



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 Co. Rd. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

October 14, 2018

VOL. 83

NO. 37

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

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Hold Firm, for You Share in Christ!" *Hebrews 3:12-19*

Order of Service: Service of Prayer & Preaching One (pg. 260)

Hymns: 694 ~ 743 ~ 707 ~ 575

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 new to our community, we hope you will consider making this your church home. Fill out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and give it to the usher as you leave the church this morning.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠ Emersyn Gerken & Ella Rosebrook, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ David & Sara Myles, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Lawrence & Hildegard Behrmann, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ Elmer Maassel, Denny Behnfeldt, Bob Norden, Ted Ripke, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Deb Durham, Kathy Behnfeldt, Pat Maassel, Anita Badenhop, *Altar Guild* ✠

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY

– Currently we are studying Paul's letter to the Romans, and making the turn into the sixth chapter in which Paul asks the question, "Are we to continue sinning that grace may abound?" We may wonder why such a question even needs to be asked, but upon further reflection, Paul makes an important point that we all need to consider. 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)



WOMEN OF FREEDOM:

The next Women of Freedom meeting will be Tues., Oct. 16th at 7:00 PM. All ladies of St. John invited to come. Bring your mite box to the meeting. The Quarterlies are available on the table in the narthex.

In God's House This WeekOnline church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM 2:00 PM	Worship Service w/Communion following Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" Jr & Sr High LYF (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Tue.	9:00 AM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Chapel led by Pastor Niermann ; Offering: <i>Good Shepherd - Toledo</i> V-ball @ St. John – Defiance (2 games) Women of Freedom Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM 6:30 PM 7:15 PM	Jr. High Confirmation Class Adult Hand Bell Practice Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	9:00 AM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Preschool 4/5 yr old Grandparents' Day PTL Scholastic Book Fair (until 8:30 PM) Grades 1-8 School Parents Open House (<i>until 8:00 PM</i>) Thursday Evening Worship with Communion
Fri.	9:00 AM 5:00 PM	Preschool 3 yr old Grandparents' Day V-ball: Gr. 4-6 Girls; 6:15 PM Gr. 7&8 Girls vs Monclova Christian
Sat.		St. John – Defiance Gr. 4-6 Volleyball Tournament
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. 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*, going thru some difficult therapy as she continues her battle with cancer

THURSDAY EVENING SERVICES – There are two more Thursday evening services scheduled for this year, the last of which is on Thursday, October 25th. Then it won't be long before we'll be having midweek services again for Advent. Regular Thursday evening services are slated to begin again on the first Thursday of May 2019.

PASTOR NIERMANN'S RECOGNITION: Church Council would like to invite the congregation to join them on Sun., Nov. 4th at 11:00 AM for a potluck luncheon to recognize Pastor Niermann for his 20 years of service at St. John. Please join us for some wonderful food and fellowship!

JR/SR HIGH LYF OUTING: Join us at Leaders' Corn Maze today from 2:00 – 5:00 PM for fun and fellowship. Event cost will be \$8 per person for general admission. If youth would like to have unlimited hayrides and time on the jumping pillow, the price is \$13. This can be given to Miss Bartok on the 14th. Please bring exact change. Guests are invited and encouraged. Youth may stay longer if you are given permission by a parent or are in high school. This will need to be communicated to Miss Bartok prior to the event. Families are also welcome to join us!

NOMINATIONS FOR 2019 – The Stewardship Board has begun the process for nominating people to the various offices of our congregation. If you would still like to be included on the list of nominees for any office, please speak with a member of the Stewardship Board or with Pastor. Last week letters were sent out to those nominated by the Board. If you received one of these letters, please give serious consideration to the office for which you've been nominated. A member of the Stewardship Board will be following up soon if they haven't already. If you do receive a letter, please be praying for those who do, that God may rise up among us leaders and servants to be about the business of our Father's house!

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!

CHRISTMAS DECORATING: School Board would like to have a group of people come forward to decorate the church this Christmas season. There has not been much response over the years, so please give it some thought this time, and contact the church office if you would like to help. If we can get several volunteers together, it would only take 3-4 hours. Thank you!

SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES COMING UP

- **Reformation Sunday – Oct. 28th**

We give thanks for the priceless Gospel heritage that is ours because of all that God did through His servant, Martin Luther. Get ready to sing, "A Mighty Fortress is Our God."

- **All Saints Sunday – Nov. 4th**

We remember with gratitude all the saints, and especially those from St. John who have most recently departed this life for their home in heaven, including: *Jim Meyer, Gary Nye, Anna Brodman, Vernon Tietje, Carlton Rosebrock, and Delores Badenhop.*

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 10/07/18	\$8,367.00	\$181.00	\$217.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday (10/04/18) – 43; Sunday (10/07/18) – 146

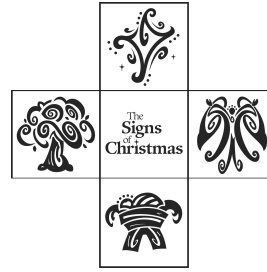
VETS TO VOLUNTEER! With Veteran's Day approaching, we would like to know if there are any veterans that would be willing to come in to the school and talk to the students about their time in the military and what Veteran's Day means to them. If you know someone or ARE that someone, please call the school office at 419-598-8702 and we will set up a date and time. Thank you for serving!

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE PREPARATIONS – This

Christmas season, on Sunday, December 23rd, the children of the congregation and students of SJLS will bless us as they lead us in the worship of Jesus under the theme, “The Signs of Christmas.” We will consider the signs of the tree, the star, the manger, and the angel. We’ll sing lots of the familiar carols of Christmas.

In the not-too-distant future, ALL the children and students of St. John Lutheran Church (*preschool through 8th grade*) will be assigned a part or parts in this service, to be handed out in Sunday School and school, or mailed out. For organization purposes it's more efficient for us to work from the assumption that all children will participate, and we certainly want to encourage that! This tradition helps our children learn and understand the true message of Christmas.

If, however, for some reason you child will not be participating, we ask that you please do us the courtesy of calling the church office ASAP to let us know. This will save us from having to scramble at the last minute to reassign parts. Thank you for helping out in this way.



PUMPKIN/APPLE RECIPES! If there are any congregation members who would be interested in creating one of their delicious pumpkin or apple recipe dishes for the Preschool Grandparents' Day, we would love to have you step forward. We will be serving these pumpkin or apple goodies at our Preschool Grandparents' Day festivities on Oct. 18 & 19. If you plan to prepare a dish, please call the office at 419-598-8702. We would like to have your goodies brought in on Wed., Oct. 17th.

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!



SPECIAL SCHOOL CHAPEL – On **Thursday, Oct 23rd** the students and staff of SJLS will welcome a special guest to a chapel that morning.

Deaconess Cheryl Naumann will be with us to update us on the mission work that she and her husband, **Rev. Dr. Jonathan Naumann**, are engaged in. Both Jonathan & Cheryl have done mission presentations for us in the past; however, Jonathan cannot be with us this time since he is recovering from a heart attack. Cheryl is using his time of recovery to visit churches with mission updates from the Dominican Republic. **Everyone is welcome to come share in this chapel and mission presentation.** Please join us. **Chapel begins at 8:35 a.m.**

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)

"GOSNELL" MOVIE: On October 12th the movie "Gosnell" began showing in a few theaters in Fort Wayne, Lima, and Findlay. For more information about the movie, go to www.gosnellmovie.com. You can also go to our church website's front page for links about the movie; as well as *Lutherans for Life*, and an *Issues Etc.* show about forgiveness and regret. The website link to Word-of-Hope by *Lutherans for Life* is also provided. Word-of-Hope is an organization dedicated to providing good news and comfort to those troubled by abortion decisions.

"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). **Less than 75 tickets are left!**

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.

FALL PENNY CHALLENGE – The PTL Fall Penny Challenge at St. John School began 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 AND ice cream party.

SCHOOL VISITATION & SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR: The School Visitation Open House (Gr. K-8) will be held on Thurs., October 18th from 7 – 8 PM. St. John PTL will be having a **Scholastic Book Fair** which is open to the public on **Thursday, October 18**, from 6:30 – 8:30 PM; and again on **Friday, October 19** from 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM. A lot of help is needed, so call *Christa Bickel* (419-262-3248) or contact her via FastDirect if you can help.

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 to the PTL Scholastic Book Fair.

COLLECTING OLD BIBLES: Our school continues to work on a service project. We would ask that you look around your homes for any unused Bibles. Bring them in to the office and St. John School will donate them to Orphan Grain Train. Orphan Grain Train will then distribute them to individuals and families that have had their homes destroyed by hurricane, tornado, or flood. Often times these people have nothing left in their homes. Giving them a Bible that you don't need is one way that we can reach out to families that are suffering a loss.

CALLING ALL MYSTERY READERS? The Kindergarten Class is looking for Mystery Readers to come and read a book or two in our classroom. It is a one time commitment for a specific date and time during this school year. We have already had one mystery reader which proved very exciting for the kindergarteners.



- ❑ *Who can be a Mystery Reader?* Parents of students, older siblings, grandparents, relatives, church members, or other special people may volunteer to read a story to our class. The goal is to remain a “mystery” so that the children are surprised to learn who our Mystery Reader will be! Please keep it a secret!

- ❑ *What does a Mystery Reader Do?*

Mystery Readers are welcome to choose any age-appropriate book to read to our class. You may bring a book from home, or if you would like to borrow a book, you are welcome to do so. For added fun, readers may bring props or costumes related to their stories, if you wish.

If this sounds like “you,” please contact Mrs. Niermann by email at bniermann@sjl.org or call the school office at 419-598-8702 (*leave message*), if you would like to be a “mystery reader”.

LIONS RECYCLE FOR SIGHT – How You Can Help? If you have used **prescription or nonprescription** glasses or sunglasses in your drawers, desks, or closets, you can donate them now! Children's glasses are especially needed. Both plastic and metal frames are accepted. There is a box on the table in the narthex for the collection of these used glasses.

AREA EVENTS:

- **St. Luke Lutheran Church – Wauseon** is hosting its Harvest Fest **today 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!
- **St. Paul Lutheran Church – Liberty Center** – hosting their Fall Soup & Pie Dinner on **Sun., Nov. 4th** (*note revised date*) with serving from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM. See flyer for details!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Point to Ponder: What kind of church would ours be if everyone was like I am?

*“Encourage one another daily, as long as it is called ‘Today,’
so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.” (Heb. 3:13)*