



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

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

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### THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Be Who You Are, O Child of Light" *Ephesians 5:6-21*

Order of Service: Divine Service, Setting One (LSB pg. 151)

Hymns: **825 ~ 411 ~** (Communion: **696, 973, 712**) ~ **655**

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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. But above all, we invite you to come to worship with us at any time. If you are a visitor, please introduce yourself to the pastor as you leave the worship service this morning.*

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

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt *Organist* ✠ Aliina Lange & Clayton Behnfeldt, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Dan & Deb Wachtman, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Delbert & Marian Damman, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Tom Von Deylen, Doug Dietrich, Neil Badenhop, Roger Lulfs, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Linda Riefers, Marian Damman, Ruth Mahnke, Mabel Bischoff, *Altar Guild* ✠

**SUNDAY 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 writes 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!



In God's House This Week		Online church calendar: <a href="http://www.DynaCal.com/sjl">www.DynaCal.com/sjl</a>
Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM 4:00 PM	<b>Communion Service</b> Adult Bible Class Jr & Sr High LYF Meeting at the Old School
Mon.	6:00 PM	Classrooms open – Fees Payment ( <i>see bulletin notes</i> )
Tue.	6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Preschool 3-yr old Parent Meeting Preschool 4/5-yr old Parent Meeting
Thurs.	8:20 AM	First Student Day; <b>8:35 AM Opening Chapel</b>
Sun.	<b>10:00AM</b>	<b>Outdoor Worship Service at the Fairgrounds (NOTE TIME)</b>
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. James Strawn</i> , St. James Lutheran – Archbold

**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*
- ❖ *Don & Teal (Rausch) Hasselswerth*, for their prematurely born twins, Connor and Slone
- ❖ *Jason Okuly and Megan Nye*, married yesterday, Aug. 18<sup>th</sup>, by Pastor Niermann in an outdoor ceremony
- ❖ *Rev. Dale & Marcia Kern*, celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary this weekend
- ❖ *Deb Durham and Dave Von Deylen and their families*, grieving the loss of their father, Arnold Von Deylen
- ❖ *Elmer Maassel*, hospitalized at Bryan Community Hospital for surgery to put a stint in
- ❖ *Derrick Maassel*, hospitalized at UTMC for seizures this past week

**ROSE ON PIANO:** A rose on the piano recognizes that 60 years ago on August 24, 1958, Don Niebergall was installed as a teacher at St. John Lutheran School by Rev. George Maassel.

**A HEARTFELT THANKS** *from the family of Arnold Von Deylen:* We would like to thank the St. John congregation for the prayers, cards, memories shared, and comforting words spoken at the visitation and funeral for Dad this past week. We appreciate the thoughtfulness and respect shown from his St. John family, where he was baptized and confirmed, and always enjoyed the welcoming reception he got whenever he attended a service or event with his kids or grandchildren. Thank you for rejoicing in Arnie's call home with us.

And on a side note—The generosity of the St. John family continues; (*though not a suggested memorial*), Deb and Dave dropped off memorials designated to the St. John Old School Renovation/Youth Center project in the amount of \$630. Arnie thought the congregation made a good decision, as his parents did 100 years ago... they were very grateful for thinking of him with these memorials!

**THANK YOU** – St. John Lutheran Church & School, “I would like to express how thankful I am for the money I had received from our church offerings. I will use this money to pay for college as I attend Concordia University – Ann Arbor to become a Lutheran School teacher. I feel so incredibly blessed beyond measure to be a part of such a supportive congregation! Thank you so much!” *Cydia Schroeder*

**LYF MEETING** - Today the Jr. & Sr. High LYF will have a “beginning of the year” meeting at 4:00 PM at the old school. We will discuss the National Youth Gathering (*for students entering grades 8 to first year of college*), Tool Time, and other events throughout the year. All incoming 6th graders are welcome to join us. Parents are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions or cannot make the meeting, please contact Miss Bartok at [sbartok@sjl.org](mailto:sbartok@sjl.org).

**NO THURSDAY SERVICE THIS WEEK** - This week there will be no Thursday evening service so that, as much as possible, we can bring the entire St. John family together next Sunday for our annual Outdoor Service and Picnic. Let's gather together next Sunday at the Henry County Fairgrounds at 10:00 a.m. Bring a friend and a chair! More details about the outdoor service are in today's bulletin.



**150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE MEETING** is scheduled for Mon., Aug. 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. If you'd still like to be part of the planning, it's not too late to join us. There's a lot to be done, so we can always use your help!

**MIDWEEK CONFIRMATION PARENT & STUDENT MEETING** will be held on **Wednesday, August 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** During this 30 minute meeting parents and students will be given all the information and materials they need to prepare for midweek confirmation classes this year. **Regular classes will begin on the first Wednesday of September (9/5).** We're looking forward to a great year together of growth in the Word of God through the study of the Small Catechism and its six chief parts.



<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 08/12/18	\$6,572.00	\$169.00	\$225.00

**ATTENDANCE:** Thursday (08/09/18) – 48; Sunday (08/12/18) – 132

**EXERCISE CLASSES** at 9:00 AM on Tuesdays and Thursdays are cancelled until further notice.

**LWML RETREAT** – Ladies, please consider attending the LWML Fall Retreat at St. John Lutheran Church, Routes 6 & 66, on Sat., Sept. 15. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with the program running from 9 until 2 p.m. The theme is “Make A Joyful Noise.” Guest speaker is *Diana Schnack* of Columbus, and has been an inspirational speaker/humorist at Ohio District functions. The cost for the Retreat is \$14, which includes a light breakfast and lunch. Registration forms are inserted in today's bulletin and are also available on the table in the narthex. Completed forms may be sent with payment to Linda Ludemann, 6266 Domersville Rd., Defiance, OH 43512. **Final day to register is Tues., Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>.** Contact *Linda Riefers* at 419-267-3366 with questions. All ladies invited – come join us!!

# Worship at the Fairgrounds



## NEXT SUNDAY – A great opportunity to invite a friend!

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.** 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).

**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.



**WOMEN OF FREEDOM:** The Women of Freedom will not be meeting in August. Our next meeting will be Tues., Sept. 18. Our speaker will be Nancy Helmke from the Orphan Grain Train. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend!

**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 also has a Facebook page; find and follow it!)

**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)).

**PARENT HANDBOOKS:** The 2018-19 Parent Handbooks are available for parents via the FastDirect Communication network. A message was sent to each family through FastDirect. Handbooks will only be printed for those St. John families that do not have internet access via computers, cell phones, i-Pads, etc. Go to [www.fastdir.com/stjohnsfreedom](http://www.fastdir.com/stjohnsfreedom) and click on “Links”.

**UPCOMING SCHOOL & PRESCHOOL DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- ✓ **School Open House** – The St. John School will be holding an open house on **Mon., Aug. 20th from 6:00 – 7:00 PM for Kindergarten thru Gr. 8 families.** We will meet first in the Fellowship Hall. That will be a time to introduce our staff members and set the tone for the school year. After meeting in the Fellowship Hall students can drop off materials in their classrooms, meet teachers, and pay fees in the school office.
- ✓ **Gr 6&7 Class Trip Meeting** – There will also be a meeting with the 6th and 7th grade parents following the Open House. Our meeting will be to discuss the class trip.
- ✓ **Preschool Parent’s Meeting & Open House** – On **Tues., Aug. 21 at 6:00 PM** there will be a Preschool Parent’s Meeting held in the Fellowship Hall for children entering the 3-yr old preschool class. Immediately following this meeting (at 7:00 PM) there will be a Parent Meeting for children entering the 4/5-yr old preschool class. Parents will be informed about student expectations in the classroom and also the basics of navigating in the FastDirect Communication system. The classroom will be open and staffed during these meetings. **All Preschool parents are encouraged to attend this meeting.**
- ✓ **School Fundraiser** – The Magazine & Cookie Dough Sales for Grades Preschool thru 8 will begin on **Mon., Aug. 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM.** It will run through Thurs., Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>. The cookie dough will be delivered October 16.

**FREEDOM’S FLOCK** – St. John’s after school program will begin at 3:00 PM on the first day of school, August 23. The Freedom Flock Aide will be *Deb Boysel*. Mrs. Boysel will be in charge Monday thru Friday. Please contact Director *Karen Riefers* to pre-register your child(ren) and pay the \$15 per family registration by August 23, if possible. You can also access the Freedom’s Flock Handbook and Registration/Medical forms on FastDirect. If any adult or student (16 or older) would like to volunteer to also help with the program, you may contact Karen at 419-598-8686.

**GOT SOME TIME?** Why not be an adult volunteer at St. John School. You could listen to children read, talk about your time in the military, work with flash cards, or tell children about a hobby or craft you enjoy doing. The possibilities are endless and your time with them will be priceless!

If you would be interested in volunteering in the next school year, please call the school office at 419-598-8702 and give us your name and a contact number. The school will contact you. Thank you in advance for thinking about volunteering at our school.

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

**God has two thrones: one in the highest heaven and the other in the lowest heart.**

*“I live in a high and holy place, but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite.” (Isa. 57:15)*

## **SCHOOL NOTES:**

- ✓ **1st DAY OF SCHOOL** for St. John is Thurs., Aug. 23 , with classes beginning at 8:20 AM. Students arriving after that time will need to report to the school office.
- ✓ **OPEN HOUSE** – (Gr.K-8) On Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:00 PM for Kindergarten thru Gr. 8. All classrooms will be open and we invite parents and students to come in and bring in their school supplies, meet their teacher, and pay their school fees.
- ✓ **OPEN HOUSE FOR PRESCHOOL** - On Tuesday, Aug. 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 PM there will be a Parent Meeting for the incoming 3-yr old Preschoolers. Then at 7:00 PM there will be a Parent Meeting for the 4&5-yr old Preschoolers. This will include an overview of the FastDirect Communication information system we have implemented at St. John. The classroom will be open for parents and students to bring in their class supplies and meet the teacher.
- ✓ **SCHOOL OFFICE** will be open on Mon., Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> and Tues., Aug. 21<sup>st</sup> from 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM for anyone that wants to pay their enrollment fee and purchase supplies from the book store. **Also return any St. John Library books from last school year at this time.**
- ✓ **OPENING SERVICE** will be Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:35 AM in the church. Following the service, *Principal Charles Kramer* will welcome our new students. Once back in their rooms the children, by classrooms, will have the opportunity to purchase school supplies from our book store if they have not already done so. **All are welcome to attend this Opening Service!**
- ✓ **SCHOOL PICTURES** will be taken by *Emilie Parsons* of Emilie's Photo Design and are scheduled for Thurs., Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM for the 4/5 Preschool class and Grades K-8; and Fri., Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM for 3-yr old Preschoolers and anyone absent on Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>. Order forms will be sent home shortly after school starts.
- ✓ **LUNCH PROGRAM** – Lunch prices remain the same. We have put Preschool and Grades K-4 together for one price, and Grades 5-8 for one price. They are: PS 4/5 - Gr. 4 - \$2.75, Gr. 5-8 - \$3.00. Extra milk is 50¢. The adult meal price is \$3.25 and \$3.75 w/milk. Money sent in for lunches are posted to each families lunch account in FastDirect Communication. You can view your balance by clicking on the Finance icon at the top of the FastDirect home page.
- ✓ **BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP** – St. John Booster membership for the 2018-19school year are: \$20.00 for husband and wife; \$10.00 for single. Make checks payable to *St. John Boosters*.
- ✓ **EMERGENCY PROCEDURE AND EARLY CLOSING FORMS(green)** will be available on a table outside the school office as a handout on Mon., Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>. They can be completed and turned in with your fees or to the school office by the first day of school. Write all family members on one card.
- ✓ **STATE FUNDS(yellow)** is to be filled out by parents, one per family, listing the names of your children and their grade level. We need to keep this in our files every year as required by the State of Ohio. Return this yellow card the first day of school.
- ✓ **SCRIP PROGRAM** will be offered again this school year. Anyone willing to help the PTL with this fundraiser can contact *Kristyn Honemann* at 419-592-0643.