



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 Co. Rd. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

March 10, 2019

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NO. 10

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

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Sermon & Text: "Bread, Glory, Security" *Luke 4:1-13*

Order of Service: Matins (LSB pg. 219)

Hymns: 571 ~ 521 ~ 657 ~ 424

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. Simply 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.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘ Emersyn Gerken & Bryce Bostelman, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ David & Sara Myles, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Ted Ripke, Bob Norden, Elmer Maassel, Denny Behnfeldt, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Mary Kay Rettig, Sandy Von Deylen, Kathy Badenhop, *Altar Guild* ✘

FLOWERS TODAY:

- ♥ **ALTAR FLOWERS** are placed in celebration of the 35th Wedding Anniversary of *Doug & Sandy Dietrich*, who were married 35 years ago on this day. God's blessings to the Dietrichs and many, many more happy, healthy years of marriage to you. Congratulations!
- ♥ **PIANO FLOWERS** today are given in honor of *Dorothy Gerken's* 85th birthday, which is on March 15th, by her family. If you would want to send her a card, please send it to: Genacross Lutheran Home, 1036 S. Perry, Napoleon, OH 43545. Dorothy would sure enjoy hearing from her St. John church family. Happy Birthday Dorothy!

In God's House This Week *Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl*

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM 1:00 PM	Worship Service w/communion following <i>Java Joy</i> ; Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; “The Lamp” 4-H Meetings
Mon.	7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Adult Instruction Classes 150 th Anniversary Committee Meeting
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:30 AM 7:00 PM	School Chapel Women’s Lenten Bible Study Church Council Meeting
Wed.	5:30 PM 5:45 PM 7:00 PM 8:00 PM	Lenten Supper Junior Confirmation Class (5:45 – 6:45 PM) 2nd Lenten Service ; Offering: <i>Good Shepherd Church for Deaf, Toledo</i> Acolytes: <i>Bryce Bostelman & Karter Behnfeldt</i> Greeters: <i>Don & Karan Niebergall</i> Ushers: <i>Dave Von Deylen, Dennis Showman, Dean Badenhop, Rich Elling</i> Adult Choir: “Go to Dark Gethsemane” Altar Guild: <i>Kathy Badenhop, Sandy Von Deylen, Mary Kay Rettig</i> Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	6:30 AM 7:00 PM	Men’s Bible Breakfast Women’s Lenten Bible Study (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Fri.		End of 3 rd Quarter Grading Period
Sun.	10:00AM 11:30AM 4:30 PM	150th Anniversary & Communion Service 150 th Potluck Meal and Program Sr High LYF
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Jacob Stuenkel, St. Peter Lutheran – Florida</i>

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

- ❖ Shut-Ins: *Norma Damman, Renetta Homan, and Willie Gerken*
- ❖ *Delora Winkelman, Marian Buchhop, Dorothy Gerken, and Lawrence Langenhop,*
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*
- ❖ *Darrel Bockelman,* who is recovering at Fulton Manor, Wauseon, from a recent hospitalization
- ❖ *School Cook Tonya Whitman,* continuing to deal with her severe and incapacitating headaches
- ❖ *Ron Hesterman,* hospitalized again for internal bleeding, and continued recovery from recent open-heart surgery
- ❖ *Arlene Gruenhagen,* who is home recuperating from recent back surgery
- ❖ *Shirley Sonnenberg,* recuperating at home from recent knee replacement surgery
- ❖ *Phyllis Silveus,* who will be starting a new series of chemo tomorrow, March 11th



JAVA JOY TODAY! It's the second Sunday of the month, and that means **Java Joy** after worship. Take a little time to enjoy a bite to eat and some fellowship. A table is set up in the front hallway. Your gifts to the "kitty" help keep **Java Joy** alive and going. We thank *Joyce Maassel, Marilyn Meyer, and Pat Mahnke* for hosting Java Joy for March. Feel like hosting a **Java Joy** on the second Sunday of the month? Please sign up on the table in the narthex. Don't let finances stop you – you are welcome to reimburse your expenses from the kitty if you wish.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY – Very often in Evangelical preaching, you will hear that the modern state of Israel plays a large role in God's plan for the end of time, and that the Jews must return to the Holy Land (Zionism) as a precondition of the second coming of Christ. But what does St. Paul say about this? In **Romans 9-11** Paul shows us that God's true Israel is a spiritual, not an earthly, nation. **Please join us this morning in the fellowship hall for this study of God's Word as we turn to Romans chapter 9. It's never too late to sit in with us and to learn!** *"How blest are those who hear the Word of God and put it into practice."* (Luke 11:28)



150th Anniversary Notes

**ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
SECOND MAIN EVENT
Next Sunday March 17th ~ 10:00 a.m.**

Our theme for the day is: **"Jesus Christ – YESTERDAY."** Our guest preacher will be a son of our congregation, **Rev. Dr. Matthew Rosebrock**. In addition, **the Kantorei men's chorus from our Fort Wayne seminary** will be our musical guests.

- **Worship is at 10:00 a.m.** with Holy Communion.
- **A meal will follow at approximately 11:30 a.m.** The main dish is being provided; bring a side, salad or dessert to share. We will have the Kantorei and some of their spouses as our meal guests, so please plan so we can accommodate them.
- **After dinner, Pastor W.L. Fischer (Rev. Dale Kern)** will be back at St. John all these years later. He was pastor at St. John from 1884 to 1913, for nearly 30 years. He will be telling us the story of our congregation's founding.



Kantorei
from our
Fort Wayne seminary.

Anniversary Committee Meeting – The 150th Anniversary Committee will meet tomorrow, Monday, March 11th at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall to continue planning for the remainder of our anniversary year.

LENT & EASTER:

LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICES --- Our midweek theme this year is: **A Lent To Remember**. We will be looking at the many ways Scripture uses the word 'remember.' 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! The Midweek Lenten schedule is as follows:



<u>DATE</u>	<u>THEME</u>	<u>OFFERING</u>
Ash Wed (3/6)	"Remember Dust"	Church Vocation Students
Midweek 2 (3/13)	"Remember Wondrous Works"	Good Shepherd Deaf Church
Midweek 3 (3/20)	"Remember Jesus' Words"	Filling Home of Mercy, Napoleon
Midweek 4 (3/27)	"Remember the Covenant"	National Youth Gathering
Midweek 5 (4/3)	"Remember Sins No More"	Lutheran Hour Broadcast
Midweek 6 (4/10)	"Remember Steadfast Love"	Bethesda Lutheran Homes
Maundy Thr (4/18)	"In Remembrance of Me"	150th Anniv. Mission Offering
Good Friday (4/19)	"Remember Me"	Home Fund

LENTEN SUPPERS: Each Wednesday evening the youth are hosting Lenten suppers for you. Grades 6-8 hosting in support of their class trip in 2020 and the LYF in support of their trip to the 2019 National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis. **This week's Lenten Supper menu is: Spaghetti, Salad, French Bread, Dessert, and Drink.** Serving time is 5:30-6:30 p.m. Some of these dinners are a Thrivent Action Team Event. Any congregation member interested in donating a dessert for these suppers, can drop off their dessert at the church prior to 5:00 PM.

WOMEN'S LENTEN BIBLE STUDY: "Balance" is the topic for the Women's Lenten Bible Study this year. We meet on Tuesday mornings and Thursday evenings during Lent. The first Tuesday Bible Study will begin on March 12th at 9:30 AM, and will conclude on Tues., April 16th. The first Thursday Bible Study began on March 7th at 7:00 PM, and will conclude on Thurs., April 11th. Women can come to whichever session fits your schedule.

MEN'S LENTEN BIBLE BREAKFAST will be meeting each Thursday during Lent as we study "Monumental Mountaintops" in the Bible, and all the important parts of our salvation story that happened in Scripture on various mountaintops. **This Thursday IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL at 6:30 a.m.** Join us for an amazing breakfast and for the study of God's Word. It's a great way to start the day, and to further enhance your Lenten walk with Jesus!

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS: We are now taking orders for various flowers to purchase "in memory of" or "in honor of" someone special in your life. Yellow order forms are available on the narthex table. Drop your order form and payment to **St. John Lutheran Church** into the container at the narthex table or return to the church office. **Order deadline is Monday, March 25th.** Don't wait till the last minute. No late orders can be taken.

ANNUAL CHURCH CLEANING – The list of the people for this year’s annual church cleaning are available on the narthex table. If you are on the list and feel you are not physically able to help with the cleaning for whatever reason, let your co-chair know and we’ll make a note of that. Thank you!

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.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 03/03/19	\$7,909.00	\$196.00	\$499.00

ATTENDANCE: 230

1ST LENTEN SERVICE: \$993.00 – Church Vocation Students; Attendance: 129

MEMORIAL from Royal “Fuzz” Ward: \$70.00 to St. John Lutheran Church

REV. GEORGE MAASSEL MEMORIAL COMMUNITY OUTREACH GRANTS – This is a reminder that a number of years back, the family of Rev. Maassel gave a gift to the congregation, which we subsequently decided to use as grants for any church organization planning an event that has local community outreach as a focus. If you’re organization is planning something that is related to community outreach and has the specific intent of inviting non-members and following up on them, please consider applying for one of these grants. An information page and application is available on the documents area of our website, www.sjl.org.

CHOICE DOLLARS TO DESIGNATE: Great news from our local Thrivent Rep. Doug Kossow! There are 2018 Thrivent Choice Dollars (*a sizable amount*) that have not been designated by members of our congregation. Even though it’s 2019, your 2018 dollars can still be designated until March 31, 2019. **TODAY** Doug & Mary Kossow will have a table set up in the side hallway to assist those Thrivent members to designate their Choice Dollars to the church, school, or preschool.

Not sure if you have Choice Dollars to designate? Stop by during Java Joy to find out! If you are not able to stop, you can call Doug’s office in Ridgeville Corners at 419-267-0113 to designate your dollars. Thank you!

WOMEN OF FREEDOM MEETING: The next Women of Freedom meeting will be held on Tues., March 19th at 7:00 PM. This will be a Ladies Aide meeting. Come join us and help serve the Lord here at St. John. Hope to see of you there! NOTE: The LWML Quarterly Odes are also available on the narthex table.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – Save the Date!!! VBS will be held again this year. The dates are Mon. – Friday, June 3–7, 2019 from 9:00 AM until noon. If you are inclined to help with a morning VBS, please speak with this year’s VBS director Karen Riefers.

ABOUT LUTHERAN SCHOOLS –CONGREGATIONAS IN THE COMMUNITY: As the school reaches many segments of the community, the parents who come to the school begin to inquire about the sponsoring congregation. Members frequently ask each other, “Does this congregation have a school?” But non-member school parents frequently ask the school, “Does this school have a church?” The congregation becomes better known in the community because of the school parents, and the schools marketing efforts.

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION: St. John Lutheran Preschool is in full swing. The 4/5 year old class is close to full and the 3 year old class still has openings. Anyone interested in enrolling your child in our preschool program should contact the school office at 419-598-8702. There is a non-refundable \$30 registration fee that must accompany your registration form.

LUNCH HELP: As we do not know when Miss Tonya will be returning as our school cook, we would like to ask if there is anyone out there interested in helping with a meal or two over the next several weeks. This meal can be very basic. The students are not particular. Suggestions are: Hot chicken or hot beef over mashed potatoes or noodles or as a sandwich, sloppy joes, hotdogs, pizza, spaghetti, etc. We would reimburse you for the cost of the meal you prepared. If you think you may be interested, please give Joyce a call in the office at 419-598-8702 to set up a date.

KINDERGARTEN HALF DAY! Please note that on March 26th (*the day of the Clinic*), Kindergarten will dismiss at 11:30 AM. Please make pick up arrangements at that time for your child that day.

KINDERGARTEN CLINIC & ELIGIBILITY for students entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2019! The St. John K-clinic will be held on Tuesday, March 26th 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.*

ATHLETIC BANQUET: The St. John Athletic Banquet will be on **Sun., March 24th at 4:30 PM** beginning with a potluck meal. The Boosters will be providing the meat and drinks, so please bring a side dish to share.

AREA EVENTS:

- **SOUP & PIE LUNCHEON** – Genacross Lutheran – Napoleon Campus, today with serving from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. See flyer!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Too many Christians treat God like a lawyer – they only call on Him when they’re in trouble.

“Pray without ceasing.” (1 Thess. 5:17)