



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

November 18, 2018

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NO. 42

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-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Here He Comes..." Daniel 12:1-3
Order of Service: *Divine Service, Setting Four (LSB pg. 203)*
Hymns: **511 ~ 968** ~ (Communion: **508, 632, 697**) ~ **515**
Adult Bell Choir: "What A Friend We Have In Jesus"

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We welcome all who have come to worship our God with us today! Each day we live is a priceless gift from God, loaded with possibilities to learn something new, to gain fresh insights into His great truths. May we be showered with those blessings as we together profess His Name today. 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.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠ Devin Dietrich & Macee Speiser, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Tom & Sandy Von Deylen, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Delbert & Marian Damman, *Visitation* ✠
- ✠ David Badenhop, Denny Von Deylen, Jerry Short, Dan Wiechers, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Karen Germann, Mary Kossow, Diana Kruse, *Altar Guild* ✠

THANK YOU...is not enough! The committee for the "SOAR WITH THE EAGLES" school fundraiser this past Friday is still in shock. The support both in attendance and financially was "over the top." We had approximately 280 in attendance and the total money raised will be forthcoming. **THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU** for showing your overwhelming support for St. John Lutheran School. The fellowship, awesome food, and fun (*Thank you, Ted and Margo*), made the evening very enjoyable. We hope to see everyone back again in 2019!

MIDWEEK CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE ADJUSTMENT – This Wednesday (*Thanksgiving Eve*) and on the Wednesdays of Advent (*Dec. 5, 12, 19*) the midweek confirmation class will meet from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., followed by worship at 7:00 p.m.

In God's House This Week		Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl
Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM 4:00 PM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" Sr. High LYF Meeting
Mon.	5:00 PM 7:00 PM	B-ball: Gr. 7&8 Girls vs. Hicksville @ St. Paul - Napoleon Advent By Candlelight Committee meeting
Tue.	8:35 AM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Chapel led by Gr. 7&8 Mini Eagles first basketball practice (<i>see bulletin note</i>) Women of Freedom Meeting
Wed.	5:45 PM 7:00 PM	NO SCHOOL – THANKSGIVING BREAK Junior Confirmation Class (<i>until 6:45 PM</i>) Thanksgiving Eve Service Offering: <i>Henry County Christmas Cheer</i> Adult Choir: "Give Thanks" and "We Thank You Lord" Acolyte: <i>Brooks Behnfeldt</i> Greeters: <i>Dan & Deb Wachtman</i> Ushers: <i>Dave Badenhop, Denny VonDeylen, Jerry Short, Dan Wiechers</i> Altar Guild: <i>Karen Germann, Diana Kruse, Mary Kossow</i>
Thurs.	& Fri.	NO SCHOOL – THANKSGIVING BREAK
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 11:00AM	Worship Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" Church Christmas Decorating (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. James Strawn</i> , St. James Lutheran - Archbold

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
- ❖ *Phyllis Silveus*, who is currently undergoing chemotherapy treatments
- ❖ *Jaclyn Dishop and Jesse Geronimo* who were married yesterday in Toledo.
- ❖ *Tara Sausser, Denny Behnfeldt, Karen Riefers, and Emily Gerken*, all of whom are recovering at home from surgeries this past week

THANK YOU: Eldor Gruenhagen would like to thank Pastor Niermann and everyone else for their cards and prayers given to him during his recent health issue. Your thoughtfulness was so helpful in getting him through this "bump in the road."

SR. HIGH LYF will be meeting today at 4:00 PM at Miss Bartok's house. We will be having a small thanksgiving get together. Contact Miss Bartok for more information!

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP – This Wednesday evening we will gather as God’s thankful people on Thanksgiving Eve for a service of praise to God for His many blessings! Come, ye thankful people, come! Thanksgiving worship is on Wednesday evening, Nov. 21st at 7:00 p.m. As an expression of our gratitude to God, we will have two ways of giving offerings.



- **MONETARY OFFERING** – This year our regular offering will support **Henry County Christmas Cheer** for their work of preparing food baskets to make the holidays a little brighter for people who may otherwise have gone without.
- **BREAD FROM HEAVEN PANTRY OFFERING** – We encourage worshippers to bring an offering of non-perishable food items to help stock our food pantry. You can bring your offering to the front prior to the service, or during the offering.



Decorating
the Church
for Christmas

CHURCH CHRISTMAS DECORATING is scheduled for **next Sunday, Nov. 25, at 11:00 a.m.** at the end of the Sunday School hour. Many hands make light work, so we hope you’ll join us. This year we will be decorating two smaller trees that will flank the altar. God’s people have a long history, dating all the way back to the Old Testament, of making God’s house beautiful with fitting adornments. Won’t you lend a hand?

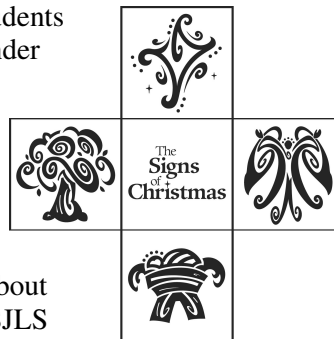
WOMEN OF FREEDOM – The November meeting of our Women of Freedom is Tuesday the 20th at 7:00 p.m. All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend! We will have election of officers and also pack goodie boxes for the shut-ins.

SCRIP ORDER FORMS UPDATED and are available on the narthex table today. They are also posted on FastDirect in the **Everybody** section. The newest form shows “created: 10/30/2018” in the upper right corner. Plan to get a jump start on Christmas shopping this year. Happy shopping!

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS SERVICE PREPARATIONS

This Christmas season, on Sunday, December 23rd, the children and students of the congregation will bless us as they lead us in the worship of Jesus under the theme, “The Signs of Christmas.” **ALL the children and students of St. John Lutheran Church (preschool through 8th grade) have been assigned parts (unless we were informed otherwise), and these are being distributed now.** Parents, please help your student learn their lines.

Combined practices for all students, Sunday School and school, will begin on Sunday, Dec. 2nd. Practices will run from after worship to about 11:30 a.m. each Sunday. Additional practices will take place during our SJLS school days.



NOMINATIONS – Time is running out!!! 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.

ADVENT AND A NEW CHURCH YEAR BEGINS IN TWO WEEKS! This year the season of Advent begins on Sunday, December 2. The following Wednesday (*Dec. 5th at 7:00 p.m.*) we begin our midweek Advent services and our spiritual preparations for the right celebration of Christmas. Our midweek Advent theme comes from the words of the prophet Zechariah, **“Your King is Coming!”** Be sure to join us for these beautiful and quiet evening services as God’s Word gives us a proper focus for this holy season.



- Wed. Dec 5 “Jesus, King of Shame” Offering: Nat’l Youth Gathering group
- Wed. Dec. 12 “Jesus, King of Guilt” Offering: Lutheran Hour/Issues Etc. broadcasts
- Wed. Dec. 19 “Jesus, King of the Low” Offering: SJL Church Vocational Students

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT DATE IS SET: *WOMEN AND MEN* – mark your calendars for *Advent By Candlelight* for Thursday, December 6 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. This year all women **and men** of the congregation are invited to attend this special evening designed to help us prepare our hearts for the celebration of Christ’s birth. We will enjoy a candlelit potluck dinner and an Advent program. More information will be posted in the near future.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 11/11/18	\$6,646.00	\$99.00	\$160.00

ATTENDANCE: 224

VOTERS’ MEETING will be Sunday, December 9 after the Worship Service, and will be held in the Fellowship Hall. On the agenda will be: *1) Election of Officers; 2) Results of "Soar with the Eagles" fundraiser; 3) Approval of 2019 Budget; 4) School Staffing.* Please plan to attend.

2019 OFFERING BOXES: Offering envelope boxes will be available in early December. The financial commitments you make as well as how you contribute are between you and God. The church provides offering envelopes to our members in order to promote faithful and joyful giving as well as to serve as a means to record member contributions throughout the year for charitable tax purposes. Due to the costs of these envelope boxes, members who elect to not use their envelopes over the course of two years (*for whatever reason*) will no longer be issued a box of envelopes. If at any time such a member would like to resume using envelopes, please contact *Kathy Gruenhagen*, Finance Trustee.

YOUTH CENTER DONATIONS: Don’t forget the future “youth center” when you make those end of the year donations. There are still envelopes available on the narthex table for anyone wishing to donate. Make your payment to **St. John Lutheran Church** and put “St. John Lutheran Youth Center” on the memo line. Thank you for helping to make this a reality!

EAGLE NEWS: The Eagle News will be passed out today following the service. It is available online via FastDirect Communication. Just go to <http://www.fastdir.com/stjohnfreedom/>, click on "Links" at the top of the page, then click on "Eagle News – November" in the "Everybody" column. Extra copies available in the "School Info" rack outside the office.

DECLARING TO YOU THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD...Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's teachings include: The Movie "The Nutcracker," The Book of Joel, Hallowed By Thy Name, Responding to Calvinist Proof Texts and more. You can listen at your convenience at www.issuesetc.org and on the LPR mobile app.

GREETER, USHER, AND ALTAR GUILD SIGN-UP – We are preparing the 2019 greeter, usher, and altar guild schedules so this is the time to sign-up at the table in the narthex. If you are interested in serving God's people here at St. John in a way that is much needed and appreciated, would you consider joining a team? A few people have dropped out over the past year and so we ask you to consider signing up for one of these teams. The sign-up deadline is Sunday, Dec. 9th. *You do not need to sign up again if you are currently serving as a greeter, usher or are on an altar guild team.*

ST. JOHN SCHOOL POSITION OPENING: The Freedom's Flock (After School Care) program has an immediate opening for an Aide position. This person is in charge of the aftercare program each day that school is in session from 3-6 pm. It averages 10-12 hours per week. Must have a background check. If interested in this position, please speak with Principal Kramer by calling the school office.

ST. JOHN MINI EAGLES: This coming Tuesday, Nov. 20th from 5:00 – 6:00 PM will be the first Mini Eagles practice. Students in Grades K-3 are eligible to participate. During the first practice we will have emergency medical forms for the parents to complete before leaving. Practices are skill based and run in "stations" with some practice in a game setting towards the end. We are looking for opportunities to demonstrate our skills during some of the home games.

Please bring \$5 to this first practice to help defray the cost of a T-shirt for your child. We will also (hopefully) have practice and game schedules to hand out that night. The coaches this year will be Amy Kramer and Joel Stier. Thank you for volunteering, Amy and Joel!!!

ATHLETIC BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP: **Sign up deadline is Mon., Dec. 10th**. 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 in the "School Info" rack outside the school office or contact any of the Booster officers: *Amy Rosebrook, Krista Gerken, and Becky Michaelis.*

CHRISTMAS CARDS: Check out the table in the hallway by the cry room! The Women of Freedom have put out new boxes of Christmas Cards for sale. The dish cloths are also available. Contact *Nancy Glaser, Marian Damman, Mabel Bischoff, Lois Rosebrook, or Karan Niebergall.*

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!

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!

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 3rd** 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.*

RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP FUNDRAISER: The Stewardship Board is offering “for sale” the Ultimate Cloth® as a fundraiser. These are a MiraFiber® technology cloth that cleans with water only. This cloth is more effective than harsh cleaning chemicals and soaps. See *Karen Norden* (419-267-3477) for more information and pricing. This will be an on-going fundraiser for the Right Hand of Fellowship gift matching campaign.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR – The Lutheran Hour Ministries can be heard on a few radio stations in our area. They cover many topics relevant to today’s issues. Broadcasts can be heard Sundays on: Archbold’s WMTR 96.1 at 7:30 AM; **Napoleon’s WNDH 103.1 at 9:00 AM.**

AREA EVENTS

- ◆ **COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER!** The churches and service groups of Henry County are hosting a community Thanksgiving Meal at St. Paul Lutheran, 1075 Glenwood Ave., Napoleon on **Thurs., Nov. 22nd from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM.**
- ◆ **CHRISTMAS VILLAGE CRAFT SHOW** will be held at the Ridgeville Legion Hall, Sun., **Dec. 2nd from 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM.** Lunch is available. Come and browse the shops!
- ◆ **THE TOLEDO SYMPHONY** will perform a Christmas Concert at St. Paul Lutheran Church – Napoleon Township, on **Wed., Dec. 12th beginning at 7:30 PM.** Tickets on sale thru their church office at 419-758-3522. See flyer!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...


Thanksgiving isn’t just a little prayer you say before or after a meal; it’s a way of living!

“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” (Col. 3:17)


SERMON HYMN

LSB 968 "My Lord, What a Morning"


Refrain




My Lord, what a morn-ing; My Lord, what a



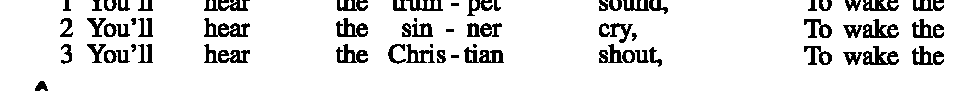
morn-ing; Oh, my Lord, what a morn - ing, When the



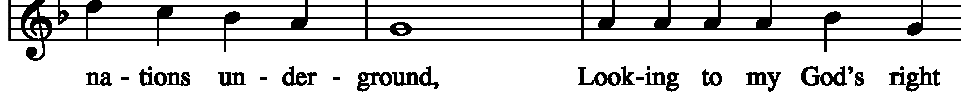
stars be-gin to fall, When the stars be-gin to fall.




1 You'll hear the trum - pet sound, To wake the



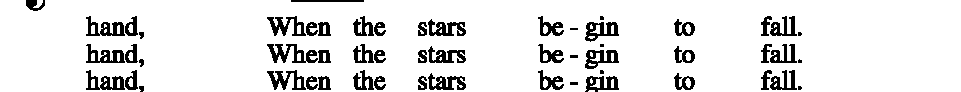
2 You'll hear the sin - ner cry, To wake the




3 You'll hear the Chris - tian shout, To wake the



na - tions un - der - ground, Look-ing to my God's right




na - tions un - der - ground, Look-ing to my God's right




na - tions un - der - ground, Look-ing to my God's right


Refrain



hand, When the stars be - gin to fall.



hand, When the stars be - gin to fall.



hand, When the stars be - gin to fall.

Tune and text: Public domain