



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

July 15, 2018

VOL. 83

NO. 26

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

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EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "To the Praise of His Glory" *Ephesians 1:3-13*

Order of Service: Divine Service, Setting Five (LSB pg. 213)

Hymns: 686 ~ 743 ~ 953 ~ (Communion: 746, 819) ~ 793

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 a visitor, we ask that you fill out a Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and pass it to the center aisle during the offering this morning. Your presence is a blessing to us.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✠ Kaelyn Gerken & Landen Kolodziejczyk-Dennie, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Don & Karan Niebergall, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Delbert & Marian Damman, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Denny Bockelman, Dave Myles, Tim Badenhop, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Karan Niebergall, Ronda & Kaylee Wentworth, Karen Lulfs, *Altar Guild* ✠

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY today will continue our study of Paul's letter to the Romans, the third chapter. In this chapter God, through His apostles, speaks of His wrath against the so-called "righteousness of the Law." Such a "righteousness" is not even possible, for there is not a one of us who can keep the Law of God. As Paul says, "No one is righteous, not even one." (Rom 3:10)

Yet all is not lost. Paul speaks of another kind of righteousness, a righteousness revealed by God through Christ Jesus to be received by faith in Him. It is a righteousness that eliminates the boasting of the self-righteous, for it is apart from the works of the Law, to the Jews and to the Gentiles. Join us in our continuing study – it's never too late to join!

Free
Jews
Spirit
Abraham
Flesh
Inheritance
Gospel
Greetings
Salvation
Law
Slave
Body of Christ
Ashamed
Gentiles
Righteousness
Justified

In God's House This Week		<i>Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl</i>
Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Fair Parade Float Meeting (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Tue.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Women of Freedom Meeting
Thurs.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Thursday Evening Worship
Fri.	6:30 PM	Wedding Rehearsal – <i>Hesterman / Lisman</i>
Sat.	4:00 PM	Wedding Ceremony – <i>Justin Hesterman / Jessi Lisman</i>
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Adult Bible Class
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Donald Luhring</i> , St. John Lutheran – Defiance

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

- ❖ Shut-Ins: *Norma Damman, Renetta Homan, and Willie Gerken*
- ❖ *Lucia Delventhal*, at Fulton Manor, Wauseon
- ❖ *Delora Winkelman, Marian Buchhop, and Dorothy Gerken*, at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Evelyn Rohrs and 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*
- ❖ *Macie Wyse, Arlene Gruenhagen, Gary Thompson*, for health related issues
- ❖ *Eric & Faith Wiechers*, on the birth of Elizabeth Joy on Mon., July 9th at Defiance Regional

GUEST PREACHER – Pastor's new son-in-law, **Jakob Andrzejewski** (*ahn-jay-EFF-sky*), will be our guest preacher this Thursday, July 19 and Sunday, July 22. Shortly thereafter he and Rachel will be moving to St. Joseph, Michigan for Jakob's vicarage.

FOLLOW OUR CHURCH ON FACEBOOK – Starting soon, Pastor Niermann will be posting to our church's Facebook page. In addition to keeping up with all the normal things happening at church, this page will become a source of information about our 150th Anniversary year, as well as a place where members and school alumni will be encouraged to share memories of the past. Be sure to head there soon and check out the anniversary theme and logo on the page banner.



If you aren't following our church yet on Facebook, just search for "St. John Lutheran, Napoleon" and you'll see us in this list with a profile picture of the outside front of the sanctuary. Be sure to share the page with your friends, and let's build a good following, especially as we approach the 150th Anniversary celebration. (Our school also has a Facebook page; find and follow it!)

LWML QUARTERLIES: The LWML Quarterlies are available on the table in the narthex. Be sure to pick up your copy today and enjoy some good reading material. Also, the next Women of Freedom meeting will be held on Tues., July 17th at 7:00 PM. Please bring your Mite Boxes to this meeting as well. Hope to see you there!

LOST & FOUND AT VBS: After our VBS week in June, a *My Baby* baby monitor was found in the 1st & 2nd grade classroom. It is 4” round, white in color with a pastel green circle on the front indicating all the various settings for the unit. If you are missing your monitor, please stop in at the church office and claim it as soon as possible.

THURSDAY EVENING SERVICES are now being offered at St. John through September. We hope this will make it possible to attend worship when summer plans take you away during weekends. Services are now being held in the north end of the fellowship hall. Holy Communion will be available at our Thursday services on the Thursdays prior to our regular Communion Sundays.

SERVING IN FREEDOM SURVEY – Recently the Stewardship Board sent a letter to the congregation about service in the congregation through elected and appointed offices, as well as other areas of volunteer service. The goal is to get members plugged into areas of service that suit their interests, and to make the nomination process a little easier. The Board asks that everyone please take a few minutes to fill out this survey so that, as the letter says, we can each take our turns serving the body of Christ using the gifts for service God has given to every one of us. You can use the paper survey that was included with the letter and drop it off in the narthex, or take the online version of the survey using the link on our website ([sjl.org/links/Serving in Freedom Survey](http://sjl.org/links/Serving%20in%20Freedom%20Survey)).

Worship at the Fairgrounds

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – OUTDOOR SERVICE / PICNIC

Be sure to get **Sunday, August 26** marked on your calendar for our annual Outdoor Service and congregational picnic. Here’s what’s being planned...

- **Worship at the Henry County Fairgrounds, South Merchant’s Building.** We’ll be at the fairgrounds since construction will be underway at the old school.
- **Service begins at 10:00 a.m.** (NOTE THE TIME) This is a great opportunity to invite someone to worship with you, and to share with them God’s love in Christ!
- **Congregation Picnic will follow** in the South Merchant’s Building. Bring a salad or desert to share – the rest will be provided.
- **The School Board is planning after-dinner activities** for families and children.
- **There will be NO Thursday evening service** the Thursday prior to the Outdoor Service (on Aug. 23).



WHY DO WE? A member of the congregation has suggested a feature in our bulletin that asks and answers questions about why we do what we do in our worship and practice. This is an excellent idea that we hope will enrich everyone’s worship and life of faith. A few of the questions suggested are:

Why do we turn to the cross during a processional? Why do we not sing certain hymns and songs? Why do we use Creeds? Why do we practice “closed Communion?” Why do we baptize infants? If you have a question you’d like to see answered, please submit it using the form on the table in the narthex. Starting in May (if enough questions are submitted), we will make this a regular feature of our Sunday bulletin.

COUNTY FAIR FLOAT (MEETING TODAY): Our school will once again be participating in the parade at the Henry County Fair. The parade will take place on Sun., Aug. 12th at 6:00 PM. We are inviting students and parents to walk in the parade with us again! With that being said, we are asking for help once again to build the float. If you are interested in helping design and/or decorate the float, please meet in the cry room after church today. If you cannot make it to the meeting but would like to help, please contact Christa Bickel or you can send Miss Bartok a message through FastDirect.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 07/08/18	\$8,251.02	\$156.00	\$402.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday (07/05/18) – 49; Sunday (07/08/18) – 127

COUNCIL MINUTES – This is just a reminder that council meeting minutes are not published until they are approved a month later. If you would like to read about the most recent council meeting, an unofficial and unapproved copy of the minutes is available for viewing in the church office, usually within a week after the meeting.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR – The Lutheran Hour Ministries can be heard on a few radio stations in our area. They cover many topics relevant to today's issues. Broadcasts can be heard Sundays on: Archbold's WMTR 96.1 at 7:30 AM; **Napoleon's WNDH 103.1 at 9:00 AM.**

UPCOMING SCHOOL DATES TO REMEMBER:

- ✓ **Annual School Cleaning** has been set for **Mon., July 30** at 6:00PM. No cleaning on Tues., July 31 as carpets will be shampooed. On **Wed., Aug. 1** starting at 6:00 PM paint the previous 1st & 2nd grade classroom, put furnishings and desks back into other classrooms, and clean other areas of the building. **Thurs., Aug. 2** at 6:00 PM finish cleaning remainder of building and putting furnishings and desks back into all classrooms (if needed). **Fri., Aug. 3** is optional if needed to complete cleaning. Please contact a School Board member if evenings do not work for you. Please read the Parent Participation Policy on FastDirect with all the details about family requirements for School Cleaning.
- ✓ **SJL Fundraiser** – Plans are in motion for the 2nd Annual "Soar With the Eagles" St. John Lutheran School Fundraiser to be held at the Ridgeville American Legion Hall on Fri., Nov. 9, 2018. There will be a meal, along with a live and silent auction. Stay tuned!

ST. JOHN SCHOOL POSITION OPENINGS – St. John Lutheran School is seeking a few people to fill the following positions that will be open after this school year.

- **Computer Instructor** – This individual is responsible for computer instruction one day per week for Grades K thru 8. Must have a teaching license & background check.
- **Jr High Science Teacher** for 4 hours per week. Must have a teaching license & background ck.
- **Music Instructor** – This individual is responsible for classroom music instruction one day per week for Grades K thru 8. Must have a background check.

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

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

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>

COLLECTING STAMPS: The LWML is collecting stamps “For Missions.” A box is on the table in the narthex. Here is what you do: Cut the stamps from the envelopes allowing ¼ inch margin or more around the stamp. The stamp may not be damaged and the perforations around the stamp must be perfect. You need not trim the stamp; we have someone who trims and sorts the stamps. Do not remove stamps from envelopes, albums, and older postcards. An “old” postcard is usually from 1930 or before. The most valuable stamps are commemorative, foreign, and stamp denominations larger than 46 cents. It only makes sense that you purchase and use commemorative stamps for your personal mailing. When purchasing stamps, ask the post office for commemorative stamps. Colorful and large stamps are desirable. Collecting stamps is an easy way to participate in a mission project sponsored by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS: Please note the church office hours during the month of July are Tuesday thru Friday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Closed over the lunch hour and all day on Mondays. If making a special trip, please call (419-598-8961) to guarantee someone will be here. Thank you!

AREA EVENTS:

- **Zion Lutheran Church, Ridgeville Corners** is hosting a Homemade Ice Cream Social **today** with serving from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Carry outs. Freewill Offering! See flyer.
- **Fayette Helping Hands** is hosting an Ice Cream Social at the Community Center on St Rt 20 in Fayette, OH on **Sat., July 21**, with serving from 4:30 – 7:30 PM. Proceeds going to the Fayette Food Bank
- **St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Defiance** is hosting an Ice Cream Social on **Sun., July 22nd** serving from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Carry outs available. Freewill Offering! See flyer.
- **The 11th Annual Stephanie Lynn Kossow Memorial Golf Outing** will be held on **Sat., July 28th**, with a 1:00 PM shotgun start. Registration forms now available on the narthex table!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

A little oil of courtesy will save a lot of friction.

“...to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people.” (Titus 3:2)