



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

September 8, 2019

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

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THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon Text: "How Very Christ-like Of You!" *Philemon 17-20*

Order of Service: Matins (LSB pg. 219)

Hymns: **849 ~ 853 ~ 845 ~ 941** (*Te Deum hymn*) ~ **838**

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* ✠ Brooks Behnfeldt & Eli Dickmann, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Tom & Sandy Von Deylen, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Ted Ripke, Denny Behnfeldt, Bob Norden, Elmer Maassel, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Kathy Badenhop, Mary Rettig, Sandy Von Deylen, *Altar Guild* ✠

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.

SINCERE THANK YOU! The Family of Marian Buchhop would like to thank Pastor Niermann and the elders for their visits, the Women of Freedom for the cards and treats over the years and all of the St. John family for their prayers. Thank you also to the St. John choir for singing at her funeral and the Women of Freedom for coordinating the luncheon following the service. It is a blessing that she was a life time member of St. John. – *Jeff and Sara Buchhop*

In God's House This Week		Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl
Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00AM 10:20AM	Worship Service w/Communion following Adult Bible Class; Sunday School
Mon.	7:00 PM	PTL Meeting
Tues.	8:35 AM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Chapel led by Pastor Kramer ; Offering: <i>Orphan Grain Train</i> V-ball: @ Trinity - Toledo Church Council Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM 7:00 PM	Jr. High Confirmation Class (<i>until 7:30 PM</i>) Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	9:00 AM 5:00 PM	School Pictures taken for PS4&5, Gr. K-8 V-ball: @ Toledo Hornets
Fri.	9:00 AM	School Pictures taken for PS3
Sun.	10:00AM 11:30AM	150th Anniversary Celebration and Communion Service 150 th Anniversary Congregational Meal & Program
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 and Ruth Mahnke*, who are dealing with health issues
- ❖ *Rose Leonard* (daughter of *Brad & Kailee Leonard*), hospitalized at Cleveland Clinic

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 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)

THURSDAY EVENING SERVICES – SPECIAL NOTES

- **No Thursday Service This Week** - With the celebration of our 150th Anniversary next Sunday, there will be no Thursday evening service this week on Sept. 12th.
- **Special Mission Guest the following Thursday** – At the Thursday evening service on Sept. 19th, we will welcome **Rev. Vance Becker** and his wife, **Linda**, who are preparing to go to Kenya as full-time missionaries. They will be serving as Pastor and teacher in a Lutheran School near the village of Sondu, Kenya. While Thursday evening services typically preview the coming Sunday, this particular service will have an emphasis all its own. **Everyone is invited for our worship and for a special mission presentation that evening!**

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** - Regular Sunday School classes begin

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.

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.

VOTERS' MEETING – A voters' meeting is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 29th after the worship service, IF the council at its meeting this week decides we need to have a meeting. Please watch for further announcements.

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 09/01/19	\$9,079.00	\$132.00	\$510.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday – 08/29/19 – 37; Sunday – 09/01/19 – 175

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!

NEXT SUNDAY

150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IV

Next Sunday is the BIG DAY, our culminating 150th Anniversary Celebration! Worship begins 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 do not have to bring a dish to join us.** However, we still need a few more people to sign up for side dishes and salads for the meal. The Anniversary Committee has planned a main menu of baked chicken and Salisbury steak with au gratin potatoes, plus whatever else our volunteers bring for salads, side dishes, and desserts.

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

<<<LYF NOTEWORTHY NEWS>>>

- **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. Carryout available also!
- **JR. HIGH LYF** - The Jr. High LYF will kick off their year on Sunday, September 15th. All new 6th graders are welcome to attend with the 7th and 8th graders. We will be meeting at the church from 4:30-6:00 PM. Parents of new youth members will need to come to the beginning portion of the meeting to fill out an information sheet.
- **SR. HIGH LYF** - The Sr. High LYF will begin the year at Miss Bartok’s house (please message her for her new address) on Sunday, September 22nd. We will meet from 4:30-6:00 PM. All high school youth are welcome to attend.
- **LYF SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES** - The LYF has two service opportunities for the next two Sundays. First, we will need some youth to help at the Anniversary Potluck on September 15th. Second, we will need a lot of help at our annual Ice Cream Social. Please contact Miss Bartok if you are able to help at either opportunity.

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!

A SIMPLE AND CONVENIENT WAY TO GIVE – This fall, consider signing up for electronic giving which is now called *Joyful Response*. St. John Lutheran Church relies on financial support of the congregation and electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis. One simple, easy to use authorization form can begin or change your electronic contributions amount. Contact *Joyce Wiechers* in the office at 419-598-8961 for more details. Thank you!

LWML RETREAT – Ladies, please consider attending the LWML Fall Retreat at St. John Lutheran Church, Routes 6 & 66, on Sat., Sept. 21. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with the program running until 2 p.m. The theme is “Abounding in Hope.” Guest speaker is *Rev. Logan Scheiwe* from St. Paul Lutheran, Napoleon. The cost for the Retreat is \$14, which includes a light breakfast and lunch. Registration forms are available on the table in the narthex. Completed forms may be sent with payment to Linda Bostelman, P.O. Box 393, Antwerp, OH 45813. **Final day to register is Fri., Sept. 13th**. All ladies invited – come join us!!

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 MEETING: The first PTL Meeting will be held on Mon., Sept. 9th at 7:00 PM in the fellowship hall. This will be a business meeting to get organized for the school year. Please plan to attend and support the school!

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.

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

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS need to be turned in to the office by Wednesday of each week in order to be included in the Thursday and Sunday bulletin. Please note this. Thank you!

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 Niemann a call, and we'll see what we can do!

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.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT THIS LABOR DAY...

It is better to be short of cash than to be short of character.

“Better to have little, with godliness, than to be rich and dishonest.” (Prov 16:8)