✠ Karleigh Sonnenberg & Landen Kolodziejczyk-Dennie, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Jerry & Nancy Short, *Greeters* ✠ Eldor & Rozella Gruenhagen, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Tom Von Deylen, Doug Dietrich, Neil Badenhop, Roger Lulfs, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Kathy Badenhop, Sandy Von Deylen, Mary Rettig, *Altar Guild* ✠

VOTERS' MEETING TODAY – Voters' meeting will be conducted after the worship service in the fellowship hall. Items are on the agenda: 1) Annual school report; 2) Audit Committee report; 3) Endowment Fund distributions approval; 4) Old School; 5) 150th Anniversary Report.

SUNDAY ADULT STUDY is canceled today because of the Voters' Meeting. We will resume our study of Romans next Sunday. In the meantime, read Romans 1:1-17 to prepare and to get more out of our study.

ANNUAL CHURCH CLEANING – The list of the people for this year's annual church cleaning are listed on the back page of today's bulletin. Extra copies are also available on the narthex table. If you are on the list and feel you are not physically able to help with the cleaning for whatever reason, let your co-chair know and we'll make a note of that. Thank you!

In God's House This Week *Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl*

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Voters' Meeting; Sunday School; "The Lamp"
Mon.	5:30 PM 6:30 PM	<i>Bread From Heaven</i> Food Pantry distribution 150 th Anniversary Committee meeting
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:00 AM 10:00AM 7:00 PM	Chapel led by Pastor Kramer; Offering: "Hearts For Jesus" Exercise Class Women's Lenten Bible Study Shepherd Committee followed by Board of Elders at 7:30 PM
Wed.	5:45 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM 8:00 PM	Junior Confirmation Class (5:45 – 6:45 PM) Adult Bell practice 3rd Lenten Service ; Offering: <i>Filling Home of Mercy – Napoleon</i> Acolytes: <i>Kaelyn Gerken & Karter Behnfeldt</i> Greeters: <i>Bob & Diane Norden</i> Ushers: <i>Tom Von Deylen, Doug Dietrich, Neil Badenhop, Roger Lulfs</i> Altar Guild: <i>Kathy Badenhop, Sandy Von Deylen, Mary Rettig</i> Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	6:30 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Men's Lenten Bible Breakfast Exercise Class Women's Lenten Bible Study (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Fri.		All Ohio Lutheran Tournament at St. John – Marysville (thru Sunday)
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp"
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, Willie Gerken*
- ❖ *Delora Winkelman, Marian Buchhop, and Dorothy Gerken*, at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Lucia Delventhal*, at Fulton Manor, Wauseon
- ❖ *Evelyn Rohrs, Delores Badenhop, and Melba Elling*, in Assisted Living at The Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, residing at the Ohio Veteran's Home, Sandusky
- ❖ Armed Services: *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, Connor Gerken, Seth Handy*
- ❖ *Pat Kramer*, recuperating and doing very well following her surgery
- ❖ *Don Badenhop*, recuperating at home following his hospitalization at St. Luke's

A HEARTFELT THANKS: Thank you for your prayers during my recent surgeries. Thank you to the ladies who prepared many delicious meals for our family. I appreciate all the ways you have demonstrated your Christian love to me and my family. Signed, *Pat Kramer*

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS – The Sunday School material for March/April/May 2018 has arrived. Please pick your material up from S.S. Superintendents *Zoe Foor & Lisa Brown*.

LENTEN SUPPERS: Each Wednesday evening the youth will host Lenten suppers for you. Weeks 1, 2, 4, & 5 will be hosted by grades 6 -8 to support their class trip to Washington DC in 2018. Weeks 3 & 6 will be hosted by the LYF to support their next trip to the 2019 National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis. This week's Lenten Supper menu is: *Sloppy Joe Sandwich, Hotdog, Chips, Dessert, and Drink*. Serving time is 5:30-6:30 p.m. Some of these dinners are a Thrivent Action Team Event.

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS: We are now taking orders for various flowers to purchase "in memory of" or "in honor of" someone special in your life. Yellow order forms are included in today's bulletin and extra copies are available on the narthex table. Drop your order form and payment to **St. John Lutheran Church** into the container at the narthex table or return to the church office. **Order deadline is Wednesday, March 7th**. The order will be placed 8 AM on March 8th. Don't wait till the last minute. No late orders will be taken.

2017 END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS – The 2017 offering envelope contribution totals (green sheets) are available this morning on the table in the narthex. These will also be printed in the Church Annual Report. We hope this helps those members in need of this information for tax purposes. If you have any questions on your yearly contributions, please call *Alan Damman* at 419-598-8425.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 02/18/17	\$10,289.00	\$83.00	\$625.00

ATTENDANCE: 283

2ND LENTEN SERVICE: \$712.00 – *Good Shepherd Church for the Deaf*; Attendance: 134

2017 CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT – It's time to start getting your reports ready for the 2017 Church Annual. The secretaries of the different organizations are asked to write up a summary of the year's activities along with a financial report if there is one. **Please turn your reports in ASAP.**

UPDATE ANNUAL REPORT DIRECTORY: There are many addresses and phone numbers in the Annual Report directory that need updated. If you (and/or your adult children) have address changes; or if you have eliminated your land line telephone and only have cell phone numbers, **please call or email** the church office at 419-598-8961 or email jwiechers@sjl.org with updated information. It will be very helpful to have current addresses on file when we do our mailings. Thank you!

ESSENTIAL EXERCISE FOR THE CHRISTIAN MIND... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: The Movie "Black Panther," State Islam in France, The Hymn "In the Cross of Christ I Glory," Creation, Ruth, The Church and more. You can listen live or on-demand at www.issuesetc.org and on the LPR mobile app.

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 Niemann a call, and we'll see what we can do!

Lent 2018 at St. John

This year for Lent, instead of **giving up** something, how about **taking up** the discipline of worship and Bible study for the nurturing of your faith. Consider the opportunities below.

LENT MIDWEEK SERVICES – “The Catechism in Six Parts”

Midweek Lent Services at 7:00 p.m.

Because it's probably been awhile since you last picked up your Small Catechism and read it, our Lenten midweek series is planned and designed to review this gem of Christian instruction and to refresh us in our faith. The series is titled, “**The Catechism in Six Parts.**” Luther never outgrew the Small Catechism, and neither do you. Be sure to join us each Wednesday evening!

This Wednesday evening we will be reflecting on the **APOSTLES' CREED**. To prepare yourself, read ahead of time the three articles of the Creed and their meanings.



MEN'S LENTEN BIBLE BREAKFAST – “Confession”

Join us each Thursday morning during Lent for breakfast and Bible study. Our six-week study will probe *Confession and Absolution* as given to us in the Lord's Prayer, in the Divine Service, in words of repentance and forgiveness spoken between Christian brothers and sisters, and in that often overlooked gift of private Confession and Absolution.

Breakfast will be each Thursday morning from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m., sometimes at Hill's Restaurant in Napoleon (cost \$7.00) and sometimes here in our fellowship hall. Watch the schedule, and take up the study of God's Word this Lenten season.

WOMEN'S LENTEN BIBLE STUDY: “Your Strong Suit” by Donna Pyle is the topic for the Women's Lenten Bible Study this year. We will be covering the full Armor of God and watch an interesting DVD with each lesson. We will be meeting weekly on Tuesdays at 10 AM, and Thursdays at 7 PM. Anyone interested in coming can pick up a book in the Conference room and review the material if you would like, or you can just come and join in. This is an awesome study and the speaker is very interesting and funny! This is open to all women of the church.

KINDERGARTEN CLINIC & ELIGIBILITY for students entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2018! The K-clinic will be held on Tuesday, March 27th beginning at 1:00 PM. **Napoleon Area Schools and St. John Lutheran School's eligibility date for entering Kindergarten is that a child must be five years old on or before August 1 to enroll in Kindergarten.** Items needed for our St. John clinic are: An original and/or certified copy of their birth certificate; a physical dated after August 2017 (*if available*); immunization records; Social Security number; child custody documents if applicable; and the baptism date/baptismal certificate, or dedication date. *NOTE: If your child is enrolled in our Preschool program, we already have the items listed above and you will not need to bring them the day of the clinic.*

CELEBRATING
150
YEARS

THE PLANNING HAS BEGUN, but we still need more people involved. The Anniversary Planning Committee is asking that there be representatives on the committee from the Women of Freedom, the Sunday School, the School, the Archives Committee, and the LYF. We like to have everyone involved in planning for this jubilee anniversary. Our next meeting is scheduled for **tomorrow, Monday, February 26th at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. We will be discussing an anniversary theme.** Please speak with Pastor Niermann about joining this committee, and plan on attending.

REGISTER FOR PRESCHOOL NOW! The 4/5 year old class is currently full for the 2018-19 school year, and we have started a waiting list for that age level. Please call the school office to get your name on the 4/5 year old list as soon as possible. The 3 year old class still has openings. Anyone interested in enrolling your child in our preschool program should contact the school office at 419-598-8702 to request an enrollment packet and/or turn in their registration form. We will be opening the registration up to the public as of February 1st. There is a non-refundable \$30 registration fee that must accompany your registration form.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 7TH & 8TH GRADE BOY'S AND THE 4-6TH GRADE BOY'S B-BALL TEAMS: GOOOOO EAGLES!!!! Congratulations to both of the boys' basketball teams and coaches for winning their respective divisions at the NWOLL Tournament this past weekend here at St. John. You played with a lot of confidence and determination! There were a lot of proud parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, etc. cheering on the Eagles!

GRADES 3-5 ROUND ROBIN BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT will be held here on Sat., March 10th with the first game starting at 9:00 AM. This is a one day boys' & girls' tournament. Volunteer referees and scoreboard help are needed. Admission/entry fee will be a non-perishable food item to be donated to the St. John *Bread From Heaven* Food Pantry. The food item donations will be a competition among the participating teams. Boxes will be set up by team designation and the team with the most items donated will be declared the "winner" of the tournament. Contact *Brad Rosebrook* at 419-966-3099 with questions.

AREA EVENTS:

- **SOUP & PIE DINNER** – St. Luke Lutheran Church, Wauseon. Sun., Mar. 4th serving from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. See flyer!
- **PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST** – Ridgeville Volunteer Fire Dept. Sun., Mar. 4th serving from 7:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Carryout available. See flyer!
- **SOUP & PIE LUNCHEON** – Genacross Lutheran Services, Sun., Mar. 11th serving from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. This is also a Thrivent Action Team event. See flyer!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

"He Died for Me, I Live for Him!"

"And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again." (2 Cor. 5:15)

2018 ANNUAL CHURCH CLEANING LIST

ANNUAL CHURCH CLEANING will be broken out into three groups. The top two names in each group will be the co-chairmen. If you are elderly and would like your name removed from the annual cleaning list, please let your chairmen know as soon as possible. Thanks to all of you for giving your time and effort to this yearly project.

GROUP 1: ***Jeff & Sara Buchhop**, ***Bobby & Kara Cowell**, Michael & Jeannette Bostelman, Ryan & Renee Bostelman, Lisa Brown, Jo Buchhop, Matthew Buchhop, Mike Buchhop, Kara Call, Arlene Carrick, Greg Carrick, Michael Cohrs, Jenna Collins, Aaron & Ashley Crall, Alan & Kathy Damman, Barry Damman, Carey & Sharon Damman, Chad Damman, Dale & Dorinda Damman, Dan & Kim Damman, Dave & Teresa Damman, Delbert & Marian Damman, Denny & Deb Damman, Derek & Stephanie Damman, Kayla Damman, Lucas Damman

GROUP 2: ***Doug & Sandy Dietrich**, ***Mike & Amy Dietrich**, Cassandra Dickmann, Jake Dickmann, Lucas Dickmann, Olyvia Dickmann, Steve & Dawn Dickmann, Hannah Dietrich, Mark Dietrich, Mike & Cheryl Dietrich, Ron Dietrich, Madelyn Dishop, Andy Durham, Deb Durham, Josh Elling, Mark & Brenda Elling, Michael Elling, Rich & Bev Elling, David Fitzenreiter, Jessie Flory, Justin Flory, Jason & Zoe Foor, Bethann Gerken, Cody Gerken, Connor Gerken, Larry & Krista Gerken, Peter & Karen Gerken, Randy & Liza Gerken, Stan & Cathy Gerken, Zach Gerken

GROUP 3: ***Alan & Lori Gruenhagen**, ***John & Karen Gruenhagen**, Ron & Karen Germann, Scott Germann, Jeff & Deb Gillen, Stephanie Gillen, Nancy Glaser, Juergen & Cheri Goertz, Larry & Deb Gossman, Steve & Kathy Gruenhagen, Kacie Handy, Joe Hesterman, Todd & Chris Hesterman, Tim & Renee Hodson, Jim & Nancy Hogrefe, Tim Hogrefe, Chris Homan, Gene Homan, Jeremy & Kristyn Honemann, Joe & Krista Howard, Anne Irving, Dave & Diane Johnson, Tim & Karen Johnston, Donna Joost, Wilbur & Irene Joost, Greg & Jenna Kehnast

GROUP 1: Narthex, Room under steps of the Narthex, Balcony (including storage rooms), Church itself, Room in front of sanctuary on east side, Entrance area floor

GROUP 2: Cry Room, Pastor's Office, Conference room by church, Furnace room, Restrooms, (Includes Pastor's restroom), hallways (up to double doors),
(Storage Room by Cry Room will be cleaned by Food Pantry Coordinators)

GROUP 3: Fellowship Hall, Storage Room off of Fellowship Hall, Kitchen, and Storage room west of the Kitchen.