



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 Co. Rd. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

April 7, 2019

VOL. 84

NO. 14

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

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Sermon & Text: "Surely Not!" *Luke 20:9-20*
Order of Service: Divine Service, Setting Four (LSB pg. 203)
Hymns: 791 ~ 566 ~ (Communion: 425, 556) ~ 427
Adult Choir: "Lamb of God"

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

The Lord calls all of us to a new way of living under His wonderful grace in our Savior. If you are our guest this morning, it is a pleasure to have you worshipping with us. Please help us get to know who you are by introducing yourself to our pastor and by filling out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you. Simply pass it to the center aisle during the offering.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Trenton Kruse & Colton Kruse, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Lois Arps & Linda Riefers, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Denny Von Deylen, Dave Badenhop, Dan Wiechers, Jerry Short, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Marietta Damman, Deb Wachtman, Sharon Badenhop, Nancy Short, *Altar Guild* ✠

CONFIRMATION PLANNING MEETING – This morning the confirmation class of 2019 and their parents will meet after the Sunday School hour to make plans for Confirmation Sunday. We will meet at 11:15 AM in the 7-8 grade classroom.

VOLUNTEERS FOR WORSHIP SLIDES – If you're good with your TV remote and game controller, we've got a job for you. During each worship service we need an individual who will advance the slides on the sanctuary screens. If you would be interested in serving in this way, please speak with Dan Wachtman or with Pastor. If we can get a few people together, we will do some quick training and have you serving in no time!

In God's House This Week

Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM 11:15AM 1:00 PM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" Confirmation Planning Meeting 4-H Meetings
Mon.	4:00 PM 7:00 PM	DQ Fundraiser for National Youth Group (<i>from 4-7 pm</i>) PTL Meeting; Adult Instruction Class
Tue.	8:35 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	School Chapel led by Pastor Kramer OAA & ITBS testing for Gr. K-8 (<i>Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri</i>) 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) 6th Lenten Service ; Offering: <i>Bethesda Lutheran Homes</i> Acolytes: <i>Landen Kruse & Trenton Kruse</i> Greeters: <i>Marilyn Meyer & Arlene Wallace</i> Ushers: <i>Denny Von Deylen, Dave Badenhop, Dan Wiechers, Jerry Short</i> Altar Guild: <i>Marietta Damman, Deb Wachtman, Sharon Badenhop, Nancy Short</i> Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	6:30 AM 6:30 PM	Men's Lenten Bible Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall VBS Staff Planning Meeting
Sat.	10:30AM	Hawk's Pizza Fundraiser for St. John School (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 1:00 PM 4:30 PM	Palm Sunday Worship Service (<i>with Communion following</i>) Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" 4-H Meetings Jr High LYF
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Dale Kern, Retired, St. John Lutheran – Stryker</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*
- ❖ *Ron Hesterman, Shirley Sonnenberg, Eldor Gruenhagen, Shorty Bischoff, and Tonya Whitman,* who are dealing with health issues at this time
- ❖ *Don Dickmann,* recuperating at the Orchards of Northcrest - Napoleon
- ❖ *Ron Dietrich,* at Henry County Hospital swing bed for rehab following hip replacement
- ❖ *Carey Damman,* recuperating at home from recent knee replacement
- ❖ *Florence Jones,* hospitalized recently at Henry County Hospital, but now home
- ❖ *Darrel Bockelman,* who is recuperating at home now

THANK YOU: *Ron Hesterman* would like to extend a big thank you to everyone for their prayers, cards, and visits during his recent hospitalization and recuperation from open heart surgery. He would especially like to thank Pastor Niermann for his visits and prayers. Also, a thank you to the Ridgeville and Napoleon EMT's for their quick response when they were needed. Ron is home now and building up his strength and stamina after such a surgery. Please continue to keep him in your prayers!

SPECIAL THANK YOU'S: *Darrel Bockelman* would also like to give special thanks to Pastor Niermann for his visits and comforting prayers during his recent hospitalization in Toledo and recuperation at Fulton Manor in Wauseon. Many thanks also to the congregation for all the prayers, cards, and visits from everyone. He would also like to thank his wife and children for the overwhelming comfort and support they unconditionally gave to him. Darrel feels truly blessed!

SUPPORT THE YOUTH GROUP: Dairy Queen in Napoleon will be hosting a fundraiser on Mon., April 8th from 4-7PM, for St. John & St. Luke LYF members going to the National Youth Gathering this summer. 20% of purchases during these three hours will be donated to both of these youth groups. Mark your calendars and come out and support them on April 8th! There's always room for ice cream!!

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:



DATE	THEME	OFFERING
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 Group
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

LAST LENTEN SUPPER: 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. The last Lenten Supper menu is: *Spaghetti w/marinara sauce, Bread, Salad, Fruit, 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.

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!

2018 CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT will be available on the desk and table in the narthex following the service today. Thanks to everyone for your information submitted to be included in this report.



PALM SUNDAY IS ONE WEEK FROM TODAY – On that morning we invite all the children to gather before worship in the fellowship hall to participate in the Procession of Palms at the beginning of the service. Parents, please have them there 10 minutes before the service so they can be organized and instructed.

EASTER BREAKFAST SIGN UP – The Women of Freedom are once again hosting an Easter Breakfast to be served between the two services on Easter morning (8:00-9:15 AM). The menu is: *Egg Casseroles, French bread, fresh fruit, coffeecake, doughnuts, sweet rolls, cookies, coffee and juice.* A lot of help with donations is needed. Please sign up on the chart in the narthex to donate items. Any refrigerated or bakery items in stay-fresh containers can be brought to the church on Saturday morning. All items need to be at the church prior to 8:00 AM Easter morning. Sign-up to HELP with preparation and serving. Any questions can be directed to *Pat Mahnke* at 419-598-8382 or *Marian Damman* at 419-598-8462.



HOLY WEEK

LET US EVER WALK WITH JESUS!

Our 2019 Holy Week journey with Jesus begins next Sunday. We will walk with Jesus to His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, to the upper room with His disciples, and to the cross where He lays down His life for us.

IT IS THE HOLIEST OF WEEKS FOR CHRISTIANS AROUND THE GLOBE! Let us all join together in God's House to worship and honor our loving, redeeming Savior!

PALM SUNDAY (Sunday, Apr.14)

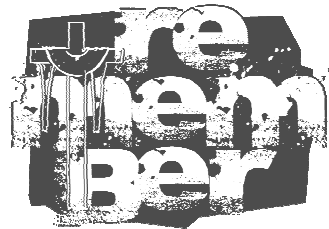
- 8:45 a.m. Children gather in the fellowship hall for the procession
- 9:00 a.m. Worship Service

MAUNDY THURSDAY (Thursday, Apr. 18)

- 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday worship with Holy Communion
- Theme "In Remembrance of Me"

GOOD FRIDAY (Friday, Apr. 19)

- 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service of Tenebrae (darkness)
- Theme "Remember Me"



PTL MEETING – The next PTL meeting will be held on Mon., April 8th at 7:00 PM in the north end of the Fellowship Hall. This will be a business meeting. Please plan to attend.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 03/31/19	\$7,386.78	\$109.00	\$112.00

ATTENDANCE: 207

5TH LENTEN SERVICE: \$808.00 – Lutheran Hour Broadcast; Attendance: 99

EASTER IS TWO WEEKS FROM TODAY! Prepare to celebrate our Lord's glorious victory over sin, death and hell.

He is risen indeed!

- 7:00 a.m.** Easter Sunrise Service
- 8:00 a.m.** Easter Fellowship Breakfast
- 9:30 a.m.** Easter Festival Service *with Holy Communion*



Easter is the perfect time to invite someone to worship with you. Please think about the people in your life to whom you would like to be a witness for Christ, pray for them, and invite them to join us in this celebration. Our theme will be the culmination of our midweek Lenten services, **“Remember Jesus Risen!”** Oh come, let us worship Him!

LWML: The next meeting of the Women of Freedom will be held on Tues., April 16th at 7:00 PM. This will be a Mission Meeting so bring your Quarterlies and Mite Box (if you have one). All ladies of St. John are invited to come to our meetings. The Quarterlies and Odes are still available on the table in the narthex. There are always interesting articles to be found in them. Pick up a copy today!

HAWKS & ST. JOHN SCHOOL: On Sat., April 13th, Hawks Pizza in Napoleon will be donating 10% of their total sales that day to St. John School. This is a community fundraising event they have chosen us to participate in with them. You may even see some St. John staff on hand that day as you drive thru and pick up your orders. Call Hawks at 419-599-1946 to place your order. You may also go to their website at hawkspizza.com. They're open from 10:30 AM – 10:00 PM.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL STAFF RECRUITMENT

It's time to bring together a staff of teachers and other helpers for our VBS, which is scheduled for **June 3-7 from 9:00 AM - Noon**. Our theme this year is **“Miraculous Mission: Jesus Saves the World.”** Sometimes we talk about superheroes saving the world, but they are only make-believe. Only the Son of God can actually do this work! He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the whole world, and through whom God has reconciled the world to Himself!

On the table in the narthex are VBS Staff Recruitment forms. Please review the positions that we need to fill, and please consider signing up. There is no one more precious to Jesus than His little ones, and there is no work more important than to teach them the love of Jesus! Will you join us in this vital ministry to His children? If so, speak with this year's VBS director Karen Riefers. **OUR FIRST VBS STAFF PLANNING MEETING IS THIS THURSDAY AT 6:30 P.M.**

GRANDPARENT'S DAY: A reminder that Grandparent's Day at St. John School for Grades K-8 will be held on **Friday, May 3** from 12:30 - 3:00 PM. *Lunch is not included.*

TEMPORARY COOK POSITION: Miss Tonya will not be able to return as our school cook for the remainder of this school year. With that news, we are seeking someone to be the cook for April and May. This would be a paid position, Monday thru Friday. It averages 3-3.5 hours per day. This person would plan the daily meals, purchase the necessary items for the daily meals (either thru Gordon Food, Chief, or Wal-Mart), prepare and serve the meal, clean up after the meals, etc. If you think you may be interested in this two month adventure, please contact Pastor Kramer at 419-598-8702 to set up a time to talk.

PTL FUNDRAISER: The *Profitable Solutions* Liquid Laundry Detergent & Fabric Softener Fundraiser sponsored by the PTL is coming Mon., April 8th thru Fri., April 26th. This fundraiser involves selling bulk laundry detergent (including pods!), softener, scent booster, dish soap, dishwasher pods and trash bags! All products are comparable to name brands. You will be receiving 42% more detergent (350-500 loads!) for the same price you'd pay in store! Order forms will be available as we approach the kickoff date. Please direct any questions to Amy Kramer at 419-297-6998!

SCHOOL MUSICAL: Set construction continues...There are scheduled work nights for Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00-8:00 PM. These will continue until we complete the set. Volunteers needed.

The musical directors would like to extend a request to anyone (business or private) that would like to make a donation toward the musical production this year; can do so by contacting the school office at 419-598-8702. If you choose to make a donation, your company name or your personal name will be listed in the musical program.

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.

AREA EVENTS:

- **St. John Lutheran School – Defiance** will host a Vendor / Craft Fair on Sat., April 13 from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM in the school's gym. They are located at 655 Wayne Ave., Defiance.
- **Napoleon High School Drama Department** presents their spring musical ANNIE GET YOUR GUN April 11-13th at 7:30pm and April 14th at 2pm. To get tickets please check out the NHS Drama Department Facebook page or go to www.localevents.com and search Napoleon to find the event. All online tickets are discounted at \$10. Tickets can also be purchased at the door for \$13. You won't want to miss the fun in the wild, wild, west!!!
- **Jayne Westhoven Fundraiser** will be held on Sun., April 28th at the Armory Arts & Events Center, Napoleon. See flyer on bulletin board.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

It's no shame to be poor, and besides, the salesmen leave you alone!

"In Your goodness, O Lord, You provide for the needy." (Psa 68:10)