



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 Co. Rd. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

September 30, 2018

VOL. 83

NO. 35

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

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "The Ending Shapes the Now" *James 5:15-20*

Order of Service: *See printed Service Folder*

Hymns: 553 ~ 946 ~ 668 ~ 651 ~ 738

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

You are among Christian friends today. We all have come to the Lord's House to hear what He has to say and to be doers of the Word and not hearers only. We pray that His grace will touch and move 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.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✧ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✧ Trenton Kruse & Landen Kruse, *Acolytes* ✧
- ✧ Esther Layton & Phyllis Silveus, *Greeters* ✧
- ✧ Eldor & Rozella Gruenhagen, *Visitation* ✧
- ✧ Carey Damman, Scott VanValkenburg, *Ushers* ✧
- ✧ Kathy Badenhop, Sandy Von Deylen, Mary Rettig, *Altar Guild* ✧



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*)



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.

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

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "The Lamp"
Tue.	8:35 AM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Chapel led by Pastor Niermann V-ball: Gr. 4-6 Girls; 6:00 PM Gr. 7&8 Girls vs. Trinity – Toledo School Board & Stewardship Board Meetings
Wed.	6:15 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM	Jr. High Confirmation Class Adult Hand Bell Practice Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	6:30 AM 7:00 PM	Men's Bible Breakfast at Hill's Restaurant Thursday Evening Worship with Communion
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp"
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Jeff Corder</i> , 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*, going thru some difficult therapy as she continues her battle with cancer

THANK YOU ALL: The Jr. and Sr. High LYF youth would like to thank everyone who attended the Ice Cream Social this year. With your support of the event, youth are working hard to raise money for future LYF events, including the National Youth Gathering in 2019. A special thanks to *Dan Wachtman* for donating hamburger and hot dog buns; to anyone who donated miscellaneous ingredients toward the preparation of the food; and to Culligan for donating water for the event.

PRESENTATION OF SCHOOL ACCREDITATION TODAY –

Recently our school underwent an extensive accreditation process of National Lutheran Schools Accreditation, and has again earned full accreditation. A team of professional educators visited our school last spring over the course of a few days. Along with some recommendations about how to improve this ministry moving forward, the team also recommended our school to the NLSA for full accreditation. This process reaches its culmination this morning when Mr. Kevin Creutz, Superintendent of Ohio District LCMS schools, presents the certificate of accreditation. We are thankful for all of the school staff and board members who helped make this day possible.



STAINED GLASS WINDOW PROGRESS - This morning you will notice that the sixth stained glass window has been installed, this one depicting Jesus being visited at night by the Pharisee Nicodemus (*John 3*). Enclosed in today's bulletin is a two-sided page with descriptions of the two most recently installed windows. When this project is complete, these descriptions will be compiled together into a booklet that will be available to all.

ARCHIVES DISPLAY: There is a new display up in the side hallway. This one is depicting the 100th anniversary of the old school building across the road. It displays pictures about the history of the old school that will trigger lots of memories for some of you. There are also some highlights of things that have happened at the “old school” through the years up to the present. Stop and take a look!

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.

MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST will be meeting this Thursday at Hill's Restaurant in Napoleon at 6:30 a.m. Join us for an amazing breakfast and for the study of God's Word. We are presently studying the topic of confession and absolution, some of Christ's greatest gifts to His people. Join us for food, fellowship, and the study of God's Word. It's a great way to start the day!



FOLLOW OUR CHURCH ON FACEBOOK – our new Facebook 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. 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 150th 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!)

ADULT HAND BELLS: Hand bells will be starting on Wed., Oct. 3rd from 6:30 – 7:15 PM. New members are always welcome, so please consider joining this year. We'd love to have you in the choir.

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)).

150th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE REQUEST – The 150th 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 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!



LWML QUARTERLIES are available on the table in the narthex.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 09/23/18	\$6,675.00	\$339.00	\$325.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday (09/20/18) – 38; Sunday (09/23/18) – 179

DONATION DAY – The Concordia Theological Seminary Guild, with the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League, is holding a special Donation Day on Tues., Oct. 9 at the Seminary campus in Fort Wayne. Especially needed are men’s dress clothes, along with other gently used clothing, dry and canned food items, paper towels, toilet paper, disposable diapers, and personal hygiene items. Monetary donations are also appreciated. *Lois Rosebrock* will be attending this event, and she may be contacted at 419-598-8248 with any donations/questions.

EAGLE NEWS: The Eagle News publication will be available today as you leave the service. It is also available online via FastDirect. Just go to <http://www.fastdir.com/stjohnfreedom/>, click on “Links” at the top of the page, then click on “Eagle News-September” in the “Everybody” column.

“SOAR WITH THE EAGLES” SCHOOL FUNDRAISER – An evening of dinner, live and silent auctions, door prizes, music, and fellowship await you as the 2nd Annual “Soar With the Eagles” St. John Lutheran School Fundraiser will be held at the Ridgeville American Legion Hall on Fri., Nov. 9, 2018. Information about the event is posted on the bulletin board. 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!

WOMEN’S SELF DEFENSE SEMINAR – Join us on Tues., Oct. 23rd (6:00-7:30 pm) for a women’s self-defense seminar. Master Dawn Angileri (*a friend of Sarah Bartok*) will be coming to the church to instruct women how to defend themselves if they feel the need to do so. Master Angileri is a 4th degree black belt and has owned and operated a karate school in Michigan for over 14 years. She has taught numerous women’s self-defense courses over the years. This seminar is open to any female from 6th grade to adult. We ask that you wear easy to move in clothing for this event. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet at the narthex table. This is a free event but we are asking participants to contribute a free will donation to pay for Master Angileri’s travel expenses from Michigan. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Bartok at the church or by email (sbartok@sjl.org)

'BREAD FROM HEAVEN' – Another very successful food distribution happened last week. We are serving 30-35 families each month. Food donations can be made at any time. Monetary gifts can be given to the *Good Neighbor Fund* (note it on your offering envelope). **Food items needed at this time are: Saltines & any crackers.** Thank you so much!

HURRICANE HELP THRU THRIVENT: Hurricane Florence plagued the southeastern Atlantic seaboard for days causing devastation and destruction for many. As a membership organization of Christians, we know Thrivent members want to support those who are recovering from the hurricane. And we're making it easy to help.

Make a personal donation; Thrivent will match up to \$1 million

You can make a personal donation through Thrivent.com to specific organizations helping the hurricane victims. When you do, Thrivent will match your donation dollar for dollar – up to \$1 million. This matching opportunity will run until the match is met or until Dec. 31, 2018, whichever comes first. Thrivent will help pay processing fees to ensure 100 percent of your donation goes directly to help those in need.* To make a donation and to see the list of organizations included in the match, visit the [Disaster Response page on Thrivent.com](#).



Lead a Thrivent Action Team

Get your friends, family and coworkers to band together to help raise funds for those affected by the hurricanes by forming a [Thrivent Action Team](#). Use promo code "Hurricane Florence," and you'll receive your Thrivent Action Kit – containing T-shirts, seed money and promotional materials – 5 to 7 business days after approval.

Direct Choice Dollars®

[Thrivent Choice®](#) lets eligible members recommend where Thrivent distributes some of its charitable outreach funding. If you have Choice Dollars available to direct, please consider selecting enrolled organizations helping those impacted by Hurricane Florence. For additional details visit the [Disaster Response page on Thrivent.com](#).

FALL PENNY CHALLENGE – The PTL Fall Penny Challenge at St. John School begins on Mon., Oct. 1st and runs thru Fri., Nov. 2nd. Send your pennies in to school with your child or grandchild. The winning classroom will be awarded a pizza party.

VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT: The St. John Eagles Gr. 7&8 Invitational Volleyball Tournament will be held on Sat., Oct. 13, starting at 9:00 AM. As with any tournament, there is a lot of preparation involved with running a successful tournament. Volunteers are needed to work concessions. *High School Seniors:* This can be used towards your Community Service hours. *School Parents:* Volunteering at this tournament would count towards your "Parent Participation" for this school year. Please contact *Brad Rosebrook* at 419-966-3099 if you can work.

SCHOOL VISITATION: This will be held on October 18th from 7 – 8 PM. The PTL will be sponsoring a book fair that evening also.

PRESCHOOL GRANDPARENTS' DAY – Preschool Grandparents' Day will be held from 9:00 – 11:00 AM on **Thurs., Oct. 18th** for the 4 & 5-year old class and same time on **Fri., Oct. 19th** for the 3-year old class. Grandparents should plan to arrive at 9 AM and report to the gym. Grandparents will also have the opportunity to take their grandchild through the PTL Scholastic Book Fair those days. See note below. Come and enjoy all the fun in Preschool!!!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR: St. John PTL will be having a Scholastic Book Fair which is open to the public on Thursday, Oct. 18, from 6:30 – 8:30 PM; and again on Friday, Oct. 19 from 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM. A lot of help is needed, so call Christa Bickel (419-262-3248) if you can help.

SCRIP AT ST. JOHN: Let's plan ahead! Scrip is great for having "extra money" in your wallet. Purchase gift cards to use for personal shopping or going out to eat. Plan ahead now for birthdays and holidays! Scrip orders will be received on Wednesdays, ordered on Fridays and delivered on Tuesdays.



For those that don't know, *SCRIP* is gift cards that you purchase through PTL for full face value. They work for both in store purchases and online shopping. PTL works through a company that purchases these gift cards in bulk from participating retailers. A percentage of the purchase stays with PTL and a percentage goes to the student's family toward enrollment/tuition. This fundraiser nets the PTL approximately \$300 each year. Think ahead--if you give out gift cards for Christmas consider purchasing them from PTL instead

of at the store so that a portion of that sale stays with St. John Lutheran School. Order forms and program information 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 and on the table in the church narthex. Please feel free to share with family and friends. Payment must accompany orders. **Any questions about SCRIP can be directed to the SCRIP Coordinator Kristyn Honemann at 419-966-0207 or email at honemann@embarqmail.com.**

LARGE PRINT & CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BULLETINS are available on the table in the narthex. The Children's Bulletins are coordinated with the Bible texts for each Sunday, and provide activities that tie in with the weekly themes. Pick one up today for your child.

AREA EVENTS:

- **St. Luke Lutheran Church – Wauseon** is hosting its Harvest Fest on **Sun., Oct. 14th** from **11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** at the church. See flyer for more info!
- **St. Peter Lutheran Church – Florida** invites you to their Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on **Sun., Oct. 21st** at the church (K-980 County Rd 17D). Lunch served from 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM. Dine in or Carry out! See flyer!

✘ ✘ ✘

FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

**Blessed is the man who complains as little about hard pews at church
as he does about hard bleachers at a football game.**

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD!'" (Psa 122:2)