



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

Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181
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Church Website: www.sjl.org

ALL SAINTS' DAY (Observed)

Sermon & Text: "The Blessed Ones" *Matthew 5:1-12*
Order of Service: See printed Service Folder
Hymns: **517 ~ 982** ~ [Communion: **676, 563, 554**] ~ **677**

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

You are invited to worship with us in the quiet of prayer, in the joy of song, and in the desire to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we gather at the Lord's table today, we also unite with all the saints to celebrate God's feast of victory. Here He nourishes us with the food and drink of the full assurance of our salvation in Him. If you are a visitor, 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 & Parker Woods, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Elmer & Pat Maassel, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Neil Badenhop, Tom Von Deylen, Doug Dietrich, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Marian Damman, Ruth Mahnke, Mabel Bischoff, Linda Riefers, *Altar Guild* ✠

ALL SAINTS DAY --- On this day we will remember our fellow members of St. John who have departed to be with the Lord since our last commemoration of All Saints. They are: **Lucia Delventhal, Royal Ward, Donald Dickmann, Lawrence Langenhop, and Marian Buchhop**. A white rose, symbolizing the blessedness and perfection of eternal life, will be placed at the baptismal font for each of these people, for it was in baptism that they died with Christ and rose with Him to newness of life.

We will also remember eight other people who are deceased Christian family and friends of some of our members. A single rose will be placed in their memory as well.

**For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!**



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 Voters' Meeting; Sunday School; "The Lamp"
Tue.	8:35 AM 7:00 PM	School Chapel School Board and Stewardship Board Meetings
Wed.	6:15 PM 6:30 PM 7:15 PM	Jr High Confirmation Class Adult Bell Choir Practice Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	6:30 AM	Men's Bible Breakfast in Fellowship Hall
Fri.	5:30 PM	Volleyball Team End of the Season Lock-In (<i>ends at midnight</i>)
Sun.	9:00 AM 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, Eldor Gruenhagen, and Lorna Von Deylen,* at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Evelyn Rohrs,* 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*
- ❖ *Rose Leonard* (daughter of *Brad & Kailee Leonard*), dealing with significant health issues
- ❖ *Florence Jones,* recovering at Vancrest Nursing Home, Holgate, after recent hospitalization
- ❖ *Judy Okuly,* home now and recovering after heart bypass surgery

SPECIAL VOTERS' MEETING – TODAY

At their meeting on Sept. 29, the voters asked the Old School Finance Committee to come back to the voters as soon as possible with a specific plan about how to address the rest of the financing of the Old School Renovation, especially in view of some extra needed projects (footer tiling, additional windows, etc.) and associated cost overruns. The Committee is ready to present its plan at a special meeting on **Sunday, Nov. 3rd** after the worship service.

NEWS ON THE KELLERS: As some of you may have heard, *Pastor Brent & Hanne Keller* had a new little addition to their family this past week. *Evangeline Charissa* weighed in at 4lb.11oz., was 17" long, and arrived several weeks early. For anyone wishing to send a congratulatory card to the Kellers here is their address: 106 Church Street, Alcester, SD 57001.

LYF ASSISTANCE NEEDED – *Sarah Bartok,* our LYF leader, is seeking assistance with the youth ministry in our congregation for both the Junior High and Senior High levels. If you would like to volunteer, please speak with Sarah. Your service would be a blessing to her and to our youth.

OUR 150th ANNIVERSARY MISSION OFFERING – It was such a thrill and a time for rejoicing last Sunday to present our 150th Anniversary Mission Offering to *Rev. Robert Rahn* for the work of *The Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF)*. Our offering totaled \$11,574! Rev. Rahn sent the following email in response:

Thank you St. John's children of the Reformation for your kind welcome last Sunday. Lutheran Heritage Foundation is grateful for your special support. I don't ever recall in our 27 years a congregation that celebrated a significant anniversary and designated their anniversary gift for our work. Thank you and God bless your continued mission efforts at home and abroad. We will provide periodic updates on the projects you selected.

Rev. Robert Rahn

It is impossible to estimate the impact that this gift will have on the lives of people who will be reached for Christ by all the books and literature prepared and distributed by LHF. Perhaps one day in the Kingdom of God someone will thank you for your gift that put God's saving Word into their hands, and was used by the Holy Spirit to call them to faith in Christ! In the meantime, thank you to everyone who participated our anniversary offering! May God bless the gift we have given!

POINSETTIA SALE BEGINS! The poinsettia sale for Christmas is now underway, and pink order forms are inserted in today's bulletin. **The deadline for ordering is Wed., Nov. 13th.** The cost is \$8.00 per plant. You may put your order form and check payable to *St. John Lutheran School* in the box on the narthex table. Be sure to fill in the line, "*In Loving Memory of*" or "*In Honor of*". This information will be published in the church bulletin as an insert the Sunday the poinsettias are placed in the sanctuary.



LADIES CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION: A special event is being planned for all women of the congregation on Monday, December 9 at 7:00 pm. In celebration of the birth of Jesus we are having a Christmas Baby Shower. Light snacks and dessert will be served. *Matt Richardson*, local musician, will provide musical entertainment. Plan to come and invite a friend! (No RSVP necessary.)

YOUTH CENTER DONATIONS: Don't forget the future "youth center" when you make those end of the year donations. There are pre-addressed envelopes available on the narthex table for anyone wishing to donate. So as not to cause confusion for the Finance Trustees, only use the pre-addressed envelopes and mail them to Eileen @ LCEF. Please don't put your donation in the Sunday offering plate. Make your check payable to **St. John Lutheran Church**, put "St. John Lutheran Youth Center" on the memo line, and mail it to Eileen Fitzenreiter's LCEF office in Napoleon. Thank you for helping to make this a reality!

NOMINATIONS FOR 2020 – The Stewardship Board has begun the process of nominating people to the various offices of our congregation. If you are interested in a specific office, please speak with a member of the Stewardship Board or with Pastor. Letters were sent out recently to those nominated by the Board. If you received one of these letters, please give serious consideration and prayer to the office for which you've been nominated.

BULLETIN STUFFER VOLUNTEERS: Want to get involved? Why not try volunteering to help with stuffing the bulletins for worship services. It's not too difficult and can be done either at church or in the comfort of your own home. The bulletins are pre-folded. If anyone is willing to donate a little time toward stuffing bulletins, we are looking for about 11-12 couples/families to sign up for this task. If you feel you would like to give this a try, there is a signup sheet on the narthex table. You can even pick the month(s) that work best for you. We can accommodate your busy schedules. **NOTE:** *If you have stuffed bulletins in the past year, thank you for your service. We ask that you please sign up again and choose your month. You can also call Lori Langenhop at 419-598-8151 or email her at lahop@bright.net.*

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 10/27/19	\$6,561.14	\$489.00	\$107.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday – 10/21/19 – 40; Sunday – 10/27/19 – 153

150th ANNIVERSARY PICTORIAL DIRECTORY – Plans are underway for a new church directory, with early-bird photography dates scheduled as follows:

- **Early Bird Appointments: November 25-26 (Mon/Tues) from 2:00 to 8:00 p.m.**
- **December 5-6 (Thr-Fri) from 2:00-8:00 p.m.**
- **December 7 (Saturday) from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Sign-up for photography appointments begins today. Everyone who participates will receive a free 8x10 portrait, and there will be the opportunity to purchase additional portraits, or even a CD with ALL of your pictures and permission to print.

As you consider signing up, here are a few things to note:

- Photography sessions are 10 minutes each; larger families (6 or more) should schedule two back-to-back appointments.
- Photography backdrop will be blue.
- In addition to household photos, extended families may also schedule photography sessions. Families who wish to take advantage may want to consider grouping their individual appointments close together.
- If you are widowed, or have lost a child, consider bringing a framed photo of your loved one to be held by you in your portrait, if you wish.
- Photographs with pets may also be taken.



**OUR CHURCH FAMILY
DIRECTORY**

To sign up, head to the **church directory table in the narthex**, pick your date and time and sign your name. Then fill out a reminder slip to take home with you to get it on your calendar.

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!

ANNIVERSARY RELATED KEEP-SAKES – In the narthex 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.*

LWML NAPOLEON ZONE CHRISTIAN LIFE WORKSHOP –The LWML Fall Christian Life Workshop will be held on Sat., Nov. 16, 2019 at St. Luke Lutheran Church, State Route 108, Wauseon. Registration begins at 8:30 AM. The theme this year is "Blessed to be a Blessing." A Mite offering will be taken to help reach the goals set by the Ohio District for their mission projects. Information flyers are available on the narthex table.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM – Very soon **ALL the children of our congregation** (*preschool through 8th grade*) will be assigned a part in the annual Children's Christmas Service, scheduled for Sun., Dec. 22 at 7:00 PM. These will be handed out in Sunday School and school. For organization purposes it's more efficient for us to work from the assumption that all children will participate, and we certainly want to encourage that! This tradition helps our children learn and understand the true message of Christmas.

IF, however, for some reason your child will not be participating, we ask that you would please do us the courtesy of calling the church office soon to inform us. This will save us from having to scramble at the last minute to reassign parts. Thank you for helping us in this way!

PTL FAMILY FUN NIGHT! St. John PTL is hosting a Family Fun Night on Fri., Nov. 15th from 6-8 PM. A flyer is being sent home today with more details. There will certainly be a buzz in the gym that night.

DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS: The School Board would like to ask for volunteers to help decorate the sanctuary this year. They will be putting up decorations on Sun., Dec. 1st following the worship service that day. Please consider giving an hour or two of your time to help with this project. Sunday School parents, it would be great to have you come down and help out while your children are attending Sunday School that day. Hope to have some good help again, as we did last year!

ST. JOHN SCRIP CONTINUES: Scrip orders will be received on Wednesdays, ordered on Fridays and delivered on the following Tuesday. Order forms 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. 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.**

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 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.

CHRISTMAS CHEER VOLUNTEERS: Christmas Cheer is seeking volunteers to stand at Chief's in Napoleon to collect for their cause on Wed., Nov. 27th. If you are interested or have questions, please contact LeRoy Helberg at 419-267-3619.

IT'S CHRISTMAS CHEER TIME AGAIN! – Henry County Christmas Cheer has begun its annual campaign for the collection of food for low income and needy persons in Henry County. The campaign runs from now through Tues., December 10th. Very soon a box will be placed in the narthex and a barrel in the cafeteria/fellowship hall for the collection of canned goods, dry goods and paper products. No Microwave items! Suggestions are: *Canned Vegetables, Fruit, Soup, Stews, Meats; Macaroni & Cheese Mixes, Spaghettio's, Spaghetti Sauce, Tomato Juice, Broths, Noodles, Rice, Spaghetti; Instant Potato, Stuffing, Cake Mixes; Cereals, Syrups, Crackers, Peanut Butter, Pudding, Jell-o, Frostings, Fruit Juices, Coffee, Kool-aid, Chocolate Drink Mixes; Tissues, Toilet Tissue, Paper Towels; Bar Soap, Toothpaste, etc.* Please watch expiration dates on your donations. Thank you!

SYMPHONY OF TREES will be presenting *JINGLE BELL JAM & SUNDAY BRUNCH* on Sun., Nov. 17th with serving until 1:00 PM at The Armory Arts & Event Center, 127 E. Clinton St., Napoleon. Then from 3 – 4:30 PM there will be a Children's Pajama Party also at the Armory Arts & Event Center. For reservations and details visit www.symphonyoftrees.com or call 419-591-3840.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER: St. Paul Lutheran Church in Napoleon has the privilege of being the host site of a Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 28th from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM. Area churches, service groups, and businesses of Napoleon will be furnishing all that is needed for the meal. If you are interested in helping at the dinner, there will be a planning meeting on Mon., Nov. 4th at 7:00 PM at the St. Paul Youth Center. If you are interested in participating but can't make the meeting, please let us know so that we can share the notes from the meeting with you.

AREA EVENTS:

- ▶ Sat., Nov. 9 from 10:30 AM – 10:00 PM – Hawks Pizza Community Day for Christmas Cheer. Order out from Hawks - Napoleon and they will donate 10% of food sales to Christmas Cheer.
- ▶ Sun., Nov. 10 at 11:30 AM – St. Paul Lutheran Church, Liberty Center, is hosting a Soup & Pie Dinner. See flyer on bulletin board.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

**In Christ, "Life is eternal; and love is immortal; and death is only a horizon;
and a horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight."**

*"What we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when He appears we shall be like Him,
because we shall see Him as He is." 1 John 3:2*