



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

March 4, 2018

VOL. 83

NO. 9

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

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Order of Service: Divine Service, Setting Four (LSB pg. 203)

Hymns: **981 ~ 526** ~ (Communion: **618, 561, 973**) ~ **707**

Adult Choir: "When I Survey The Wondrous Cross"

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome to every member, friend, and visitor. You have entered this church, not as a stranger, but as a guest of God. May you who enter here find rest, forgiveness, and strength. May your worship here enable you to see your Savior more clearly, love Him more dearly, follow Him more nearly, and serve Him more sincerely. If you do not have a local church home, we extend a warm invitation to you to become a part of our church family. Simply 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

- ✠ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✠
- ✠ Landen Kolodziejczyk-Dennie & Aden Foor, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Tom & Sandy Von Deylen, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Harold Behrmann & Richard Elling, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Dave Badenhop, Denny Von Deylen, Jerry Short, Dan Wiechers, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Linda Riefers, Marian Damman, Ruth Mahnke, Mabel Bischoff, *Altar Guild* ✠

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS: Order deadline is this Wednesday, March 7th. We are taking orders for various flowers to purchase "in memory of" or "in honor of" someone special in your life. Yellow order forms 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. The order will be placed 8 AM on March 8th. Don't wait till the last minute. No late orders will be taken.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME: Spring is on its way and that means get ready to turn your clocks ahead. This happens next Sunday, March 11th at 2:00 AM. ☺

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

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM 1:00 PM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" Championship Games for All Ohio Tournament at Marysville, OH
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Chapel led by Pastor Niermann Exercise Class Stewardship Board & School Board Meetings
Wed.	5:45 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM 8:00 PM	Junior Confirmation Class (5:45 – 6:45 PM) Adult Bell practice 4th Lenten Service; Offering: <i>Lutheran Heritage Society</i> Acolytes: <i>Bryce Bostelman & Landen Kolodziejczyk-Dennie</i> Greeters: <i>Dan & Deb Wachtman</i> Ushers: <i>Carey Damman, Scott VanValkenburg</i> Altar Guild: <i>Linda Riefers, Marian Damman, Ruth Mahnke, Mabel Bischoff</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>)
Sat.	9:00 AM	Gr. 3-5 Boys & Girls Round Robin Tournament (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 4:30 PM	Worship Service w/Communion following Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" Jr. High LYF Meeting
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Jacob Stuenkel, St. Peter Lutheran – Florida</i>

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

- ❖ Shut-Ins: *Norma Damman, Renetta Homan, Willie Gerken*
- ❖ *Delora Winkelman* and *Marian Buchhop*, 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
- ❖ *Dorothy Gerken*, hospitalized at Toledo Hospital for heart and diabetes related issues
- ❖ *Vernon Tietje*, admitted to the Hospice Wing at Heritage Nursing Home, Findlay

ANNUAL CHURCH CLEANING – The list of the people for this year's annual church cleaning are printed and available on the narthex table. If you 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!

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*.

NEW ADULT STUDY BEGINS TODAY -- Romans

Paul did not himself establish the congregation in Rome; that had been done by lay converts returning from Jerusalem where the Spirit had filled them at Pentecost. Nor had Paul ever visited the church in Rome, but he eagerly wanted to, that he might preach the Gospel to them. So in the opening sentences of his letter to the Romans, Paul introduces himself as an Apostle of “bondsman” of Christ and expresses his desire to come for a visit. And then he gets to the theme of his letter: “*I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.*” *Romans 1:16*



Because this Bible book had such a profound impact on Martin Luther, it is only fitting in this 500th Reformation Anniversary year that we should take up the study of Romans in our midst and consider God’s Word to us through this amazing letter of St. Paul. Join us that the light of God’s Word may shine upon you!

WHY LUTHERAN SCHOOLS? *Strengthening Congregations:* Lutheran schools equip children to become Christian leaders in the congregation. The school also involves young parents in congregation activities more than in congregations without schools. These young parents frequently become new leaders of the congregation. Students are encouraged to become future pastors and teachers, ensuring an ongoing supply of church workers.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PLANS – Initial planning has begun for VBS. We are considering returning to a morning VBS program this year to try to avoid all of the busyness of family schedules on summer evenings. While we are not yet signing up staff, it would be helpful to know that there are people who can be present to teach and help with crafts, snacks, and recreation. If you are inclined to help with a morning VBS, please speak with this year’s VBS director, Mary Rettig.

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.

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!

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 02/25/17	\$6,860.00	\$240.00	\$275.00

ATTENDANCE: 193

3RD LENTEN SERVICE: \$935.00 – *Filling Home - Napoleon*; Attendance: 121

MEMORIALS for Anna Brodman: \$600.00 – St. John Lutheran Church Memorial Fund

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: *Spaghetti, Salad, French Bread, Dessert, and Drink*. Serving time is 5:30-6:30 p.m. Some of these dinners are a Thrivent Action Team Event.

Lent 2018 at St. John

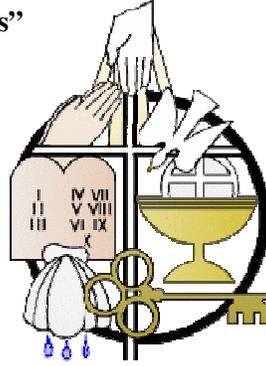
This year for Lent, instead of **giving up** something, how about **taking up** the discipline of worship and Bible study for the nurturing of your faith. Consider the opportunities below.

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 **LORD'S PRAYER**. To prepare yourself, read ahead of time the introduction, seven petitions, and conclusion 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 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.

ST. JOHN SCRIP CONTINUES: Scrip orders will be received on Wednesdays, ordered on Fridays and delivered on the following Tuesday. Order forms are posted on FastDirect under 'Links,' titled SCRIP Order Forms and SCRIP Program Info, there are also hard copies in the 'School Info' rack outside the office. Payment must accompany orders.

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.*

3-YR OLD PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION: 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. **The 4/5 year old class is currently full for the 2018-19 school year, and we have started a waiting list.** There is a non-refundable \$30 registration fee that must accompany your registration form.

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. Contact *Brad Rosebrook* at 419-966-3099 with questions.

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!

CHURCH HISTORY BOOKS – If at any time during the year you need a gift for a current or former member of St. John, why not consider one of our Church History Books. This book is full of interesting facts about St. John's and is available in the church office at a cost of \$12.00.

AREA EVENTS:

- **SOUP & PIE DINNER** – St. Luke Lutheran Church, Wauseon, Serving today from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. See flyer!
- **PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST** – Ridgeville Volunteer Fire Dept., Serving today 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...

**One who boasts of his ancestry is like the potato:
the best part of him is underground.**

“Produce fruit worthy of repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’” (Matt. 3:8-9)

