



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

July 22, 2018

VOL. 83

NO. 27

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

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### NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Through His Eyes" *Mark 6:30-44*

Order of Service: Matins (LSB pg. 219)

Hymns: 711 ~ 666 ~ 635 ~ 941 (*sub for Te Deum*) ~ 644

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### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

*Welcome! We are here at the Savior's invitation; therefore let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, receiving mercy and finding grace to help in every time of need. If you have no church of your own, we invite you to make this your home church. If you are a visitor, 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.*

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### **SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING**

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠ Kaleb Woods & Zak Schroeder, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Bonnie Niermann & Cheryl Yaw, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Eldor & Rozella Gruenhagen, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Denny Bockelman, Dave Myles, Tim Badenhop, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Karan Niebergall, Ronda & Kaylee Wentworth, Karen Lulfs, *Altar Guild* ✠



**THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are placed in joyful celebration of the marriage of *Justin Hesterman & Jessi Lisman* yesterday, July 21<sup>st</sup> here at St. John. God has truly blessed this couple and we pray he continues to bless them as they begin their journey in life as husband and wife. Congratulations to the Hestermans!

**GUEST PREACHER TODAY** – Today we welcome to the pulpit Pastor's new son-in-law, **Jakob Andrzejewski** (*pronounced ahn-jay-EFF-ski*). Jakob's father, Rev. Darryl Andrzejewski, serves Historic Trinity Lutheran Church, our sister congregation in downtown Detroit. Jakob and Rachel will soon be moving to St. Joseph, Michigan for Jakob's year of vicarage (Rachel will also be teaching full-time in their school). We welcome Jakob with the prayer that God will bless his preaching of the Word, as well as this upcoming year of his vicarage.

**In God's House This Week** Online church calendar: [www.DynaCal.com/sjl](http://www.DynaCal.com/sjl)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Adult Bible Class
Mon.	5:30 PM	<i>Bread from Heaven</i> Food Pantry distribution
Tue.	9:00 AM	Exercise Class
Thurs.	9:00 AM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM	Exercise Class Summer Open Gym for Gr. 3-8 Boys and Girls Thursday Evening Worship
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Adult Bible Class
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Dale Kern</i> , Retired, St. John Lutheran – Stryker

**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
- ❖ *Don & Teal (Rausch) Hasselswerth*, for their prematurely born twins, Connor and Slone

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** today will continue our study of Paul’s letter to the Romans, the third chapter. Why did God have to “justify” us by the death of Christ instead of giving everyone amnesty? St. Paul gives us a clue when he write of “the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness.” (Rom. 3:24-25)



Join us in our continuing study – it’s never too late to join!

**FOLLOW OUR CHURCH ON FACEBOOK** – Pastor Niermann is 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 150<sup>th</sup> 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 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. (Our school has a Facebook page; find and follow it!)



**SHARE THE BOUNTY OF SUMMER** – This morning a table has been set up under the carport where you can bring any spare produce from your garden and share it with others in the congregation. Bring whatever you can and take whatever you can use, and share the bounty of summer! The table will be set up each Sunday through mid-September or so.

**LOST & FOUND AT VBS:** After our VBS week in June, a *My Baby* baby monitor was found in the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**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!

**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 dessert 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.

<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 07/15/18	\$6,707.00	\$295.00	\$450.00

**ATTENDANCE:** Thursday (07/12/18) – 58; Sunday (07/15/18) – 147

**COMMUNED** in June: 366 members and 12 guests

**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 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**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.

**AREA EVENTS:**

- **St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Defiance** is hosting an Ice Cream Social **today** with serving from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Carry outs available. Freewill Offering! See flyer.
- **The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Stephanie Lynn Kossow Memorial Golf Outing** will be held on **Sat., July 28<sup>th</sup>**, with a 1:00 PM shotgun start. Registration forms now available on the narthex table!

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

**He always wins who walks with God; to Him no cause is lost.**

*"The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save." (Zeph. 3:17)*