



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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TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon Text: *Luke 14:7-11*

Order of Service: *Divine Service, Setting Five (LSB pg. 213)*

Hymns: 907 ~ **"I Know the Limits"** ~ 953 ~ (Communion: 685, 620) ~ 946

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We welcome all who have come to worship our God with us today! Each day we live is a priceless gift from God, loaded with possibilities to learn something new, to gain fresh insights into His great truths. May we be showered with those blessings as we together profess His Name 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 this morning.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✠ Cal Bickel & Brooklyn Bostelman, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Jerry & Nancy Short, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Ted Ripke, Denny Behnfeldt, Bob Norden, Elmer Maassel, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Kathy Badenhop, Mary Rettig, Sandy Von Deylen, *Altar Guild* ✠



FLOWERS TODAY:

- ❖ The **altar flowers** today are in celebration of the 45th Wedding Anniversary of Richard & Bev Elling. They were married on August 31, 1974 here at St. John Lutheran. Congratulations and best wishes for many more happy years together. Blessings to you!
- ❖ The **piano flowers** today are in celebration of another wedding anniversary, that being the 62nd Wedding Anniversary of Marvin & Arlene Gruenhagen. Their anniversary date is today, Sept. 1st and we congratulate and wish them nothing but the best in their future. God's blessings to you also!

THURSDAY EVENING SERVICES will return to the sanctuary for the month of September, now that school is back in session. Holy Communion will be available at our Thursday services on the Thursdays prior to our regular Communion Sundays.

In God's House This Week		<i>Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl</i>
Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class
Mon.		NO SCHOOL – Labor Day
Tues.	8:35 AM 7:00 PM	School Chapel School Board and Stewardship Board Meetings
Wed.	6:15 PM 7:00 PM	Jr. High Confirmation Class (<i>until 7:30 PM</i>) Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	6:30 AM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Men's Bible Breakfast in fellowship hall (<i>see bulletin note</i>) V-ball: @ St. Paul - Napoleon Thursday Evening Worship
Sat.	10:00AM	V-ball: vs St. John – Defiance
Sun.	9:00AM 10:20AM	Worship Service w/Communion following Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp"
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, Willie Gerken and Lester Rabe*
- ❖ *Delora Winkelman, 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, Ruth Mahnke, and Joyce Maassel, who are dealing with health issues*
- ❖ *Rose Leonard (daughter of Brad & Kailee Leonard), hospitalized at Cleveland Clinic*

MOURNING THE LOSS: Our sister, Marian Buchhop, 77, passed away on Mon., Aug. 26, 2019 at Genacross Lutheran Home, Napoleon. Marian's funeral service took place here at St. John yesterday, Aug. 31st at 11:00 AM, with burial following in St. John Lutheran Cemetery. Marian's extended family will miss her greatly and so we ask that you keep them all in your prayers at this time of sorrow.

NEW FAMILY! Congratulations are in order for Michael & Sam Cohrs on the birth of their first child, a son, Axel Jeffrey, born on Wed., Aug. 28, 2019 at Defiance Regional Women's Center. Mother and child are doing well. There will be lots of new sounds at the Cohrs' house once Sam and Axel arrive home this weekend. Grandparents Randy & Lou Ann Rosebrock will be sure to "go down the road a piece" in order to grab a hug or two also. Congrats and God's blessing to the Cohrs'!

WEDNESDAY EVENING CONFIRMATION CLASS – The midweek confirmation class for 7th and 8th graders began this past Wednesday, and will meet each Wednesday evening from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m.

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU! We all owe a big debt of gratitude to everyone who helped make last Sunday's outdoor service and hog roast meal such a success. Thank you to the **outdoor service committee** who prepared the pavement for worship and did all the outdoor setup, and to **Sharon Damman** and **Mike Nicol** for the music they provided for our worship; thank you to the **old school committee** for all their work in coordinating the meal; thank you to **Todd Kruse** for donating the hog; thank you to **Bobby Cowell** and his crew for roasting the most delicious and succulent pork anyone has ever eaten; thank you to **everyone who turned out** for the meal to support the renovation project at the old school. Most of all, we give thanks to God for all those to whom he gives a heart for service, and for their willingness to step up and be a blessing to all of us! *Well done, good and faithful servants!*

Thank you!

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 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)

WOMEN OF FREEDOM: Our next meeting is Tues., Sept. 17th at 7:00 PM. *Tanya Trapp*, LPN from Genacross Lutheran Services – Toledo will be our speaker. She will explain all the home services Genacross has to offer. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend.

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.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 08/25/19	\$8,341.04	\$831.00	\$1,102.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday – 08/22/19 – No service; Sunday – 08/25/19 – 216

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!

Sunday School / Christian Education

It's time to gear up for another season of Christian education at St. John. Sunday School grades K-6 will be using the 'Enduring Faith' curriculum. While the students are in Sunday School, all adults and Sunday School parents are invited to come to Adult Bible Study which is held in the north end of the fellowship hall. Meanwhile, preschool, junior and senior high classes will continue their normal schedule. Here's the calendar of what's coming...

- **Today – No Sunday School**
- **Sunday, Sept. 8th** - Regular Sunday School classes begin

Sunday School materials have arrived, so teachers can pick up their materials any time.

And... **WILLING SERVANTS ARE STILL NEEDED** to staff the Sunday School. Speak with *Kelly Sonnenberg* if you would like to share your time and talents with the children of our Sunday School.



MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST will be resume meeting each Thursday as we continue our study, "Monumental Mountaintops." In the Bible, many of the important parts of our salvation story on various mountaintops, and these are "mountaintop" teachings of our faith that we need to know. **Join us this Thursday IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL at 6:30 a.m.** 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 walk with Jesus!

LYF ICE CREAM SOCIAL – The LYF will be hosting its annual Ice Cream Social on Sun., Sept. 22, with serving from 10:30 to 12:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. On the menu: *Chicken Sandwiches, Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Chips, Cakes, Cupcakes, Beverage* and *Schwan's Ice Cream*. Freewill offering! This is a Thrivent Action Team event. Carryouts available also!

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!

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!

TWO 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 at the table 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!

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.



FOLLOW OUR CHURCH ON FACEBOOK – our new Facebook page will become a source of information about our 150th Anniversary year, as well as a place where members and school alumni will be encouraged to share memories of the past. Be sure to head there soon and check out the anniversary theme and logo on the page banner.



If you aren’t following our church yet on Facebook, just search for “St. John Lutheran, Napoleon” and you’ll see us in this list with a profile picture of the outside front of the sanctuary. Be sure to share the page with your friends, and let’s build a good following, especially as we approach the 150th Anniversary celebration. (Our school also has a Facebook page; find and follow it!)



KFUO RADIO – “**Christ for you. Anytime. Anywhere.**” St. Paul said, “*Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.*” (Rom 10:17) There is perhaps no other broadcast ministry at which you can hear “Christ for you” more faithfully than at KFUO Radio, the radio broadcast Ministry of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. There’s something for everyone, and you can listen on demand by going to www.kfu.org. Check it out – although the devil will hate it, you will “*be strengthened in the Lord and in the strength of His might!*” (Eph. 6:10)

ST. JOHN SCRIP CONTINUES: You may begin ordering SCRIP again. Order forms are on the table in the narthex. Please turn those orders in on Wednesdays, with payment to *St. John School PTL Scrip Program*. The gift cards will be sent home the following week on Tuesday. Payment must accompany orders. **Any questions about SCRIP can be directed to SCRIP Coordinator Kristyn Honemann at 419-966-0207 or email at honemann@embarqmail.com.**

PTL OFFICER NOMINATIONS: We are currently seeking nominations for PTL officers. Please consider getting involved with PTL by becoming an officer. This is just one way of supporting St. John School and bringing new ideas to the forefront for school activities and fundraisers.

ATHLETIC BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP: Membership is now being taken for the Athletic Booster Club. Prices are \$20.00 for a couple and \$10.00 for an individual. Make checks payable to St. John Boosters and send to school with your child. Forms were sent home in your “family packet” and are available outside the school office or contact any of the Booster officers. Our programs here at St. John give our students a sense of sportsmanship, discipline, structure and self-confidence needed to go out into the world.

MAGAZINE / COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER: The magazine and cookie dough sales for Kindergarten thru Grade 8 kicks off today. Packets are being sent home with each student. It will end on Wed., Sept. 4. It is completely optional if Preschoolers wish to participate.

‘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, and the families we serve are greatly appreciative of the generosity of St. John. Thank you so much!

4-H MUM SALE: The 4-H Advisory Council is having a Mum Sale with proceeds to support 4-H Youth and activities in Henry County. Colors of mums available are: Red, White, Yellow, Orange, Bronze, Pink, Purple and Pineapple. Plant sizes and prices are 9” (\$7.00), 12” (\$12.00), 14” (\$17.00), Oval Planter (\$12.00), and Hanging Basket (\$12.00). For more information and if you want to place an order, please contact *Bethann Gerken* at 419-445-7910 or email bethann@rteceexpress.net

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT THIS LABOR DAY...

There is no future in any job. The future is in the one who holds the job!

*“A sluggard’s appetite is never filled, but the desires of the diligent are fully satisfied.”
(Proverbs 13:4)*