



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

March 18, 2018

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NO. 11

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

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Sermon & Text: "Are You Sure You Want THIS Cup?" *Mark 10:35-45*

Order of Service: Divine Service, Setting Five (LSB pg. 231)

Hymns: **560 ~ 857 ~ 954** ~ (Communion: **430, 433, 392**) ~ **647**

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome in the name of the Lord. We pray that through this time of stillness and song, prayer and proclamation, you may experience the Spirit of God at work in your life. 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. 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* ✘ Clay Behnfeldt & Kaleb Woods, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Marilyn Meyer & Arlene Wallace, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Delbert & Marian Damman, *Visitation* ✘
- ✘ Dave Badenhop, Denny Von Deylen, Jerry Short, Dan Wiechers, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Linda Riefers, Marian Damman, Ruth Mahnke, Mabel Bischoff, *Altar Guild* ✘



ROMANS ~ Sunday Adult Bible Study

What does it mean to be "called to belong to Christ"? That is what Paul said of himself, and it's a reality for us as well. But what does it really imply for us as the people of God sanctified in Christ? A hint of an answer is provided us in the word "holy" which Paul also applies to us. Then shortly after this Paul 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!

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

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM 4:30 PM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" Sr High LYF Meeting
Tue.	8:35 AM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class is cancelled Chapel Service led by Pastor Niermann Visioning Meeting with Rev. Kevin Wilson Women of Freedom Meeting
Wed.	5:45 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM 8:00 PM	Junior Confirmation Class (5:45 – 6:45 PM) Adult Bell practice 6th Lenten Service ; Offering: <i>Lutheran Hour Ministry</i> Acolytes: <i>Karter Behnfeldt & Macee Speiser</i> Greeters: <i>Richard & Bev Elling</i> Ushers: <i>Carey Damman, Scott VanValkenburg</i> Altar Guild: <i>Marietta Damman, Deb Wachtman, Sharon Badenhop, Nancy Short</i> Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	6:30 AM 7:00 PM	Men's Lenten Bible Breakfast Exercise Class is cancelled Women's Lenten Bible Study
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service <i>Java Joy</i> ; Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp"
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Willie Stottlemyer, St. Stephen Lutheran – Defiance</i>

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*

PORTALS OF PRAYER BOOKLETS for the next quarter, *April, May, June*, are on the desk in the narthex. There are also large print booklets available for anybody to pick up.

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

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.

EASTER BREAKFAST SIGN UP – The Women of Freedom and LYF are once again hosting an Easter Breakfast to be served between the two services on Easter morning (8:00-9:15 AM). The menu is: *Egg Casseroles, French bread, fresh fruit, coffee cake, doughnuts, cinnamon rolls, cookies, coffee and juice.* A lot of help with donations is needed. You may sign up on the chart in the narthex to donate items. All items need to be at the church prior to 8:00 AM. All are welcome to help with preparation and serving. Any questions can be directed to *Linda Riefers* at 419-267-3366.

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: *Hamburger or Hotdog Sandwich, Vegetable, Chips, Dessert, and Drink.* Serving time is 5:30-6:30 p.m. Some dinners are a Thrivent Action Team Event.

Lent 2018 at St. John

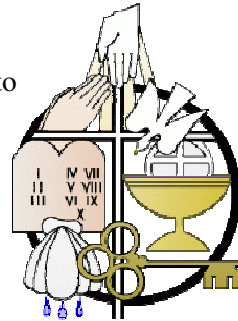
This year for Lent, instead of **giving up** something, how about **taking up** the discipline of worship and Bible study for the nurturing of your faith. Consider the opportunities below.

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!

This Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. we will be reflecting on the **THE OFFICE OF THE KEYS AND CONFESSION.** To prepare yourself, read ahead of time the introduction, read this part of the Small Catechism prior to our worship.



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.

WHY LUTHERAN SCHOOLS? *A Safe Place:* Unfortunately, in many communities children are not safe. Lutheran schools provide places where children don't have to worry about being attacked verbally or physically. Loving teachers and other staff members daily demonstrate Christ's love for them and their love for children.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 03/11/17	\$9,940.40	\$81.00	\$597.00

ATTENDANCE: 205

5TH LENTEN SERVICE: \$753.00 – *Prison Ministry*; Attendance: 119

WOMEN OF FREEDOM MEETING: The next Women of Freedom meeting will be held on Tues., March 20th at 7:00 PM. As always, these meetings are open to any women in the congregation. Hope to see some of you there!

LWML SPRING RALLY - The Women of Freedom are invited to the Napoleon Zone Spring Rally to be held at the Trinity Center at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Napoleon, on Saturday, April 14th with registration/breakfast at 8:30 AM and the program from 9-11:30 AM. The guest speaker will be Kelly Storch talking about Kids Alive International in Zambia. The collection will go to Kelly's Mission Fund, Napoleon Zone, and Mission Mites. See additional information on the narthex table.



St. John Lutheran Church & School presents "Parenting the Love and Logic Way," a parenting program designed by the Love and Logic Institute. This program is great for parents as well as educators,

grandparents, or anyone who works with children. Participants will learn how to...

- Avoid un-winnable power-struggles and arguments
- Stay calm when your kids do incredibly upsetting things
- Set enforceable limits
- Avoid enabling and being empowering
- Help your kids learn from mistakes rather than repeating them
- Raise kids who are family members rather than dictators

And much more! This parenting program is designed to give you practical skills that can be used immediately! There will be a total of four Sunday afternoon sessions (April 8,15,22,29), from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m. in our fellowship hall. Cost is \$15 per couple for the workbook. Sessions will be facilitated by Faith Wiechers, daughter-in-law of Dan & Joyce Wiechers. **Sign up now in the narthex! Also, pick up a flier for your own information or to invite a friend.**

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. She can be reached at 419-966-6160 or email her at mrettig@sjl.org.

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.*

POSITION OPENINGS: St. John Lutheran School is seeking individuals for the following positions for the 2018-19 school year: 1) **Jr High Science Teacher** for 4 hours per week. Must have a teaching license and a background check; 2) **Computer Teacher** for Grades K-8 for 4 hours per week. Must have a teaching license and a background check; 3) **Freedom Flock Aide** (*After school care*) for 12-15 hours per week from 3 – 6 PM. Must have a background check. Interested applicants should contact the school office at 419-598-8702. Thank you!

ATHLETIC BANQUET: The St. John Athletic Banquet is scheduled for **Sun., April 8th at 4:30 PM** with a potluck meal. The Boosters will be providing the meat and drinks, so please bring a side dish to share. Honorees will be all St. John athletes (Gr. 4-8), the Mini-Eagles (Gr. 1-3), and the cheerleaders. Special guests will be high school senior athletes who will share their experience with academics and athletics at the high school level. Come and enjoy some great fellowship!

THANK YOU: A “BIG” thank you to everyone involved in the St. John Gr. 3-5 Boys and Girls Round Robin Tournament hosted this past weekend. A special thanks to the Boosters, AD Brad Rosebrook, Mr. Petzoldt, and the volunteer refs for all of their amazing help on Saturday, and for set up on Friday night. The *Bread From Heaven* Food Pantry turns out to be the winner each year. This year over 2,200 items were collected for the food pantry. Another great job!

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.

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.

FACEBOOK PAGE: Please "like" and "share" our Facebook page which is a great way to share lessons going on in the classroom, special student recognitions, important events, and announcements. The link is <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnlutherschoolnapoleon/>



HOLY WEEK

Next Sunday begins our 2018 commemoration of Holy Week, when we walk with Jesus from His triumphal entry into Jerusalem to Calvary and the cross, and beyond to the miracle of Easter in the garden tomb. Don't miss any of it!

PALM SUNDAY – Next Sunday, March 25

- 8:45 a.m. Children gather in fellowship to receive palm branches for procession
- 9:00 a.m. We worship the King with shouts of Hosanna!

MAUNDAY THURSDAY – Thursday, March 29

- 7:00 p.m. Worship Service, celebrating Christ's gift of His Holy Supper
*This service will bring to a conclusion our Lenten review of the Small Catechism. To prepare, please read the section of the Catechism on the **Sacrament of the Altar***

GOOD FRIDAY – Friday, March 30

- 7:00 p.m. Service of Tenebrae (*darkness*)
We remember the passion and death of Christ for our salvation.

EASTER SUNDAY – Sunday, April 1

- 7:00 a.m. **Easter Sunrise Service** "Awake, My Heart, with Gladness!"
- 8:00 a.m. Easter Fellowship Breakfast
- 9:30 a.m. **Easter Festival Service with Holy Communion**
This is the feast of victory for our God!



FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Following the path of least resistance is what makes rivers, men, and churches crooked.

*"The gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life,
and those who find it are few." (Matt. 7:14)*