



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

October 28, 2018

VOL. 83

NO. 39

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

REFORMATION DAY (observed)

Sermon & Text: "Listen to Jesus and be Free" *John 8:31-36*

Order of Service: *See printed Service Folder*

Hymns: 656 ~ 582 ~ 589 ~ 785, vs.1 ~ 578

Jr High Bell Choir: Gr. 5-8 ring "It Is Well with my Soul"

A PRAYER UPON

ENTERING CHURCH

We thank God this day for His work through Martin Luther to bring to light the Gospel of Jesus. May He reform us and renew us as we seek His purposes under the power of this Gospel. The church gathers under the Gospel of Christ. It is the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes. You are welcome as our guest this morning. 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. May the Lord bless our worship.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✘ Bethann Gerken, *Pianist* ✘ Devin Dietrich & Karter Behnfeldt, *Acolytes* ✘
 ✘ Emersyn Gerken, *Crucifer* ✘
- ✘ Bonnie Niermann & Cheryl Yaw, *Greeters* ✘
 ✘ Eldor & Rozella Gruenhagen, *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 *Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl*

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp"
Tue.	1:30 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM 7:30 PM	Chapel led by Pastor Kramer ; Offering: <i>Good Shepherd, Toledo</i> Budget Committee Meeting Shepherd Committee Board of Elders
Wed.	6:15 PM 7:15 PM	Jr. High Confirmation Class Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	6:30 AM	Men's Bible Breakfast at Hill's Restaurant
Sun.	2:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:20AM 11:00AM	Turn your clocks back one hour All Saints Sunday and Communion Worship Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" Potluck Luncheon honoring Pastor Niermann's 20 Years at St. John
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Eric Moquin</i> , St. John Lutheran - Sherwood

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 recent surgical procedure at St. V's in Toledo
- ❖ *Phyllis Silveus*, for health concerns she is currently encountering

TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK: Remember to turn your clocks back this coming weekend, Sunday, November 4th at 2:00 AM. Daylight saving time ends! *Schlaf Gut!*

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!

Bible Study



MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY – Join us bright and early this

Thursday morning for a sneak preview of next Sunday's scripture readings. These texts will form the basis of our study together, as we also share breakfast. We'll meet at *Hill's Family Restaurant* in Napoleon at 6:30 a.m. Breakfast is \$7.00, which includes the tip. It's a great way to start your day! Good food, good friends, and a good Word from God!

SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES COMING UP

- **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.*

- **Centenary Ringing of the Old School Bell – Nov. 11th**

This promises to be a wonderful Sunday as we honor our veterans and mark the 100th anniversary of the first ringing of the old school bell on Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1918. See more information elsewhere in the bulletin.

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.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 10/21/18	\$5,900.00	\$119.00	\$135.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday (10/18/18) – 25; Sunday (10/21/18) – 183

SPECIAL SCHOOL CHAPEL GUEST LAST THURSDAY – This past **Thursday, Oct 23rd**, the students and staff of SJLS welcomed **Deaconess Cheryl Naumann** and listened to a presentation about the work she and her husband, Rev. Dr. Jonathan Naumann, are doing in the Dominican Republic. This morning we will include the Naumanns in our prayers. In addition, there is an insert in today's bulletin with more information about their mission work and how you can support it by your prayers and your gifts. You'll never give a gift to a better cause. We heard some wonderful stories about the ways God is using the Naumanns to spread the Gospel of Christ to a people who so desperately need to know Him!

POINSETTIA SALE –The poinsettia sale for Christmas is now underway, and blue order forms are inserted in today's bulletin. **The deadline for ordering is Mon., Nov. 12th.** The cost is \$8.00 per plant. You may put your order form and check payable to *St. John Lutheran School* in the box on the narthex table. Be sure to fill in the line, "*In Loving Memory of*" or "*In Honor of*". This information will be published in the church bulletin as an insert the Sunday the poinsettias are placed in the sanctuary.



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 did not receive a letter, please be praying for those who do, that God may rise up among us leaders and servants to serve His 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!

CENTENARY RINGING OF THE OLD SCHOOL BELL – Sunday, Nov. 11th

We have a special Sunday planned for two weeks from today. One hundred years after the old school bell was rung for the first time on Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1918, we will ring it again in recognition of the 100th anniversary of that day and in honor of our nation's veterans.

In November of 1918, the construction of the "new" school building at St. John was nearly completed. That same month it was announced that an armistice had been signed at midnight on November 11th bringing an end to hostilities between Germany and the Allies. World War I was finally coming to an end.



The armistice, signed at Compiègne, France, was to come into force at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, November 11, 1918. While the "new" school building was still three weeks shy of being completed and dedicated, the school bell was in the tower. It was decided that the first ringing of that bell would not be to call students to school, but to celebrate the end of "The Great War." At "the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" of the year 1918, the bell rang joyously for the first time.

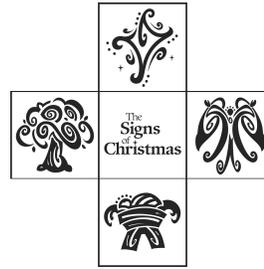
Now 100 years later to the minute, we are planning to ring the old school bell once again on Armistice Day, now Veterans Day, Sunday, Nov. 11th at 11:00 a.m. The congregation will gather in front of the old school building for the ringing of the bell, the 'Pledge of Allegiance,' a patriotic hymn, and prayer. **Veterans in the area are welcome to join the congregation for this special morning and to wear the parade dress of their respective veterans' organizations.**

- Worship at 9:00 a.m. Veterans will be recognized by the military branches in which they served
- Reception at 10:15 a.m. Honoring our veterans in the church fellowship hall
- Bell ringing at 11:00 a.m. Including a brief service of thanksgiving to God

ST. JOHN SCRIP CONTINUES: Scrip orders will be received on Wednesdays, ordered on Fridays and delivered on the following Tuesday. Order forms 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. 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.**

“SOAR WITH THE EAGLES” TICKETS – Tickets are selling fast this year. **There are less than 20 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.

LWML 38TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION – Mobile, AL, June 20-23, 2019

Information has been received in regard to travel and hotel accommodations for this LWML convention. Further detailed information can be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Reservation deadline is Fri., Nov. 30, 2018.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR SEMINARY STUDENTS: Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, is asking for gifts to be distributed to our Seminarians on December 14th. Gift cards are greatly appreciated (*or cash*), along with gifts, quilts or cash for the Christmas Marketplace. Cards should arrive by November 6 and no later than December 8. Items can be sent to Concordia Theological Seminary; 6600 North Clinton St.; Fort Wayne, IN 46825-4996.

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!



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.

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".

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!

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!

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER: St. Paul Lutheran Church in Napoleon has the privilege of being the host site of a Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 22nd from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM. Area churches, service groups, and businesses of Napoleon will be furnishing all that is needed for the meal. If you are interested in helping at the dinner, there will be a planning meeting on Mon., Nov. 5th at 7:00 PM at the St. Paul Youth Center. If you are interested in participating but can't make the meeting, please let us know so that we can share the notes from the meeting with you.

AREA EVENTS:

- **St. Paul Lutheran Church – Liberty Center** – hosting their Fall Soup & Pie Dinner on **Sun., Nov. 4th** with serving from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM. See flyer for details!

✂ ✂ ✂

FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Life in Christ is just as much a way of walking as a way of talking.

"We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." (Eph 2:10)