



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. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor
Rev. Charles Kramer, Principal

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Church Website: www.sjl.org

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Division and Perfect Peace" *Luke 12:49-53 (54-56)*

Order of Service: Divine Service, Setting Four (LSB pg 203)

Hymns: 728 ~ 432 ~ (Communion: 411, 748, 655) ~ 694

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome! We are here at the Savior's invitation; therefore let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, receiving mercy and finding grace to help in every time of need. But above all, we invite you to come to worship with us at any time. If you are a visitor, please introduce yourself to the pastor as you leave the worship service this morning.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✠ Trenton Kruse & Landen Kruse, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Bonnie Niermann & Cheryl Yaw, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Denny Von Deylen, Jerry Short, Dan Wiechers, Dave Badenhop, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Deb Durham, Anita Badenhop, Pat Maassel, Kathy Behnfeldt, *Altar Guild* ✠

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY – St. Paul, in his New Testament letters (Greek, 'epistles') always follows up his theological discussions with a further discussion of the practical, life implications of the Christian faith. In the letter to the Romans, this part of his epistle begins in the 12th chapter, which is where we resume our study of Romans today. What does the Gospel mean for us for the way we conduct our lives, and for our relationships with authorities, with each other, and with those who are weak in faith?



We hope you'll join us this morning in the fellowship hall for the 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)

In God's House This Week		<i>Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl</i>
Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class
Mon.	9:00 AM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM 7:30 PM	Staff Meetings Classrooms open; Meet Teachers; Fees Payment (<i>see bulletin notes</i>) Preschool 3-yr old Parent Meeting Preschool 4/5-yr old Parent Meeting
Tues.	1:00 PM	Staff Training with EMA Director, Tracy Busch (<i>Security training</i>)
Thurs.	8:20 AM	First Student Day; 8:35 AM Opening Chapel
Sun.	10:00AM 11:00AM	Outdoor Worship Service at the Old School Property (NOTE TIME) Congregation Hog Roast & Picnic; Tours of the Youth Center
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Willie Stottlemeyer</i> , St. Stephen Lutheran – Defiance

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, Melba Elling, and Eldor Gruenhagen*, at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Evelyn Rohrs*, in Assisted Living at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Lorna Von Deylen*, residing at Swanton Valley Center
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, residing at the Ohio Veteran's Home, Sandusky
- ❖ Armed Services: *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, Connor Gerken, Seth Handy*
- ❖ *Shorty Bischoff*, who is dealing with health issues
- ❖ *Rose Leonard* (daughter of *Brad & Kailee Leonard*), hospitalized at Cleveland Clinic, dealing with significant health issues
- ❖ *Ruth Mahnke*, hospitalized at UTMC in Toledo after falling and breaking her hip recently
- ❖ *Joyce Maassel*, hospitalized this past week with heart issues and is recovering at home

WOMEN OF FREEDOM: The Women of Freedom will not be meeting in August. Our next meeting will be Tues., Sept. 17. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend!

YOUTH CENTER PAINTING: We will be painting the new ceiling and walls at the new youth center in a couple of weeks. If anyone would like to help with that project please put your name and phone number on the sheet on the table in the narthex. An information note will be in a future bulletin as to when we will begin the painting of the rooms. Thank you!

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!

NO THURSDAY SERVICE THIS WEEK - This week there will be no Thursday evening service so that, as much as possible, we can bring the entire St. John family together next Sunday for our annual Outdoor Service and Picnic. Let's gather together next Sunday at the Old School grounds at 10:00 a.m. Bring a friend and a chair! More details about the outdoor service are below.

OUTDOOR SERVICE & HOG ROAST – NEXT SUNDAY

Join us **NEXT SUNDAY, August 25th at 10:00 a.m.** for the annual Outdoor Service next to the old school across the road from the church. Then hang around following the service for a congregation picnic and hog roast. **This will run from 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM with the following menu: Roasted pork, Hotdogs, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Potato Chips, and Beverage.** A free-will offering will be received during the meal to help fund the renovation of the old school building as a youth ministry and community center. This is a Thrivent Action Team event. Also that day, the old school building, currently under renovation, will be open for everyone to see the progress.

Special notes: 1) Be sure to bring a chair for the outdoor service. 2) Please save the parking around the old school for those who need it most. 3) Be careful to walk around the mud from construction. **And perhaps most important, this would be a great day to invite a friend or family member to join us for worship and fellowship. Take advantage!**



SEND A CARD: As we prayed for Pastor Ken & Beppie Schroeder in honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary, many of you have asked for an address to send a card. Here is the address we have in the church office: 662 Willow Lane, Frankenmuth, MI 48734.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 08/11/19	\$5,579.00	\$264.00	\$160.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday – 08/08/19 – 34; Sunday – 08/11/19 – 139

SHARE THE BOUNTY OF SUMMER – This morning a table has been set up under the carport where you can bring any spare produce from your garden and share it with others in the congregation. Bring whatever you can and take whatever you can use, and share the bounty of summer! The table will be set up each Sunday through mid-September or so.



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.

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

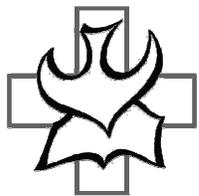
FOUR WEEKS FROM TODAY 150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IV

We are coming up to our culminating 150th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, Sept. 15th at 10:00 a.m. Our theme for the day will be, “**Jesus Christ – FOREVER.**” Our special guest preacher will be **Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz**, emeritus speaker on *The Lutheran Hour* and now director of our synod’s *The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty* in Washington, D.C. To get a feel for the kind of work Rev. Seltz is doing, please visit their website at erlc.com.



As part of the worship that morning, we have invited a brass ensemble to accompany our worship. After the service, we will gather again in the fellowship hall for a **congregational meal and a program. This is NOT a potluck meal – you don’t have to bring a dish to join us.** However, we are asking people to sign up in the narthex (*much as we do for Easter breakfast*) to bring a salad, side dish, or dessert. You may sign up starting today in the narthex.

This service is another golden opportunity to invite a family member, neighbor, or friend to worship with us. Please take advantage of it!



WEDNESDAY EVENING CONFIRMATION CLASS – The midweek confirmation class for 7th and 8th graders will begin on **Wednesday, August 28th at 6:15 p.m.** (*our regular starting time*). For our first class session, pastor would like to have parents join the class for the first 10 or 15 minutes for a brief orientation and overview of the year’s curriculum and expectations. *We look forward to welcoming this year’s 7th graders to our group!*

SCHOOL YEAR OPENING CHAPEL – You are invited to join the students of St. John on Thursday, Aug. 22nd at 8:35 a.m. for the School Year 2019-20 Opening Chapel. Our theme this year is the same as this summer’s convention theme, **JOY:FULLY LUTHERAN**, based on Paul’s word to the Thessalonians, “For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you because our gospel...and with full conviction. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” (*1 Thess 4*). Yes, we are FULLY, that is, unequivocally, Lutheran, and JOYFULLY so, for it is our gospel conviction that Christ loved us FULLY on the cross for our salvation, and that His gift is true JOY now and forever!

I AM **JOY:FULLY**
LUTHERAN
1 THESS 5:16-24

PARENT HANDBOOKS: The 2019-20 Parent Handbook is posted and available via the FastDirect Communication network. A message was sent to each family through FastDirect. Handbooks will only be printed for those St. John families that do not have internet access via computers, cell phones, i-Pads, etc. Go to www.fastdir.com/stjohnfreedom and click on “Links”.

UPCOMING SCHOOL & PRESCHOOL DATES TO REMEMBER:

- ✓ **School Open House** – The St. John School will be holding an open house on **Mon., Aug. 19th from 6:00 – 7:00 PM** for Kindergarten thru Gr. 8 families. We will meet first in the Fellowship Hall. That will be a time to introduce our staff members and set the tone for the school year. After meeting in the Fellowship Hall students can drop off materials in their classrooms, meet teachers, and pay fees in the school office.
- ✓ **Preschool Parent's Meeting & Open House** – On **Mon., Aug. 19 at 6:30 PM** there will be a Preschool Parent's Meeting held in the Fellowship Hall for children entering the 3-yr old preschool class. Immediately following this meeting (at 7:30 PM) there will be a Parent Meeting for children entering the 4/5-yr old preschool class. Parents will be informed about student expectations in the classroom and also the basics of navigating in the FastDirect Communication system. The classroom will be open and staffed during these meetings. **All Preschool parents are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting.**
- ✓ **School Fundraiser** – The Magazine & Cookie Dough Sales for Grades Preschool thru 8 will begin on **Mon., Aug. 26th at 9:30 AM**. It will run through Thurs., Sept. 4th.

FREEDOM'S FLOCK – St. John's after school program will begin at 3:00 PM on the first day of school, August 22. Please contact Director *Karen Riefers* to pre-register your child(ren) and pay the \$15 per family registration by August 22, if possible. You can also access the Freedom's Flock Handbook and Registration/Medical forms on FastDirect. The Freedom Flock Aid this year is Mrs. Linda Miller. If any adult or student (16 or older) would like to volunteer to also help with the program, you may contact Karen at 419-598-8686.

OPEN POSITION: St. John Preschool has an opening for a part time preschool aid on Wednesdays and Fridays each week from 8:20 AM thru 11:20 AM. This is a paid position. If interested, please contact Board President Christa Bickel at 419-262-3248 or Pastor Kramer at 567-277-1339.

PRESCHOOL REQUEST: Church Family, Are you looking for a way to get involved with the preschool this year? We are seeking a prayer partner for each student that comes through our preschool doors. To do this, we are asking you to commit to a few things: 1) At some point after you receive the name of your child, to stop in our classroom before the school year starts and say a prayer for that child. 2) Also ask that you leave a small book/card with a special note for them as they start off the year. We would like to have these notes prior to our school open house so they can have these at open house. 3) Commit to praying for this child throughout the entire school year from your home. If you have any interest in this commitment, please email Mrs. Rice at vrice@sjl.org and she will get you on the list. And who knows, you may get to enjoy some special notes throughout the school year as well.

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...

Faith is the tendril by which the soul clings to the promises of God.

"But you are to cling to the LORD your God, as you have done to this day." (Josh. 23:8)

SCHOOL NOTES:

- ✓ **1st DAY OF SCHOOL** for St. John is Thurs., Aug. 22 , with classes beginning at 8:20 AM. Students arriving after that time will need to report to the school office.
- ✓ **OPEN HOUSE** – (Gr.K-8) On Monday, August 19th from 6:00-7:00 PM for Kindergarten thru Gr. 8. All classrooms will be open and we invite parents and students to come in and bring in their school supplies, meet their teacher, and pay their school fees.
- ✓ **OPEN HOUSE FOR PRESCHOOL** - On Monday, Aug. 19th at 6:30 PM there will be a Parent Meeting for the incoming 3-yr old Preschoolers. Then at 7:30 PM there will be a Parent Meeting for the 4&5-yr old Preschoolers. This will include an overview of the FastDirect Communication information system we have implemented at St. John. The classroom will be open for parents and students to bring in their class supplies and meet the teacher.
- ✓ **SCHOOL OFFICE** will be open on Mon., Aug. 19th and Tues., Aug. 20th from 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM for anyone that wants to pay their enrollment fee and purchase supplies from the book store. **Also return any St. John Library books from last school year at this time.**
- ✓ **OPENING SERVICE** will be Aug. 22nd at 8:35 AM in the church. Following the service, *Principal Charles Kramer* will welcome our new students. Once back in their rooms the children, by classrooms, will have the opportunity to purchase school supplies from our book store if they have not already done so. **All are welcome to attend this Opening Service!**
- ✓ **SCHOOL PICTURES** will be taken by *Emilie Parsons* of Emilie's Photo Design and are scheduled for Thurs., Sept. 12th at 9:00 AM for the 4/5 Preschool class and Grades K-8; and Fri., Sept. 13th at 9:00 AM for 3-yr old Preschoolers and anyone absent on Sept. 12th. Order forms will be sent home shortly after school starts.
- ✓ **LUNCH PROGRAM** – Lunch prices remain the same. We have put Preschool and Grades K-4 together for one price, and Grades 5-8 for one price. They are: PS 4/5 - Gr. 4 - \$2.75, Gr. 5-8 - \$3.00. Extra milk is 50¢. The adult meal price is \$3.25 and \$3.75 w/milk. Money sent in for lunches are posted to each families lunch account in FastDirect Communication. You can view your balance by clicking on the Finance icon at the top of the FastDirect home page.
- ✓ **BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP** – St. John Booster membership for the 2019-20school year are: \$20.00 for husband and wife; \$10.00 for single. Make checks payable to *St. John Boosters*.
- ✓ **SCRIP PROGRAM** will be offered again this school year. Anyone willing to help the PTL with this fundraiser can contact *Kristyn Honemann* at 419-592-0643.