



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

March 17, 2019

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NO. 11

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

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Matthew Rosebrock
Sermon Title: "Jesus Christ – Yesterday"
Order of Service: See printed Service Folder
Hymns: 733 ~ 652 ~ [Communion: 728, 647] ~ 617 ~ 895

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome in the name of the Lord. We pray that through this time of stillness and song, prayer and proclamation, you may experience the Spirit of God at work in your life. May God richly bless your worship today! If you do not have a local church home, we extend a warm invitation to you to become a part of our church 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* ✘ Kaelyn Gerken & Ella Rosebrook, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Bonnie Niermann & Cheryl Yaw, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Ted Ripke, Bob Norden, Elmer Maassel, Denny Behnfeldt, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Mary Kay Rettig, Sandy Von Deylen, Kathy Badenhop, *Altar Guild* ✘

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.

In God's House This Week

Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl

Date	Time	Activities
Today	10:00 AM 11:30AM 4:30 PM	150th Anniversary & Communion Service 150 th Potluck Meal and Program Sr High LYF
Mon.	7:00 PM	Adult Instruction Classes
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:30 AM 7:00 PM	School Chapel Women's Lenten Bible Study Women of Freedom Meeting
Wed.	5:30 PM 5:45 PM 7:00 PM 8:00 PM	Lenten Supper Junior Confirmation Class (5:45 – 6:45 PM) 3rd Lenten Service ; Offering: <i>Filling Home - Napoleon</i> Acolytes: <i>Ella Rosebrook</i> Greeters: <i>Bob & Diane Norden</i> Ushers: <i>Dave Von Deylen, Dennis Showman, Dean Badenhop, Rich Elling</i> Altar Guild: <i>Kathy Badenhop, Sandy Von Deylen, Mary Kay Rettig</i> Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	6:30 AM 7:00 PM 6:30 PM	Men's Bible Breakfast Women's Lenten Bible Study 150 th Anniversary Committee Meeting
Sun.	9:00AM 10:20AM 1:00 PM 4:30 PM	Worship Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" 4-H Meetings St. John Athletic Banquet
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Jeff Corder</i> , St. John Lutheran – Stryker

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,* who underwent open-heart surgery recently at Toledo
- ❖ *Arlene Gruenhagen,* who is home recuperating from recent back surgery
- ❖ *Shirley Sonnenberg,* recuperating at home from recent knee replacement surgery
- ❖ *Phyllis Silveus,* for a slight infection to clear up, before starting her new chemo treatments
- ❖ *Linda Schroeder,* for outpatient surgery this past week, and recuperating at home

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL today due to the 150th Anniversary Potluck Meal and Program. Hope to see everyone next Sunday at Sunday School.

150th Anniversary Celebration II

Welcome to the second of four primary celebrations of our 150th Congregational Anniversary! Our year-long anniversary theme is taken from Hebrews 13:8, “**Jesus Christ – Yesterday, Today, Forever.**” Today’s theme focuses on “**Jesus Christ – YESTERDAY.**” We give thanks to God for our rich history and for so many congregational members and servants who have gone before us, who preserved for us a legacy of faithfulness to the Word of God. It is fitting that our celebration take place in the context of the Divine Service in which we receive from Christ the gifts of His body and blood that have sustained our church in Christian faith through these fifteen decades!

WELCOME SPECIAL GUESTS

- **REV. DR. MATTHEW ROSEBROCK** – Matthew is the son of David & Karen Rosebrock. Matthew attended St. John Lutheran School and was confirmed in 1995. He graduated from Concordia University, Chicago in 2005, after which he attended our Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, where he graduated with his Master of Divinity degree in 2010. In 2017 Matthew earned his Doctor of Philosophy degree from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA, having studied theology and art. In 2010 he married Kim Acton. Kim earned certification as a Director of Christian Outreach from Concordia University in St. Paul, MN in 2006, and in 2014 received her Master of Arts degree from Fuller Theological Seminary, having majored in Intercultural Studies. Matthew and Kim and their children, Isaac and Ruth reside in Oregon, IL; Matthew serves as pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Lindenwood, IL.
- **KANTOREI MEN’S CHORUS** – The Kantorei is comprised of men studying to be pastors at our Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN. They join us this morning fresh off their spring concert tour to Florida. They are under the direction of **Mr. Kevin Hildebrand**, the seminary Kantor (who leads the seminary music program and teaches liturgics). He also composes organ music for Concordia Publishing House. Kevin has familial connections to St. John through his wife, Dana, who is the granddaughter of Harold and Lawrence Behrmann’s sister, Elnora Vorwerk.
- **REV. DALE Kern** – Pastor Kern hardly needs an introduction in these parts. He joins us today as “The Black Swamp Storyteller” to take on the role of St. John’s former pastor, Rev. W.L. Fischer. After dinner, “Pastor Fischer” will tell us the story of our congregation’s founding.



After worship, we will move to the fellowship hall and try to get dinner going by 11:30(ish), no later than 11:45. Thank you for being here to celebrate God’s gracious blessings through these 150 years.

ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE MEETING – The 150th Anniversary Committee will meet this Thursday, March 21st at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall to continue planning for the remainder of our anniversary year.

THANK YOU to the Women of Freedom for helping to serve the potluck luncheon today. They always do a fantastic job for the church. Also, a special thanks to the Fellowship Hall Setup Crew. We can count on both groups for help with special events here at the church. God bless you all!

LENT

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 will host 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: *Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable, 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 will be meeting on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 AM and Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM during Lent. This is open to all women of the church. Please come and join us!

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.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 03/10/19	\$6,809.00	\$336.00	\$269.00

ATTENDANCE: 172

2ND LENTEN SERVICE: \$1,017.00 – Good Shepherd for the Deaf; Attendance: 102

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!

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 Aid meeting. Come join us and help serve the Lord here at St. John. Hope to see of you there! NOTE: The LWML Quarterlies & Odes are also available today on the narthex table.

EAGLE NEWS : The Eagle News publication will be available today as you leave the service. It is also available online via FastDirect. Just go to <http://www.fastdir.com/stjohnfreedom/>, click on “Links” at the top of the page, then click on “Eagle News-March” in the “Everybody” column.

CHURCH HISTORY BOOKS – If at any time during the year you need a gift for a current or former member of St. John, why not consider one of our Church History Books. This book is full of interesting facts about St. John’s and is available in the church office at a cost of \$12.00.

SCHOOL CHAPEL SPECIAL GUEST – One week from this Tuesday, on Tuesday, March 26, the students of St. John will welcome to chapel Miss Monica Ochola, who will be speaking about a mission effort in Kenya called “Hope for the Destitute.” This multifaceted organization seeks to address the needs of widows and orphans through home care, schooling, catechism seminars, and farming. Miss Ochola will focus especially on the Lutheran Academy that is providing a Christian education for orphaned or destitute children. Everyone is welcome to join us for chapel to hear more about this ministry. Miss Ochola is the daughter of *Rev. Joseph Ochola Omolo*, the presiding Bishop of our LC-MS partner church in Kenya, The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kenya.

ARE YOU A WOODWORKER? We are looking for someone to help with a building project in the Preschool classroom. It would involve building two identical shelving units to store the larger toys and games that are used in preschool. All materials would be provided as we will be applying for a Thrivent Action Team. Your talent of working with wood is what we are seeking. Please contact Joyce in the office or Miss Valerie in Preschool if interested in taking this on. There is a diagram of what we are looking for in the school office. Many, many thanks!

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 plenty of 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.

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.

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.

MORE GERALD HISTORY BOOKS – We received more books a few weeks ago. 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!

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!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

He who is born of the Father is certain to resemble his Son.

“The one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.” (1 John 2:6)