



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

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Rev. Charles Kramer, Principal

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FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Jerusalem is Here" *Isaiah 66:10-14*
Order of Service: *See printed Service Folder*
Hymns: 910 ~ 966 ~ 901 ~ [Communion: 955,763,617] ~ 919

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

You are among Christian friends today. We all have come to the Lord's House to hear what He has to say and to be doers of the Word and not hearers only. We pray that His grace will touch and move you. If you are a visitor, we ask that you fill out a Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and pass it to the center aisle during the offering this morning. Your presence is a blessing to us.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Bethann Gerken, *Pianist* ✠ Brooks Behnfeldt & Claire Wachtman, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Pat & Elmer Maassel, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Dave Myles, Denny Bockelman, Tim Badenhop *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Kaylee & Ronda Wentworth, Karen Lulfs, Karan Niebergall, *Altar Guild* ✠

TODAY – TWO SPECIAL EVENTS: This morning we are richly blessed as we gather for worship, and participate in two special rites during the service:

- **RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS** – This morning receive into membership by the Rite of Confirmation two new members, **Christina (Tina) Wachtman** (Todd's wife) and **Joseph (Joe) Montana** (Hannah née Dietrich's husband). Following the service there will be a Java Joy reception for them in the fellowship hall. Please come on down and join us.
- **COMMISSIONING OF NYG PARTICIPANTS** – For years a number of our youth and their chaperones have been planning for the **2019 LCMS National Youth Gathering**. The congregation has given support through numerous fundraisers, and now the time is finally here for them to travel to Minneapolis. During worship today we will send them off with prayer and blessing, eagerly anticipating the day when they return to us to report all that they saw and heard in Minneapolis.



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	Communion Service & New Member Recognition New Member Reception in fellowship hall 4-H Meetings
Tue.	7:00 PM	Church Council
Wed.	6:15 PM	Midweek Confirmation Class
Thurs.	7:00 PM	Thursday Evening Worship
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service w/Communion following Adult Bible Class
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Eric Moquin</i> , St. John Lutheran – Sherwood

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

- ❖ Shut-Ins: *Norma Damman, Renetta Homan, Willie Gerken* and *Lester Rabe*
- ❖ *Delora Winkelman, Marian Buchhop, Dorothy Gerken*, and *Eldor Gruenhagen* (under hospice care) 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 recent health issues
- ❖ *Lorna Von Deylen*, currently residing at Swanton Valley Center

JAVA JOY RECEPTION TODAY – Join us this morning in the fellowship hall after worship for refreshments, fellowship, and a reception for our newest members, **Tina Wachtman** and **Joe Montana**. It is a privilege to welcome these individuals to St. John, to work together with us in the kingdom of our God.



150th ANNIVERSARY PICTORIAL DIRECTORY – The 150th Anniversary Committee is seeking individuals to form a committee to make plans for a 150th Anniversary Pictorial Directory. It has been five years since our last directory. If you would like to be part of this committee, please speak with Pastor Niermann. We’ll get the process going as soon as we can put the committee together.

WOMEN OF FREEDOM & LWML QUARTERLIES: The next LWML Quarterlies are available on the narthex table. Be sure to pick up your copy today! Also, the next Women of Freedom meeting will be held on Tues., July 16th at 7:00 PM. This will be a Missions Meeting so everyone should bring their Mite Boxes if you have one. Amber Gruenhagen is back from her mission work in Brazil and will be our guest speaker. All ladies of St. John are invited to come to our meetings. Hope to see you there!

THURSDAY EVENING SERVICES are 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.

PORTALS OF PRAYER BOOKLETS for the next quarter, *July, August, September*, are on the desk in the back of the church. There are also large print booklets available for anybody to pick up.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS: Please note the church office hours during the month of July 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!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – Upcoming Events

Here are some key dates to have on your calendar for this summer...

- ✓ Sun. Aug. 25 Outdoor Service and Congregational Picnic & Hog Roast
- ✓ Sun. Sept. 15 Culminating Anniversary Service, 10:00 a.m. / Congregational Meal

150th ANNIVERSARY BLANKETS – In the narthex, be sure to check out the beautiful woven blanket designed for our 150th 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!

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!

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!

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 06/30/19	\$6,509.00	\$278.00	\$187.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday – 06/27/19 – 47; Sunday – 06/30/19 – 140

WHY LUTHERAN SCHOOLS? WE INNOVATE: Lutheran schools continually evolve to meet the needs of students and the communities they serve. Classical schools, academies, robotics, athletics, STEM, service learning, resource programs, drama, fine arts, blended classrooms and virtual schools are the many opportunities that students can explore and experience in reaching their full potential.

UPCOMING SCHOOL DATES TO REMEMBER:

- ▶ **Annual School Cleaning** has been set for **Mon., July 29** at 6:00PM. No cleaning on Tues., July 30 as carpets will be shampooed. On **Wed., July 31** starting at 6:00 PM put furnishings and desks back into classrooms, and clean other areas of the building. **Thurs., Aug. 1** at 6:00 PM (if needed) finish cleaning remainder of building and putting furnishings and desks back into all classrooms. Please contact a School Board member if evenings do not work for you. Please read the Parent Participation Policy on FastDirect with all the details about family requirements for School Cleaning.

SCHOOL BOARD INITIATIVE: At their recent meeting, the School Board decided they would like to gather a group of individuals with ideas to promote and grow the school. If you can help with ideas, please call the school office and leave your name. A Board member will be in contact with you to listen to your idea(s).

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.

COUNCIL MINUTES – This is just a reminder that council meeting minutes are not published until they are approved a month later. If you would like to read about the most recent council meeting, an unofficial and unapproved copy of the minutes is available for viewing in the church office, usually within a week after the meeting.

'BREAD FROM HEAVEN' – A note to St. John members needing food assistance – If you could use food assistance from our food pantry, please speak with *Pastor Niermann*. We are required by the *Northwestern Ohio Food Bank* to keep a record with your name, but pastor will keep your record separate and absolutely confidential.

Contributions can be made at any time. Monetary gifts can be given to the *Good Neighbor Fund* (note it on your offering envelope). Food donations for our pantry can be dropped off in the box by the Archives display cases. Any and all contributions are always greatly appreciated. Thank you so much! As we learned in the meaning of the Fifth Commandment, "*We should fear and love God that we...help and support our neighbor in every physical need.*" (*Small Catechism*)

RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP FUNDRAISER: The Stewardship Board is offering "for sale" the Ultimate Cloth® as a fundraiser. These are a MiraFiber® technology cloth that cleans with water only. This cloth is more effective than harsh cleaning chemicals and soaps. See *Karen Norden* (419-267-3477) for more information and pricing. This will be an on-going fundraiser for the Right Hand of Fellowship gift matching campaign.

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.

AREA EVENTS:

- **St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Defiance** is hosting an Ice Cream Social on **Sun., July 14th** serving from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Carry outs available. Freewill Offering! See flyer.
- **The 12th Annual Stephanie Lynn Kossow Memorial Golf Outing** will be held on **Sat., July 27th**, with a 1:00 PM shotgun start. Registration forms available on the narthex table!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Jesus is the investment that never loses!

"Those who lose their life for My sake will gain it." (Matt. 10:39)