



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

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NO. 38

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-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Strive to Enter His Rest" *Hebrews 4:1-13*

Order of Service: *Divine Service, Setting Five* (pg. 213)

Hymns: **524 ~ 690 ~ 953** ~ (Communion: **744, 616, 566**) ~ 527

Adult Bell Choir: "Sweet Hour of Prayer"

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

The Lord calls all of us to a new way of living under His wonderful grace in our Savior. If you are our guest this morning, it is a pleasure to have you worshipping with us. Please help us get to know who you are by introducing yourself to our pastor and by filling out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you. Simply pass it to the center aisle during the offering.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✠ Colton Kruse & Logan Honemann, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Don & Karan Niebergall, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Delbert & Marian Damman, *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)



| In God's House This Week | | <i>Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl</i> |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Date | Time | Activities |
| Today | 9:00 AM 10:20AM | Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" |
| Mon. | 5:30 PM | <i>Bread from Heaven</i> Food Pantry distribution |
| Tue. | 1:30 PM 6:00 PM | Stranger Awareness Assembly in gym Self-Defense Seminar for Women in the gym (<i>ends at 7:30 PM</i>) |
| Wed. | 6:15 PM 6:30 PM 7:15 PM | Jr. High Confirmation Class Adult Hand Bell Practice Adult Choir Practice |
| Thurs. | 8:35 AM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM | Chapel led by Deaconess Cheryl Naumann V-ball: Gr. 7&8 Girls @ NWO Cougars Thursday Evening Worship (<i>Final service</i>) |
| Fri. | | End of 1 st Quarter Grading Period |
| Sun. | 9:00 AM 10:20AM | Worship Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" |
| Mon.- Sat. | 7:30 AM | Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Dale Kern, Retired</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
- ❖ *Darrel Behrmann*, for a surgical procedure at St. V's in Toledo on Thursday, Oct. 25th

THURSDAY EVENING SERVICES – There is one more Thursday evening service scheduled for this year, that being 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!

LYF ASSISTANCE NEEDED – *Sarah Bartok*, our LYF leader, is seeking assistance with this youth ministry in our congregation for both the Junior High and Senior High levels. If you would like to volunteer, please speak with Sarah. Your service would be a blessing to her and to our youth.

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.*

A REMINDER: If you are the LAST person to leave the building at the end of the day, after an athletic event, or after a meeting, etc., please make sure that all the lights are turned off and that the entry doors (where the buzzer is located) are closed. Thank you for your cooperation.

| <u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u> | Home Fund | Synod & Missions | Building Fund |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------------|---------------|
| Weekly Need | \$9,792.78 | \$500.00 | \$961.54 |
| Rec'd 10/14/18 | \$8,087.00 | \$168.00 | \$631.00 |

ATTENDANCE: Thursday (10/11/18) – 32; Sunday (10/14/18) – 156

YOUTH CENTER UPDATE: The Building Committee met with the architect in July to give him the plans for the building renovation, and again in mid-September to review the architect's plans. A few changes were made to the plans before they were sent to Wood County Building Inspection. After a couple of weeks we were informed that Wood County needed a few changes to the architect's submissions before they would look at them. Now it appears we might have the permits by the week of October 22nd. The roofer has moved his part of the project back to December (*weather permitting*). The economy has taken off this year and building and service professionals are buried in work, so patience is needed on our part. The project will move forward, just not as quickly as we would like. Ohio Gas Company is in the process of installing natural gas service to the building.



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. Letters were recently 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!

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!

WOMEN'S SELF DEFENSE – This Tuesday (Oct. 23rd) from 6:00-7:30 pm there will be a women's self-defense seminar in the gym. **If you did not sign up, you can still come.** Just show up and Master Dawn Angileri will instruct you how to defend yourselves if the need should arise. We ask that you wear easy to move in clothing for this event. This is a free event but we are asking for 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)

SCRIP ORDER FORMS: The SCRIP Order Form is inserted in today's bulletin. Additional order forms are available on the narthex table and in the "School Info" rack outside the school office if you should need more. Thank you and happy early holiday shopping!

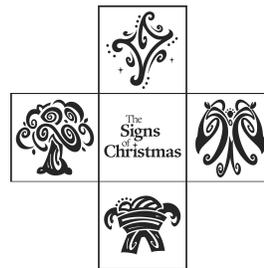
VETS TO VOLUNTEER! With Veteran's Day approaching, we would like to know if there are any veterans that would be willing to come in to the school and talk to the students about their time in the military and what Veteran's Day means to them. If you know someone or ARE that someone, please call the school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

"SOAR WITH THE EAGLES" TICKETS – Tickets are selling fast this year. **There are less than 40 tickets left!** Be sure to get yours before they are sold out. We don't want you to miss out on the fun on Nov. 9th! Information about the event is posted on the bulletin board and in the hallways. Tickets can be purchased at St. John Lutheran School or by contacting Margo at (419-966-3469).

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.



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 their names and addresses? Don't assume we already know about them. 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 NAPOLEON ZONE CHRISTIAN LIFE WORKSHOP –The LWML Napoleon Zone Christian Life Workshop will be held on Sat., October 27. Registration begins at 8:30 AM. The theme this year is "Stillness in the Seasons of Life." A Mite offering will be taken to help reach the goals set by the Ohio District for their mission projects. The Ingathering will be for new toys or gift cards for the Ft. Wayne Seminary families. Information flyers are available on the narthex table.

"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.



SPECIAL SCHOOL CHAPEL THIS WEEK – This **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 approximately 8:35 a.m.**

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.

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".

GIRLS' BASKETBALL INFO: The 2018/19 SJL basketball season is almost here! The Grades 4-8 Girls' Basketball team will host their first practice on **Tuesday October 30th from 3:30-5:00 pm.** The coaching staff will host a meeting in the gym immediately following practice for prospective team parents and athletes. Information on the team program, practices, and games will be provided for your consideration. See you there! We are always looking for coaching assistants!

SPORTS SCHEDULE NOTE: With *Brad Rosebrook* as our Athletic Director, please go to his "Calendar" in Fast Direct frequently as this is where he will post the sports schedules and any changes to the sports schedules. Keep in mind that in order to view the games for the basketball season, you can go to either FastDirect directly (*thru the school*) or you can enter the church's website (*www.sjl.org*), click on "School" at the top of page, click on "FastDirect School Info. System" on the left side of page, click on "BulletinBoard/Calendar" on the left side of page, and then scroll down to Brad Rosebrook, Athletic Director and click on **his** "Calendar".

'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!

LARGE PRINT & CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BULLETINS are available today 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.

HEARING ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE: If hearing in worship has been a problem for you, pick up one of the receiver units for our hearing assistance system. An usher will assist you and you'll hear much more clearly. (*Also, please let us know how the system is working for you.*)

For those who use the hearing assistance system regularly and for the sake of hygiene, we ask that you claim one of the ear buds as your own and keep it with you in your purse, pocket, etc. Bring it with you when you come to church, and simply plug it into one the receivers. At the end of the service, unplug the ear bud to take with you until the next time.

AREA EVENTS:

- **St. Peter Lutheran Church – Florida** invites you to their Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser today 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...

Some Christians, like Arctic rivers, are frozen at the mouth.

"O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise." (Psa 51:15)