



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

February 10, 2019

VOL. 84

NO. 6

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](http://www.sjl.org)

### FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Sermon & Text: "Like Everything Jesus Did, the Calling of His Disciples is For Us" *Luke 5:1-11*

Order of Service: Morning Prayer (LSB pg. 235)

Hymns: 907 ~ 398; 1,3,5 ~ 853 ~ 856

Adult Bell Choir: "Come Christians, Join to Sing"

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### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

*Welcome to every member, friend, and visitor. You have entered this church, not as a stranger, but as a guest of God. May you who enter here find rest, forgiveness, and strength. May your worship here enable you to see your Savior more clearly, love Him more dearly, follow Him more nearly, and serve Him more sincerely. If you have no church home of your own, we invite you to join the St. John family.*

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### **SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING**

- ✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘ Logan Honemann & Bryce Bostelman, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Marilyn Meyer & Arlene Wallace, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Denny Bockelman, Dave Myles, Tim Badenhop, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Karen Lulfs, Kaylee Wentworth, Ronda Wentworth, Karan Niebergall, *Altar Guild* ✘

### **GIDEON'S PRESENTATION AND DOOR OFFERING THIS MORNING**

Every other February we invite a representative from *Gideons International* to take a few minutes to fill us in on their ministry of spreading God's Word through the printing of Scripture in many languages. This morning **Mr. Tim Schumm** is with us to make this presentation at the end of our service. In addition, the church council has authorized a door offering this morning in support of this ministry.



**2019 USHER (blue) SCHEDULES:** The 2019 Usher schedules are now available and can be picked up on the narthex table. Thanks again!

**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 1:00 PM 4:30 PM	<b>Worship Service w/Communion following;</b> Gideon's Presentation Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" 4-H: Freedom Royal Farmers, Gerald Busy Fingers, Cloverbuds Jr High LYF ( <i>until 6:00 PM</i> )
Mon.	7:00 PM 7:00 PM	PTL Meeting Adult Instruction Class
Tue.	8:35 AM 7:00 PM	Chapel led by Kindergarten with a Presentation from Hope Academy Church Council Meeting
Wed.	6:00 PM 6:15 PM	Midweek Confirmation Class B-ball: Gr. 4-6 Boys vs BG Christian
Fri. - Sun.		B-Ball: NWOLL Tournament at St. Paul - Napoleon ( <i>runs thru Sunday</i> )
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 11:00AM 11:15AM TBD	<b>Communion Service</b> Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" Chicken Pie Dinner at the Ridgeville Legion Sunday School Teacher's Meeting NWOLL Tournament Championship Games at St. Paul
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Theodore Rellstab</i> , St. John Lutheran – Holgate

**MATTERS FOR PRAYER** – Please keep these people in your prayers:

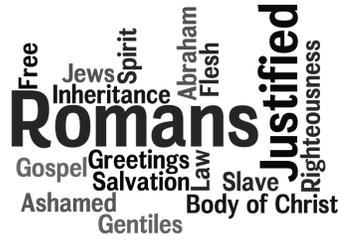
- ❖ Shut-Ins: *Norma Damman, Renetta Homan, and Willie Gerken*
- ❖ *Delora Winkelman, Marian Buchhop, and Dorothy Gerken*, at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Evelyn Rohrs and Melba Elling*, in Assisted Living at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, residing at the Ohio Veteran's Home, Sandusky
- ❖ Armed Services: *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, Connor Gerken, Seth Handy*
- ❖ *Macie Wyse*, going thru difficult therapy as she continues her battle with cancer
- ❖ *Eldor & Rozella Gruenhagen*, that God might grant improved health
- ❖ *Shorty Bischoff*, for answers regarding his recurring heart related symptoms
- ❖ *Susan Nye*, who is now home and recuperating from her recent fall
- ❖ *Don Dickmann*, who is recovering at home from a procedure
- ❖ *Phyllis Silveus*, who underwent surgery on Friday and is recovering at the Toledo Hospital

**THANK YOU** to *Larry Mahnke* and *Dean Maassel* for their efforts this winter in keeping the church and school parking lot cleared of snow. They donate their time and equipment to get this job done after each snowfall. This year's snowfall has kept them very busy! Great job guys! Thank you for being willing servants here at St. John!

**SUB SANDWICH THANK YOU:** The Sr High Youth would like to thank those who purchased subs for the Super Bowl. The youth made over 250 subs and raised over \$900 toward the National Youth Gathering. Once again, thank you for supporting our youth! Hope to see some of you at our upcoming LYF sponsored Lenten Suppers too.

**STAINED GLASS WINDOW** – The seventh stained glass window is now installed. See bulletin insert. It depicts the woman at the well. We thank God for the gift of this beautiful window and look forward to the continued progress of the remaining windows during our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

**SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY** – Have you ever wondered what power is at work within you that causes you do to the things you hate and know you should not do? You're not alone. Paul had this same struggle, as does every Christian. But we are not left alone to fight this battle. **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)



**2018 END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS** – The 2018 individual offering contribution totals (green sheets) are available this morning on the table in the narthex. These will also be printed in the Church Annual Report. We hope this helps those members in need of this information for tax purposes. If you have any questions on your yearly contribution information, please call Financial Trustee, *Kathy Gruenhagen* at 419-335-9173.

**LADIES BLANKET KNOTTING OR QUILTING** is planned for all day Monday, Feb. 18. Got cabin fever? Come and join us! There will be blanket knotting for those that do not wish to quilt. We will start at 9:00 AM. All ladies of the congregation are invited. You can come and stay all day or just part of the day; whatever fits your schedule. Hope to see you on Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>!

**MITEY SOCKS!** Women of Freedom members can now turn in their 2018 Mitey Sock, with your contribution inside, in the basket which is placed on the table in the narthex. Thank you!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** – **\*\*\*NOTE: There will be short meeting for all who teach Sunday School next Sunday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> following the Sunday School hour at 11:15 AM.** We are looking for some volunteers to help teach Sunday School for the 2019 calendar year. You don't have to have any teaching experience and we are looking for anyone at any age! All that is required is the love for Jesus in your heart and the willingness to share that with the children of our church! You will be put into a position/grade level at your comfort level and will be on a rotation where you will only be obligated to teach once a month (*or possibly once every three weeks*). If you are interested, please contact either Steph Damman (419-966-3941) or Kelly Sonnenberg (419-906-1626).



**ADULT INSTRUCTION CLASS** – **"I Have Good News For You" is an adult Christian instruction class that will begin on Monday, Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>.** Classes will be conducted from 7:00-8:15 each Monday evening. This is a membership class for those who wish to join our church, but taking the class does not oblige anyone to join. It's also a great refresher course for our current members. Included in this bulletin is a brochure with information about this class, which you are, encouraged to pass along as an invitation to anyone who may be interested. **If you invite someone, consider**

**joining them for the class as a mentor and encourager in the faith.**

<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 02/03/19	\$8,183.00	\$211.00	\$499.00

**ATTENDANCE:** 225

**MEMORIALS** for *Lucia Delventhal*: \$1,820.00 – St. John Lutheran Church Memorial Fund

**2018 CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT** – It's time to start getting your reports ready for the 2018 Church Annual. The secretaries of the different organizations are asked to write up a summary of the year's activities along with a financial report if there is one. **Please turn your reports in to Joyce Wiechers by Fri., Feb. 15.**

**TIME TO UPDATE OUR DIRECTORY:** There are many addresses and phone numbers in the Annual Report directory that are needed or that need updated. If you (*and/or your adult children*) have address changes; or if you have eliminated your land line telephone and only have cell phone numbers, **please call or email** the church office at 419-598-8961 or [jwiechers@sjl.org](mailto:jwiechers@sjl.org) with updated information. It will be very helpful to have current addresses on file when we do our mailings. Thank you!

**ABOUT LUTHERAN SCHOOLS – A SAFE PLACE:** Unfortunately, in many communities children are not safe. Lutheran schools provide places where children don't have to worry about being attacked verbally or physically. Loving teachers and other staff members daily demonstrate Christ's love for them and their love for children.

**LENT BEGINS THREE WEEKS FROM WEDNESDAY**

It's a late Lent and Easter this year! Hopefully that means better weather so everyone can make it to our midweek Lenten services, starting on **Ash Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**.

Our midweek theme this year is: **A Lent To Remember**. We will be looking at the many ways Scripture uses the word 'remember.' Together we will remember God's wondrous works, His covenant, His love, Christ's holy supper, His death, and His resurrection. Be sure to set these evenings aside for worship as we walk with Jesus to His cross so that we can also celebrate Easter together with fullness of joy!



**REGISTER FOR PRESCHOOL NOW!** The St. John Lutheran Preschool is now accepting enrollment applications for 2019-20 school year. The 4/5 year old class is half full and the 3 year old class still has plenty of openings. Anyone interested in enrolling your child in our preschool program should contact the school office at 419-598-8702 to request an enrollment packet and/or turn in their registration form. Preschool registration is now open to the public, so be sure to register soon. There is a non-refundable \$30 registration fee that must accompany your registration form.

**PTL MEETING:** The next PTL meeting will be held on Mon., Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the north end of the fellowship hall. This will be a business meeting, complete with Soup & Pie results. Plan to attend!

**KINDERGARTEN CLINIC & ELIGIBILITY** for students entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2019! The St. John K-clinic will be held on Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1:00 PM. **Napoleon Area Schools and St. John Lutheran School's eligibility date for entering Kindergarten is that a child must be five years old on or before August 1 to enroll in Kindergarten.** Items needed for our St. John clinic are: An original and/or certified copy of their birth certificate; a physical dated after August 2018 (*if available*); immunization records; Social Security number; child custody documents if applicable; and the baptism date/baptismal certificate, or dedication date. *NOTE: If your child is enrolled in our Preschool program, we already have the items listed above and you will not need to bring them the day of the clinic.*

**SCRIP ORDER FORMS:** Order forms are included in today's bulletin. Please turn those orders in on Wednesdays, with payment to *St. John School PTL Scrip Program*. The gift cards will be sent home the following week on Tuesday. Payment must accompany orders. **Any questions about SCRIP can be directed to SCRIP Coordinator Kristyn Honemann at 419-966-0207 or email at [honemann@embarqmail.com](mailto:honemann@embarqmail.com).**

**PTL COOKBOOKS** – The “Recipes and Remembrances” cookbooks from PTL are still available for purchase. They have a very nice collection of great recipes in them and would make a neat gift for that “hard to buy” family member or friend. This is a PTL fundraiser and the cookbooks are available in the school office. The cost is \$10.00. If writing a check, please make it payable to: *St. John PTL*. We hope you enjoy it! Thank you for supporting the PTL!

**YOUTH CENTER:** For those of you who would like to donate your labor for the new Youth Center project, there is a green sheet on the table in the narthex to sign up and list your phone number. We will be starting on some of the work very soon. We have some interior brick from the chimney that needs to be removed, also framing walls, help installing windows, blowing insulation in the attic (*at a later date*), etc. This labor will help to offset the financial burden of the project. In the past we have enjoyed the company of members getting together to build and improve the Lord's house. Thank you in advance for your support. Questions...Call Denny Damman at 419-966-2687. *The Building Committee*

**MORE GERALD HISTORY BOOKS** – We received another case of books this past week. If you didn't get one yet, you can still do so. Stop in at the church office to purchase your copy or you can also send \$12 to Robert L. Stockman, 1218 Spoonbill Landing Circle, Bradenton, FL 34209, and he will mail your copy to you via USPS.

If at any time during the year you need a gift for a current or former member of St. John, why not consider this history book about the development of Gerald? This book is full of interesting facts about Gerald, Freedom Township, and St. John Church. Get your copy today!

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

**Be kind to your enemies – it messes with their heads.**

*“If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat, and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink, for you will heap burning coals on his head, and the Lord will reward you.” (Prov 25:21-22)*

# 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Notes

## NEXT ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY – Mar. 17

The second of our four main anniversary services is scheduled for **Sunday, March 17** when our focus will be, “**Jesus Christ – YESTERDAY.**” Rev. Dr. **Matthew Rosebrock** will be our guest preacher.



**Jesus Christ**  
Yesterday Today Forever

- **The Kantorei men’s chorus from our Fort Wayne seminary** will be our musical guests.
- **A meal and program will follow.** Rev. Dale Kern will be on hand as one of our early pastors telling the story of our church’s founding. It’s going to be a great day!

## 150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY MISSION CHALLENGE OFFERING

This year we are challenging each household to give \$150 above their regular offerings to support our adopted mission projects through *The Lutheran Heritage Foundation*. An information sheet is available in the narthex and online at [www.sjl.org](http://www.sjl.org). Envelopes for your gift installments will be available in the narthex throughout the year. Include your envelope number if you want the tax deduction, and drop your offering in the clear donation box. A chart of our progress will be updated monthly.

## ANNIVERSARY RELATED ITEMS

- **Pens and Memo Clips** – Please feel free to take these, and to share with others. If you wish to help defray the cost, drop a few quarters into the clear donation box.
- **Stemless Wine Glasses** – Again, take and share. Suggested donation is \$1.25 per glass, \$5.00 for a set of four. The company assures us these glasses are dishwasher safe.
- **Anniversary Blanket/Throw** – These are available to order for \$35. Use the order envelope on the table and drop it in the donation box. An order will be placed this week, and should be ready to be picked up in a few weeks.

**4-H NEWS:** The Freedom Royal Farmers 4-H Club will have their first 4-H meeting today in the gym starting at 1:00 PM at St. John Lutheran Church. We would like to meet with the parents briefly at 1:00. New members are always welcome!

The Gerald Busy Fingers & Cloverbuds will be meeting today also. Your meeting is at 1 PM.

## AREA EVENTS:

- **The Ridgeville American Legion Post 454** will host their annual Chicken Pie Dinner on Sun., Feb. 17 with serving from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. See flyer!
- **Ridgeville Twp Volunteer Fire Dept** will host their annual Pancake & Sausage Breakfast on Sun., March 3 from 7:00 AM – 1:00 PM.