



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

November 4, 2018

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NO. 40

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

### ALL SAINTS' DAY (observed)

Sermon & Text: "The Blessed Ones" *Matthew 5:1-12*

Order of Service: See printed Service Folder

Hymns: 670 ~ 932 ~ 677 ~ [Communion: 680, 672, 671] ~ 799

Adult Choir: "Borning Cry," "A Faithful Shepherd," and "Let Us Break Bread Together"

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### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

*You are invited to worship with us in the quiet of prayer, in the joy of song, and in the desire to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we gather at the Lord's table today, we also unite with all the saints to celebrate God's feast of victory. Here He nourishes us with the food and drink of the full assurance of our salvation in Him. If you are a visitor, 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* ✠ Addyson Speiser & Macee Speiser, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Bob & Diane Norden, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Harold Behrmann & Richard Elling, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ David Badenhop, Denny Von Deylen, Jerry Short, Dan Wiechers, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Karen Germann, Mary Kossow, Diana Kruse, *Altar Guild* ✠



**THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are placed in recognition of Pastor Niermann's 20 years of service here at St. John Lutheran Church & School. Through these 20 years, St. John has seen many changes; faces have come and gone, but Pastor Niermann has always been steadfast in growing God's kingdom through his ministry to the members of St. John. We pray that God will continue to grant him many more years in the ministry. Thank you Pastor! *"I will give you pastors according to Mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding."* *Jeremiah 3:15*

**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	Worship Service Sunday School; "The Lamp"
Mon.	6:00 PM	National Youth Gathering Meeting with Miss Bartok
Tue.	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Chapel led by Pastor Niermann School Board and Stewardship Board Meetings
Wed.	6:15 PM 7:15 PM	Junior Confirmation Class (6:15 – 7:30 PM) Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	3:00 PM	Parent/Teacher Conferences begin
Fri.	6:00 PM	NO SCHOOL – Parent/Teacher Conferences ( <i>if needed</i> ) "Soar With the Eagles" SJL Fundraiser ( <i>see bulletin note</i> )
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 11:00AM 4:00 PM	Worship Service w/Communion following Light Refreshments following service; Sunday School; "The Lamp" Centenary Bell Ringing at the Old School Jr. High LYF Meeting
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Stephen Niermann, St. John Lutheran – Napoleon</i>

**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*, recuperating from a recent surgical procedure
- ❖ *Phyllis Silveus*, for health concerns she is currently encountering
- ❖ *Blake & Kristin Petzoldt*, on the birth of their first child, Quinn Richard, born on Wed., Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> in Pittsburgh, PA

**TODAY IS ALL SAINTS SUNDAY** – On this day

we remember with thanksgiving those of our faith family who were called to glory since our last celebration of All Saints: *Jim Meyer, Gary Nye,*

*Anna Brodman, Vernon Tietje, Carlton Rosebrock, and Delores Badenhop.*

"For all the saints who from their labors rest, Who Thee, by faith before the world confessed, Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia!"

*All Saints Sunday*

**PASTOR'S RECOGNITION:** Church Council would like to invite the congregation to join them at 11:00 AM for a potluck luncheon to recognize and thank Pastor Niermann for his 20 years of service at St. John. Please join us for some wonderful food and, as always, good fellowship too!

**SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY** is cancelled this morning as preparations are made for Pastor Niermann's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary potluck dinner at 11:00 a.m. There will also be no Bible class next Sunday during the reception honoring our veterans. Sunday Bible study will resume on Sunday, November 18.

**RECENT BAPTISM** – Last Sunday, Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> in a private ceremony, the Baptism of Margot Rae Gspando, 6 ½ month old daughter of Amanda & Scott Gspando took place in the sanctuary. Margot is the great-grand-daughter to Delbert & Marian Damman. May God be with Margot as she begins her journey as a child of God.

**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.

<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 10/28/18	\$8,666.56	\$126.00	\$354.00

**ATTENDANCE:** Thursday (10/25/18) – 26; Sunday (10/28/18) – 205

**POINSETTIA SALE** –The poinsettia sale for Christmas is now underway, and blue order forms are available on the narthex table. **The deadline for ordering is Mon., Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>.** 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.



**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!

**BULLETIN STUFFER VOLUNTEERS:** Want to get involved? Why not try volunteering to help with stuffing the bulletins for worship services. It's not too difficult and can be done either at church or in the comfort of your own home. The bulletins are pre-folded. If anyone is willing to donate a little time toward stuffing bulletins, we are looking for about 11-12 couples/families to sign up for this task. If you feel you would like to give this a try, there is a signup sheet on the narthex table. You can even pick the month(s) that work best for you. We can accommodate your busy schedules. **NOTE:** *If you have stuffed bulletins in the past year, thank you for your service. We ask that you please sign up again and choose your month. You can also call Lori Langenhop at 419-598-8151 or email her at [lahop@bright.net](mailto:lahop@bright.net).*

**HELP NEEDED FOR THE VETERAN'S RECEPTION:** The Women of Freedom are asking for volunteers to help serve the cake and beverages at the reception for the veterans on Sun., Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:15 AM. The veterans and everyone else will then proceed over the old school shortly before 11 AM. See below. If you are interested and available, please call Linda Riefers at 419-267-3366.

**CENTENARY RINGING OF THE OLD SCHOOL BELL – Next Sunday, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>**

We have a special Sunday planned one week 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.

Late in the year 1918, in the eleventh month, the construction of our "new" school building was nearly complete. On the eleventh day of that month, it was announced in the news around the world that early that Monday morning an armistice had been signed at Compiègne, France, bringing an end to hostilities between Germany and the Allies. World War I was finally coming to an end.

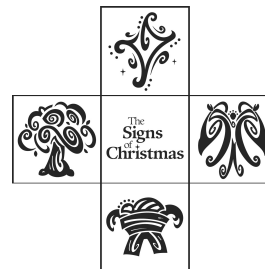
The armistice was to come into force at the eleventh hour of that Monday morning. While the "new" school building at St. John was still three weeks shy of being completed and dedicated, the school bell was already in place in the tower. It was decided that the first ringing of that bell would not be for the upcoming dedication of the building, but to celebrate the armistice and 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 and guests will gather in front of the old school building for the ringing, the 'Pledge of Allegiance,' a patriotic hymn, and for 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

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE** – Very soon **ALL the children of our congregation** (*preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> grade*) will be assigned a part in the annual Children's Christmas Service, scheduled for Sun., Dec. 23 at 7:00 PM. These will be handed out in Sunday School and school. 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 your child will not be participating, we ask that you would please do us the courtesy of calling the church office soon to inform us.** This will save us from having to scramble at the last minute to reassign parts. Thank you for helping us in this way!

**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!

**“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. 9<sup>th</sup>! 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).

**FOLLOW OUR CHURCH ON FACEBOOK** – Our 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!)

**LWML 38<sup>TH</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**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 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!



**STEWARDSHIP & THANKSGIVING:** In this season of thanksgiving, a sincere ‘thank you’ is in order to everyone who supports our congregation throughout the year with their attendance, service, and regular financial contributions. For those interested, the church offers electronic giving options for making donations on a scheduled, automated basis. Authorization forms in the office!

**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!

**CHURCH LIBRARY** – The church library, located in the hall next to the sanctuary, is growing to contain a lot of excellent books that will edify your faith. 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. Please check out the selection. To borrow a book, just take it with you, and then return it to the basket when you’ve finished reading.

**CHRISTMAS CHEER PROGRAM** – Henry County Christmas Cheer has begun its annual campaign for the collection of food for low income and needy persons in Henry County. From now through **Mon., December 3<sup>rd</sup>** a box is placed in the narthex and a barrel in the cafeteria/fellowship hall for the collection of canned goods, dry goods and paper products. No Microwave items! Suggestions are: *Canned Vegetables, Fruit, Soup, Stews, Meats; Macaroni & Cheese Mixes, Spaghetti’s, Spaghetti Sauce, Tomato Juice, Broths, Noodles, Rice, Spaghetti; Instant Potato, Stuffing, Cake Mixes; Cereals, Syrups, Crackers, Peanut Butter, Pudding, Jell-o, Frostings, Fruit Juices, Coffee, Kool-aid, Chocolate Drink Mixes; Tissues, Toilet Tissue, Paper Towels; Bar Soap, Toothpaste, etc.*

**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. 22<sup>nd</sup> 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. 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

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#### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

**“What if I told you that the majority of the church isn’t even on earth?”**

*From an All Saints Facebook meme*

*“After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” (Rev. 7:9-10)*