



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

September 22, 2019

VOL. 84

NO. 37

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)

### FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Order in the Church" 1 Timothy 2:8-15

Order of Service: Service of Prayer and Preaching – LSB pg. 260

Hymns: 966 ~ 853 ~ 842

\*\*\*\*\*

### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

*Warm greetings and love in Christ are extended to all members and guests. We trust that you will experience the warmth of Christian fellowship, the inspiration of worship and the peace that comes from an awareness of God's presence. 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**

- ✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘ Devin Dietrich, *Acolyte* ✘
- ✘ Dan & Joyce Wiechers, *Greeters* ✘
- ✘ Ted Ripke, Denny Behnfeldt, Bob Norden, Elmer Maassel, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Kathy Badenhop, Mary Rettig, Sandy Von Deylen, *Altar Guild* ✘

**THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are placed in honor of the 65<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary of Henry & Dorothy Gerken, which was on Thurs., Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>. The flowers are given by their children and grandchildren, who wish them nothing but the best as they celebrate this milestone event. The congregation congratulates Henry & Dorothy too. May God continue to bless both of you!

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY HAS BEEN CANCELLED THIS MORNING** due to the LYF Ice Cream Social. Adult Bible Study will resume next Sunday in the fellowship hall.

**PORTALS OF PRAYER BOOKLETS** for the quarter of October, November, and December are on the desk in the narthex. There are also large print copies available.

**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 4:30 PM	<b>Worship Service</b> Sunday School; <i>(No Adult Bible Class)</i> LYF Ice Cream Social <i>(see bulletin note)</i> Sr High LYF Meeting <i>(see bulletin note)</i>
Mon.	5:30 PM	<i>Bread From Heaven</i> Food Pantry distribution
Tue.	<b>8:35 AM</b> 5:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:30 PM	<b>Chapel led by Grades 7&amp;8</b> ; Offering: <i>Orphan Grain Train</i> V-ball: vs St. Paul – Napoleon Shepherd Committee Board of Elders
Wed.	6:15 PM 6:30 PM 7:15 PM	Jr. High Confirmation Class <i>(until 7:30 PM)</i> Adult Bell Practice Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Thursday Evening Worship Service</b>
Sat.	9:00 AM	V-ball: Gr. 4-6 Girls; 10:00 AM Gr. 7&8 Girls @ St. John – Defiance
Sun.	<b>9:00 AM</b> 10:20AM	<b>Worship Service</b> Voters; Meeting; Sunday School
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Dale Kern</i> , Retired, St. John Lutheran – Stryker

**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*), dealing with significant health issues

**THANK YOU!** I would like to thank everyone who called or texted me to check on how I was doing, those who sent me cards and gave me well wishes. I really appreciated all of your kindness. Everyone has been so nice and concerned about my leg and ankle injury which made me really appreciate the people around me. Signed, *Brad Rosebrook*

**LYF ICE CREAM SOCIAL** is today with serving from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit future LYF servant events. On the menu: *Chicken Sandwiches, Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Chips, Pies, Cakes, Cupcakes, Beverage* and *Schwan's Ice Cream*. Freewill offering! Carryout available! A Thrivent Action Team event! Come out and support the youth of our congregation!

**SR. HIGH LYF** - The Sr. High LYF will begin the year at Miss Bartok's house today. We will meet from 4:30-6:00 PM. All high school youth are welcome to attend. Please message Miss Bartok for her new address.

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

It was a fantastic celebration last Sunday of our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a congregation. All year long our anniversary theme has been,

**"Jesus Christ – Yesterday, Today, Forever"**

Last Sunday we heard from Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz that we now need to face the future with great boldness, and know that the Savior who has blessed us for 150 years is still with us to bless our future endeavors in His name.



## THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED!

At the risk of leaving out people, we want to thank everyone who helped make the celebration last Sunday such a blessing to our congregation. **Thank you to...**

- **the musicians**, especially **Renee Petzoldt** for all her work in coordinating the organ music and brass accompaniment, to the brass ensemble for adorning our worship, and to the **St. John Adult Choir** for their beautiful selections, both in the sanctuary and later during the meal and program.
- **those who served in worship** as ushers, greeters, altar guild members, acolytes, banner and cross bearers; you are a blessing to us all!
- **the anniversary committee** who assisted pastor with the all the planning, and helped to implement those plans.
- **those who set up and decorated the fellowship hall** and who put it back together again after the event. Like the Jews who rebuilt Jerusalem and the temple, it takes many hands to do such work, and we are thankful for your willing help!
- **those who coordinated the meal**, especially Dan & Deb Wachtman for making arrangements for the main dishes, and to the kitchen committee for pulling everything together for a smooth flowing operation.
- **those who completed the meal by providing salads, side dishes and desserts.** It was such a beautiful and delicious spread, a true feast from God's bounty!
- **those who invited friends and family members** to share the celebration with us! By means of such simple invitations, the Gospel reaches more people. Keep it up!
- **those who prepared the building exterior and grounds** to make this house of God look beautiful to all who approached that day.

**SPECIAL MISSION GUEST LAST THURSDAY EVENING**

At the evening worship service this last Thursday, we welcomed **Rev. Vance Becker** and his wife, **Linda**, who are preparing to go to Kenya as full-time missionaries to address the need for the fast-growing church in East Africa for more pastors and church workers. Vance and Linda will be teaching at the **Neema Lutheran College in Matongo, Kenya** where pastors and deaconesses are trained.



A special insert in today’s bulletin contains more information about their work, along with information about how we can partner with them in the Gospel as they go to Kenya. After worship we will receive a door offering to help support them in the short term. Also, the Beckers need our prayers more than anything. Please review all the information to learn how you can help.

**150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CHURCH DIRECTORY PLANS** - An initial planning meeting for a new church directory has been scheduled for Monday, Sept. 30th at 7:00 p.m. Thank you to those who have volunteered to help with the project; we look forward to seeing you. Also, we could use additional help, so please speak with Pastor Niermann if you would like to assist with this project, or just come to the meeting and join us!

**ANNIVERSARY RELATED KEEP-SAKES** – In the narthex today is the table with all the remaining anniversary related keepsake items, including **stemless wine glasses, note clips and pens**. In addition, there are also **St. John Christmas ornaments**. At this time we want as many of these items to be in your hands as possible, or to be given by you to others. Please take them freely, and give a donation if you wish to defray the cost.

- **Note about anniversary blankets** - There are no more anniversary blankets available. However, we can order more if we meet the minimum order of 25. Envelopes for ordering blankets and paying for them are on the table. If at least 25 blankets (\$35 each) are ordered and paid for by the end of October, we will place another order. *If you pay for a blanket but we do not meet the minimum order, your cash or check will be returned to you.*

**VOTERS’ MEETING** – A voters’ is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> after the worship service. The agenda will include a report on the old school renovation and costs, as well as a report on plans that are underway to boost school enrollment.

<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 09/15/19	\$9,187.90	\$254.00	\$620.00

**ATTENDANCE:** Thursday – 09/12/19 – No Service; Sunday – 09/15/19 – 332

**MEMORIALS** for *Marian Buchhop*: St. John Lutheran Church Memorial Fund - \$420.00;  
St. John Lutheran Church Building Fund (Youth Center) - \$415.00

## **150th Anniversary Mission Challenge Offering...**

Five weeks from today, at our Mission Festival on Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, we will present our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mission Offering to the Lord and Rev. Robert Rahn of *The Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF)*. Our offering is designated for three LHF projects:

- 1) *the training of pastors in South Sudan where the rapidly growing Lutheran Church desperately needs pastors;*
- 2) *the provision of catechisms for the Bemba people of Zambia, that the faith may be taught and learned more effectively; and*
- 3) *the provision of Bible story books ('A Child's Garden of Bible Stories') for children in Burma, that the little ones may come to Jesus as He bids them to do.*

**The challenge of this mission offering is for every household to consider a gift of \$150 for this offering (one dollar for each year of our history), with a total goal of \$15,000.** So far we are about half-way to that goal, with only five weeks to go before we present our offering. To give toward this special thank offering, please use your regular offering envelope and write the amount on the outside of the envelope, or use the special envelope on the anniversary table in the narthex, and deposit it in the clear box on the table.

**FUN AT McDONALD'S!** Who is up for a night of fun at McDonald's in Napoleon? St. John will be hosting "McTeacher Night" **at McDonald's on Tues., Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> from 5-7PM.** Join the teachers and some staff at McDonald's for a night of fun and raise money for our school. McDonald's will be donating 20% of the total serving profits from 5-7PM that night back to our school. Offer good for dine-in and drive thru services.

**PLEA FOR HELP!** Are you a grandparent, aunt, uncle, or retiree? Would you be willing to volunteer to help watch our school children during morning or afternoon recess? It would be for 15-20 minutes in the morning at 10:15 or 15-20 minutes in the afternoon at 1:45. If this is something that would interest you, please call the school office at 419-598-8702.

**PRESCHOOL GRANDPARENTS' DAY** – **Preschool Grandparents' Day** will be held from 9:00 – 11:00 AM on **Thurs., Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> for the 4 & 5-year old class** and same time on **Fri., Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> for the 3-year old class.** Grandparents should plan to arrive at 9 AM and report to the gym. Grandparents will also have the opportunity to take their grandchild through the PTL Scholastic Book Fair those days. See note below. Come and enjoy all the fun in Preschool!!!

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR:** St. John PTL will be having a Scholastic Book Fair which is open to the public on Thursday, Oct. 17, from 6:30 – 8:30 PM; and again on Friday, Oct. 18 from 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM. A lot of help is needed, so call Christa Bickel (419-262-3248) if you can help.

**SCHOOL VISITATION:** This will be held on October 17<sup>th</sup> from 7 – 8 PM. The PTL will be sponsoring a book fair that evening also.

**SCRIP AT ST. JOHN:** Let's plan ahead! Scrip is great for having "extra money" in your wallet. Purchase gift cards to use for personal shopping or going out to eat. Plan ahead now for birthdays and holidays! Scrip orders will be received on Wednesdays, ordered on Fridays and delivered on Tuesdays.



For those that don't know, *SCRIP* is gift cards that you purchase through PTL for full face value. They work for both in store purchases and online shopping. PTL works through a company that purchases these gift cards in bulk from participating retailers. A percentage of the purchase stays with PTL and a percentage goes to the student's family toward enrollment/tuition. This fundraiser nets the PTL approximately \$300 each year. Think ahead--if you give out gift cards for Christmas consider purchasing them from PTL instead

of at the store so that a portion of that sale stays with St. John Lutheran School. Order forms and program information are posted on FastDirect under 'Links,' titled SCRIP Order Forms and SCRIP Program Info. There are also hard copies in the 'School Info' rack outside the office and on the table in the church narthex. Please feel free to share with family and friends. Payment must accompany orders. **Any questions about SCRIP can be directed to the SCRIP Coordinator Kristyn Honemann at 419-966-0207 or email at [honemann@embarqmail.com](mailto:honemann@embarqmail.com).**

**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.

**THE LUTHERAN HOUR** – The Lutheran Hour Ministries can be heard on a few radio stations in our area. They cover many topics relevant to today's issues. Broadcasts can be heard Sundays on: Archbold's WMTR 96.1 at 7:30 AM; **Napoleon's WNDH 103.1 at 9:00 AM.**

**OHIO ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN:** 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!

**BENEFIT MEAL PLANNED:** St. Luke Lutheran Church, 1588 State Route 108, Wauseon, OH, will be hosting a benefit along with St. Paul Lutheran, Liberty Center, to help with medical expenses for Rev. Alvia and Mrs. Joyce Martis on Sun., Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> with serving from 11 AM – 1 PM. The menu is: Grilled Brats and Hot Dogs, Sauerkraut, German Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Side Salads, Desserts, and Beverage. We hope to see many of you there. See flyer on bulletin board.

✂ ✂ ✂

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT THIS DAY...**

**It seems that perfect peace can only be found in the cemetery!**

*"Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." (Luke 23:43)*