



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

June 9, 2019

VOL. 84

NO. 23

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)

### THE DAY OF PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "The World's Best Counselor" John 14:23-31

Order of Service: See printed Service Folder

Hymns: 498 ~ 497 ~ 500 ~ 805 ~ 502

\*\*\*\*\*

### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

*Now is the hour of worship. God speaks to us and we listen and respond with our hymns, prayers and praises. Together we bless the Lord whose purpose is to save us and keep us in His faithful flock. He is the God of Grace and the God of Glory. If you are our guest 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* ✘ Colton Kruse & Karter Behnfeldt, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Dan & Deb Wachtman, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Tom Von Deylen, Doug Dietrich, Neil Badenhop, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Karen Germann, Mary Kossow, Diana Kruse, *Altar Guild* ✘

**HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR RECOGNITION** – If you graduated from high school with the class of 2019, we'd like to take a moment or two to recognize you in our worship today. We'd like to know your future plans, and offer a prayer for you as well.

**HOLY COMMUNION** will be offered this morning following the Worship service. Those who wish to attend should fill out a Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and give it to the usher during the collection of the offering this morning. Return immediately to the front pews in the sanctuary following the service.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL & SUMMER:** There will be no Sunday School for June, July, and August. We will resume Sunday School the second Sunday in September, which will be promotion Sunday.

**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	<b>9:00 AM</b> 10:20AM 10:30AM 1:00 PM	<b>Worship Service</b> with Communion following; High School Senior Recognition during the service Adult Bible Study Pancake & Sausage Breakfast ( <i>serving till noon</i> ) 4-H Meetings
Tue.	7:00 PM	Church Council Meeting
Thurs.	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Thursday Evening Worship and Communion</b>
Sun.	<b>9:00 AM</b> 10:20AM 10:30AM	<b>Communion Service</b> Adult Bible Class Father's Day Picnic and Hog Roast
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM

**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*
- ❖ *Shorty Bischoff and Darrel Bockelman*, who are dealing with health issues at this time, and *Eldor Gruenhagen* (under hospice care)
- ❖ *Hildegard Behrmann*, recuperating at home now from recent health issues
- ❖ *Pat Kramer*, for recent surgery at Cleveland Clinic, to reduce pain in her amputated leg

**MANY THANKS:**

- ♥ A special thanks to the St. John Church and School Family for the prayers, cards, and support regarding the passing of our father Tillmon Petzoldt. *The Petzoldt Family*
- ♥ I would like to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers and cards extended to me during my cancer treatment and surgery. I have completed treatment and am cancer free. Also, a huge thank you for your thoughts and prayers for my great granddaughter, Macie Wyse, who is now in the maintenance phase of her treatment, and still in need of prayers. Thanks again, *Phyllis Silveus, Jessica & Jason Wyse*
- ♥ Elmer Maassel would like to thank everyone for the prayers given, visits made, and cards sent during his recent heart surgery and recuperation. He is gaining strength and stamina every day. God bless you all!

**SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY** – Many churches teach a theology that says that in the end the Jews will all be saved by a special dispensation of God apart from faith in Christ. This teaching, of course, rejects the teaching of Scripture, and of Romans especially, that salvation is *only* through faith in Christ. St. Paul is clear in Romans 11, that “*Israel failed to obtain what it was seeking,*” and that the Gentiles are Abraham’s true family by virtue of Christian faith.



It’s a fascinating topic, and **we hope you’ll join us this morning in the fellowship hall for this study of God’s Word. 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)

## THANK YOU!

### 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION III

Last week, as we considered what it means to be the people of Christ in our present time and circumstances, we also gave thanks to God for so many people who serve Christ and His body by fulfilling many functions within the congregation.

**So let it be said again**, in case we missed you or anyone else --- we thank God for ALL of you who serve Christ in our congregation in ways both big and small, seen and unseen. Whether you’ve served for just a brief time or for many decades, your willing heart is a blessing to us all, and we could not be the church without you!

Special thanks again to those who helped with the celebration last Sunday: Rev. Justin Hesterman; those who served in worship (ushers, altar guilders, acolytes, greeters, musicians); the Women of Freedom; the Fellowship Hall Setup Crew; the Choir and guests from the St. Paul Choir; Dan & Deb Wachtman for the ham; everyone who brought food for the meal! **It was a great day together!**



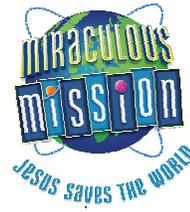
**WOMEN OF FREEDOM** – Thank you to all who were able to join us for the potluck meal after the third 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary service last Sunday. Everyone did a terrific job helping with the food and services that day. We had approximately 125 people stay for the meal and program.

**FATHER’S DAY PICNIC & HOG ROAST:** Next **Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>** there will be a Father’s Day Picnic & Hog Roast to benefit the Old School’s renovation into a Youth Center. The meal will begin following the worship service. Carry outs will be available. On the menu: Pork, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Chips, and Lemonade. Cost is a freewill offering. A Thrivent Action Team event.

<b>FINANCIAL FACTS:</b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 06/02/19	\$8,446.00	\$506.00	\$387.00

**ATTENDANCE:** Thursday – 05/30/19 – No Service; Sunday – 06/02/19 – 232

**VBS THANKS!** This past week we had a good crew of students and staff who participated in our Vacation Bible School. Our theme was, “Miraculous Mission,” a reference to the mission of Jesus to save this world from sin and death. We considered Bible narratives about 1) the Creation; 2) the Promise to Abram; 3) the Coming of Christ at Bethlehem; 4) the Resurrection of Christ; and 5) the Reign of Christ now and forever.



Thank you to everyone who registered your children and to all who served them on the VBS staff, with special thanks to Karen Riefers for serving as our Director. It is a special privilege to teach the children whom Jesus holds so dear to His heart!

**THURSDAY EVENING SERVICES** are now being held in the north end of the fellowship hall. We hope these Thursday services will make it possible to attend worship when summer plans take you away during weekends. Holy Communion will be available at our Thursday services on the Thursdays prior to our regular Communion Sundays. (Please note that there will be no Thursday services on the Fourth of July and in the week prior to our final anniversary celebration in September.)

**150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY BLANKETS** – In the narthex, be sure to check out the beautiful woven blanket designed for our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. These blankets are now available for a donation of \$35. Just place your gift in the clear plastic box on the anniversary table in the narthex, and take your blanket with you to enjoy!

**LYF FUNDRAISERS → NYG:**

- ▶ **DO YOU NEED YARD WORK DONE?** The LYF members are finishing up their fundraising for their trip to the National Youth Gathering (NYG). The fundraiser they wish to do is to help out with your yardwork for those who are in need. For a donation, students will come help you with several items around the yard. Please contact Miss Bartok at the church (419-598-8961) or at [sbartok@sjl.org](mailto:sbartok@sjl.org) with a date and how many helpers you would need.
- ▶ **SHIRLEY'S POPCORN** – The youth will be selling Shirley's Gourmet Popcorn. Shirley's offers a variety of flavors such as original, theater style, white cheddar, chocolate almond, buckeye, dark salted caramel, and many more. Popcorn orders will be due on Sun., June 9<sup>th</sup>. Please find an LYF member to place your order. You won't be disappointed.
- ▶ **PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST** – On Sun., June 9<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 AM - noon, the LYF will be hosting a pancake & sausage breakfast after worship. All proceeds will benefit the youth in their upcoming trip to the National Youth Gathering. A free will offering will be taken. This is a Thrivent Action Team event.

**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're interested in serving in this way, please speak with Dan Wachtman or with Pastor. We'll do some quick training and have you serving in no time!

**SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:** Please note the church office hours during the month of June are Tuesday thru Friday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Closed over the lunch hour and all day on Mondays. If making a special trip, please call (419-598-8961) to guarantee someone will be here. Thank you!

**WHY LUTHERAN SCHOOLS?** *Strengthening Congregations:* Lutheran schools equip children to become Christian leaders in the congregation. The school also involves young parents in congregation activities more than in congregations without schools. These young parents frequently become new leaders of the congregation. Students are encouraged to become future pastors and teachers, ensuring an ongoing supply of church workers.

**REPORT CARDS** will be available for viewing and/or printing via FastDirect Communication as of today. We will no longer print hard copies. Please check FastDirect as of today. Thank you!

**ST. JOHN SCHOOL POSITION OPENINGS** – St. John Lutheran School is seeking a few people to fill the following paid positions that will be open after this school year.

- **School Cook** – This individual is responsible for ordering/purchasing, preparing, and serving lunch for approximately 55-60 students and staff; and the clean up after lunch. This would average 15 hours per week. Must have a FBI/BCI background check.
- **Freedom Flock Aide** (*After School Care*) – This person is in charge of the aftercare program each day that school is in session from 3-6 p.m. It averages 10-12 hours per week. Must have a FBI/BCI background check.

If you are interested in more information on these positions, please speak with Principal Kramer or the chairman of the School Board, Margo Behnfeldt. Thank you!

**4/5-YR PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION:** St. John Lutheran Preschool is in full swing. The 4/5 year old class numbers have changed due to the change of enrollment date for kindergarten next year. **We currently have openings for the 4/5-yr class.** The 3 year old class also has openings. Anyone interested in enrolling your child in our preschool program should contact the school office at 419-598-8702 to obtain a registrations packet. There is a non-refundable \$30 registration fee that must accompany your registration form.

**OHIO ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN:** With all the flooding, tornadoes, and storms that have hit the southern states and the Midwest, please keep the OGT in your thoughts when disposing of clothing and household items. The Ohio Division OGT is located in the north end of the Culligan Water Conditioning building on Independence Drive in Napoleon. Someone is usually there to receive items on the first Tuesday of the month from 9:00-11:00 AM. If you need to drop off items at another time, please contact *Nancy Helmke* (419-758-3539), *Diann Meyer-Grieser* (419-267-3485), or *Vicki Grieser* (419-445-2986) and they will be happy to meet you and open the facility to receive your donations! PLEASE do not drop off items at the warehouse when it is closed. Thank you!

**TURN YOUR OLD USED CELL PHONE INTO A GIFT FOR THE POOR AND FOR YOUR CHURCH!** Informed sources tell us that the average American household has 5 to 6 old unused cell phones lying around. Now you can put those phones to good use AND keep them out of the landfills. Bring them to church and deposit them in the large white box in the narthex. They will be forwarded to a company that sorts them and prepares them to be given to poor families for emergency use, and sends us a check. Old cell phones range in value from \$1 up to \$50.



**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!

**LIONS RECYCLE FOR SIGHT** – *How You Can Help?* If you have used **prescription or nonprescription** glasses or sunglasses in your drawers, desks, or closets, you can donate them now! Children's glasses are especially needed. Both plastic and metal frames are accepted. There is a box on the table in the narthex for the collection of these used glasses.

**USE OF THE FELLOWSHIP HALL** – If you would like to use the Fellowship Hall for any occasion, on a certain date this year, **please contact the church/school office at 419-598-8961 or 419-598-8702**. In addition to calling the office, you may want to check the online master calendar at <http://www.dynacal.com/sjl/> (*you can also link to it from [www.sjl.org](http://www.sjl.org)*).

**PROJECT CONNECT** – There are many free booklets in the rack in the narthex. Be sure to check for some good reading. Some titles are: “*Why Do Bad Things Happen To Me,*” “*Has God Abandoned Me,*” “*Dealing with Depression,*” “*Coping with Cancer,*” “*Who Is Jesus,*” “*Why Did Jesus Die?*” “*Overcoming A Painful Childhood,*” “*Where's God in All of This?*” “*Why Should I go to Church?*” and many more. These booklets are furnished through the Lutheran Hour Ministries.

**LARGE PRINT & CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BULLETINS** are available on the table in the narthex. The Children's Bulletins are coordinated with the Bible texts for each Sunday, and provide activities that tie in with the weekly themes. Pick one up today for your child.

**PRAYER CALENDAR NOTE:** Please be aware that if you would like your wedding anniversaries printed on the prayer calendars, you will have to post them each year. Just list them on the blank calendars posted on the bulletin board in the narthex throughout the year.

**COTA BENEFIT FUNDRAISER:** A benefit is being organized for Emily Jackson (*Jan Schlade's teenage granddaughter*), who was born with Cystic Fibrosis and passed away on Sun., June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The benefit will be held at the Napoleon American Legion, today from 11:30 AM – 4:00 PM. There will be food, silent auctions, bake sale, etc. Free will donation for the meal. See flyer on bulletin board!

**MINI-VACATION!** A mini-vacation to the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter is being organized on Wednesday and Thursday, Aug. 28 & 29. Space is limited to 54 people. Flyers are available on the bulletin board in the narthex. Contact Linda Riefers at 419-267-3366 for more info.

**A SAVE THE DATE:** The *Annual Stephanie Lynn Kossow Memorial Golf Outing* will be held on Sat., July 27<sup>th</sup> this year with a 1:00 PM shotgun start. Flyers available on the narthex table!

✂ ✂ ✂

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

**He who is on the road to heaven is not content to go there alone!**

*“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations.” (Matt 28:19)*