



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

September 16, 2018

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NO. 35

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

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### SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "He Who Vindicates Is Near" *Isaiah 50:4-10*

Order of Service: Divine Service, Setting Three (LSB pg. 184)

Hymns: **871 ~ 713 ~** (Communion: **770, 619, 611**) ~ **696**

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### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

*A warm welcome to all our guests. We are pleased that you chose to worship at St. John Church this morning. We hope that this time spent with our God and with friends in Christ will prove spiritually uplifting to you. 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* ✠ Landen Kolodziejczyk-Dennie & Brooks Behnfeldt, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Richard & Bev Elling, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Delbert & Marian Damman, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Carey Damman, Scott VanValkenburg, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Kathy Badenhop, Sandy Von Deylen, Mary Rettig, *Altar Guild* ✠

**THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are placed in celebration and recognition of the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of Bill Von Deylen. The family of *Bill Von Deylen* will be hosting an Open House today from 1 – 4 PM in the church fellowship hall to celebrate Bill's birthday. Please come and wish Bill a Happy 90<sup>th</sup>!

**SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY** – Currently we are studying Paul's letter to the Romans, and making the turn into the fifth chapter, which begins with the word "Therefore." Always pay careful attention to that word in Scripture, because it signals a new section in which the sacred writers draw out for us what it means to live a Christian life. So please join us this morning in the fellowship hall for this study of God's Word – it's never too late! "How blest are those who hear the Word of God and put it into practice." (Luke 11:28)



**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 10:30AM 1:00 PM	<b>Communion Service</b> Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" Jr & Sr High LYF Outing ( <i>see bulletin note</i> ) Open House for Bill Von Deylen's 90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday
Tue.	8:35 AM 7:00 PM	<b>Chapel led by Pastor Kramer</b> Women of Freedom Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM	Jr High Confirmation Class ( <i>until 7:30 PM</i> )
Thurs.	5:00 PM 7:00 PM	V-ball: Gr. 4-6; 6:00 PM Gr. 7&8 @ St. Pats – Bryan <b>Thursday Evening Worship</b>
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 10:30AM	<b>Worship Service</b> Sunday School LYF Ice Cream Social
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Willie Stottlemeyer</i> , St. Stephen 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*
- ❖ *Don & Teal (Rausch) Hasselswerth*, for their prematurely born twins, Connor and Sloane
- ❖ *Marvin Gruenhagen*, recuperating at home with therapy after his recent hospitalization
- ❖ *Valerie Scheffert's father* (Dennis Boldt), currently dealing with some major health issues
- ❖ *Family of Gary Thompson*, (Lindsey (Elling) Thompson's father-in-law), as Gary passed away this past Tuesday from his battle with cancer

**LOST & FOUND:** There was a gold *Schlage* key found on a table at the Outdoor Service at the fairgrounds. There were 2 other small silver keys on the ring with it. These smaller keys look like smaller lock keys. Please come to the church office to claim them.

**FOR SALE:** There is "for sale" in the office a new Lutheran Study Bible for anyone interested. The cost is \$40. If paying by check, please make payable to *St. John Lutheran School*. Thank you!

**WOMEN OF FREEDOM:** The next Women of Freedom meeting will be Tues., Sept. 18 at 7:00 PM. Our speaker will be Nancy Helmke from the Orphan Grain Train. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend!

**PORTALS OF PRAYER BOOKLETS** for the quarter of October, November, and December are on the desk in the narthex. There are also large print copies available.

**“THE LAMP” AND LYF – OUTING!** We would like to kick off the start of “The Lamp” and LYF season for 2018-2019 by going to Oak Openings Preserve after church today. We will meet after church and return around 3:00 PM. Bring a change of clothes for the park. All high school youth and young adults are invited to attend. While at Oak Openings we will have a Bible study, a cookout, and many activities (*fishing, hiking, Frisbee, football, kickball, hanging out, etc.*). If planning to fish and you’re over 16, don’t forget your license. We ask that youth bring a side or snack to share and a lawn chair. If youth are planning to fish, please have them bring their own fishing tackle and pole. We will also need 1-2 additional drivers to help with transportation. If the weather is bad, we will move the festivities to *Carey & Sharon Damman’s* house. Please contact Miss Bartok ([sbartok@sjl.org](mailto:sbartok@sjl.org) or through Remind) if you are planning on attending.

**LYF ICE CREAM SOCIAL** – The LYF will be hosting its annual Ice Cream Social on Sun., Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>, with serving from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. In efforts to give as much of the profit from the Ice Cream Social to the youth traveling to the National Youth Gathering in 2019, we are asking if congregation members can help by donating items to help the fundraiser. If you are able to donate, please look over the sign-up sheets on the narthex table for the items you can help with. Please have your items to the church by Fri., Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>. If there are any questions, please contact Sarah Bartok through the church office.

On the menu this year: *Chicken Sandwiches, Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Salad, Chips, Desserts, Beverage and Schwan’s Ice Cream*. Freewill offering! This is a Thrivent Action Team event. Carryouts available also! Come out and support the youth of our congregation!

**THURSDAY EVENING SERVICES** – While the elders this year had recommended that the Thursday services go through September, by popular demand they will be extended through the month of October. As always, the Thursday service is a preview of the Sunday service, and Communion is available on the Thursdays prior to Communion Sundays.

**ACCREDITATION:** The National Lutheran School Association (NLSA) has granted St. John Lutheran School an accreditation for the next five school years. *Kevin Creutz*, the Ohio District Superintendent, will present the official certificate on Sun., September 30 during the worship service. This accreditation association puts their approval on the quality of Christian education at St. John Lutheran School. Please join us for this worship service to give all praise to God.

**SERVING IN FREEDOM SURVEY** – The Stewardship Board is gearing up for another round of nominations, and is asking everyone to please fill out the Serving in Freedom Survey to help along the process. 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)).

**150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE REQUEST** – The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee is working to build a database of St. John’s former members so they can be contacted about anniversary related events. We need everyone’s help in this. If you know any former members, would you please pass along to the committee their names and addresses? Don’t assume we already know about them or that someone else will give us the information. Use the form in today’s bulletin or on the table in the narthex, and drop it in the marked box. Thank you for your assistance in this project! It will be a joy to welcome these folks back to St. John for our anniversary events!



<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 09/09/18	\$7,958.00	\$96.00	\$427.00

**ATTENDANCE:** Thursday (09/06/18) – 40; Sunday (09/09/18) – 194

**A SIMPLE AND CONVENIENT WAY TO GIVE** – This fall, consider signing up for electronic giving which is now called *Joyful Response*. St. John Lutheran Church relies on financial support of the congregation and electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis. One simple, easy to use authorization form can begin or change your electronic contributions amount. Contact *Joyce Wiechers* in the office at 419-598-8961 for more details. Thank you!

**MEN’S RETREAT WITH REV. CHAD BIRD** – Trinity Lutheran in Toledo is hosting a men’s retreat on Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 8:00pm at the Toledo Botanical Gardens, with Rev. Chad Bird as the presenter. The retreat theme is, **“God Extraordinary Grace for Ordinary Men in the Old Testament and Today.”** The cost is a mere \$10, which includes breakfast, lunch and dinner. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex.

**Rev. Chad Bird** has become a very popular speaker and blogger in the LCMS and beyond. He has served as an assistant professor of Old Testament theology, and contributed a number of hymns to our hymnal. He has contributed articles to *Modern Reformation*, *The Federalist*, *Lutheran Forum*, *Mockingbird* and other publications.

**“SOAR WITH THE EAGLES” SCHOOL FUNDRAISER** – An evening of dinner, live and silent auctions, door prizes, music, and fellowship await you as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual “Soar With the Eagles” St. John Lutheran School Fundraiser will be held at the Ridgeville American Legion Hall on Fri., Nov. 9, 2018. See today’s bulletin insert for all the information about the event. Doors open at 6:00 PM. Dinner will be served from 6-7:30 PM and the auctioning will begin at 7:30 PM. All proceeds will go to St. John Lutheran School operating expense. **Tickets can be purchased at St. John Lutheran School or by contacting Margo at (419-966-3469).** Only 300 tickets will be sold!

**ATHLETIC BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP:** Membership is now being taken for the Athletic Booster Club. Prices are \$20.00 for a couple and \$10.00 for an individual. Make checks payable to St. John Boosters and send to school with your child. Forms are available outside the school office or contact any of the Booster officers.



**KFUO RADIO** – “Christ for you. Anytime. Anywhere.” St. Paul said, “Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.” (Rom 10:17) There is perhaps no other broadcast ministry at which you can hear “Christ for you” more faithfully than at KFUO Radio, the radio broadcast Ministry of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. There’s something for everyone, and you can listen on demand by going to [www.kfu.org](http://www.kfu.org). Check it out – although the devil will hate it, you will “*be strengthened in the Lord and in the strength of His might!*” (Eph. 6:10)

**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!

**CONCORDIA PUBLISHING HOUSE FALL BIBLE SALE** – Through the end of September, our publishing house is offering Bibles at a sale price. This is the time to buy if you’re thinking about a great Bible for yourself or for a gift. For example...

- The basic ***Lutheran Study Bible*** (which we have on a rack for Bible study) is on sale for \$39.99, down from \$54.99. This is a fantastic Bible for study, with lots of notes to enrich your reading.
- ***120 Bible Stories*** is on sale for \$14.99 (reg. \$19.99); this is perfect for teaching the great stories of the Bible to children ages 8-12.
- ***Today’s Light Devotional Bible*** is on sale for \$24.99 (reg. \$32.99); easy-to-read sections of Scripture with devotional commentary and real-life application.



**To order these or others, just Google “cph bibles” and click on the first link.** Use the menu to the left to search categories. Prices in red print are sale prices.

**FOLLOW OUR CHURCH ON FACEBOOK** – our new Facebook 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. The first of many historical pictures has been posted there for you to enjoy and discuss. Please be sure to ‘like’ and ‘share’ these posts so that we can reach the broadest possible audience. Let’s build a good Facebook following, especially as we approach the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.



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 (Our school also has a Facebook page; find and follow it!)

**SUNNY D LABELS** – Throughout the school year please save labels from *Sunny D* drinks. Classrooms that save 20 *SunnyD* labels earn 20 FREE books. Here’s how it works. **COLLECT** *SunnyD* UPC labels from these eligible products: 1, 2, or 3 liter bottles; 16 oz., 48 oz., 64 oz., 96 oz., or 128 oz. bottles; 6.75 oz.- 6, 8, or 24 pack outer wraps; 6.75 oz.-12 pack cardboard case; 11.3 oz.-6 or 24 pack outer wraps; 12 oz.-12 or 24 pack cans outer wraps. **SEND** the UPC labels to the school office at any time. We can redeem these labels for free children’s books for our library or classrooms.

**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 this 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.

**BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION, AND POP TABS:** Our school collects *Box Tops For Education*, and aluminum pop tabs all year long. *Box Tops For Education* is an ongoing PTL fundraiser earning 10¢ per box top for the PTL. They too have expanded their sponsors, so be sure to check over your grocery items carefully so you don't miss any box tops. The pop tabs collected all go to support the Ronald McDonald House in Toledo. There are collection boxes in the school office for each of these. ***NOTE: Please turn in your pop tabs and Box Tops For Education labels in separate Ziploc bags or envelopes. Do not combine them.*** Thank you!

**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>

**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.**

**OHIO ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN:** The Ohio Division OGT is located in the north end of the Culligan Water Conditioning building on Independence Drive in Napoleon. Someone is usually there to receive items on the first Tuesday of the month from 9:00-11:00 AM. If you need to drop off items at another time, please contact *Nancy Helmke* (419-758-3539), *Diann Meyer-Grieser* (419-267-3485), or *Vicki Grieser* (419-445-2986) and they will be happy to meet you and open the facility to receive your donations! PLEASE do not drop off items at the warehouse when it is closed. Thank you!

**4-H MUM SALE:** The 4-H Advisory Council is having a Mum Sale with proceeds to support 4-H Youth and activities in Henry County. Colors of mums available are: Red, White, Yellow, Orange, Bronze, Pink, Purple and Pineapple. Plant sizes and prices are 9" (\$6.00), 12" (\$12.00), 14" (\$17.00), Oval Planter (\$12.00), and Hanging Basket (\$12.00). **Deadline for orders is Mon., Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>.** For more information and if you want to place an order, please contact *Bethann Gerken* at 419-445-7910 or email [bethann@rteceexpress.net](mailto:bethann@rteceexpress.net)

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

**Redemption – God's recycling plan.**

*"Restore us to You, O LORD, that we may be restored; renew our days as of old." (Lam 5:21)*