



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

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "What Makes the Church Great?" *Exodus 3:1-15*

Order of Service: See printed Service Folder

Hymns: 798 ~ 804 ~ 650 ~ 651

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. If you have no church of your own, we invite you to make this your home church. But above all, we invite you to come to worship with us at any time.

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

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠ Jared Lange & Ian Rosebrook, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Dave & Sara Myles, *Greeters* ✠
- ✠ Neil Badenhop, Tom Von Deylen, Doug Dietrich, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Marian Damman, Ruth Mahnke, Mabel Bischoff, Linda Riefers, *Altar Guild* ✠

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are placed in celebration of the 75th birthday of *Pat Mahnke*, which is actually today, Nov. 10th. With fall harvest in full swing, don't forget to take time to celebrate the day. Wishing you a happy and healthy year, Pat! Happy Birthday!

THANK YOU, LAY WORSHIP LEADERS – This morning we thank *Lowell Petzoldt*, *Denny Damman*, and *Tom Von Delyen* for leading us in worship in pastor's absence. Your willingness to step up and serve inspires us all. May God bless our hearing of the Word this day, as we are assured of His presence with us through Christ our Lord!

In God's House This Week		Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl
Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM 4:30 PM	Worship Service Sunday School; "The Lamp" Jr High LYF
Mon.	7:00 PM	PTL Meeting
Tue.	8:35 AM 7:00 PM	School Chapel Church Council Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM 6:30 PM 7:15 PM	Jr High Confirmation Class Adult Bell Choir Practice Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	3:30 PM	Parent/Teacher Conferences
Fri.	6:00 PM	NO SCHOOL -- Parent/Teacher Conferences (if needed) PTL Family Fun Night (until 8:00 PM)
Sat.	8:30 AM	LWML Napoleon Zone Fall Christian Life Workshop (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 4:30 PM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" Sr. High LYF Meeting
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
- ❖ *Harvey Russell* (Dorinda Damman's father), who is fighting pancreatic cancer
- ❖ *Pastor Brent Keller* (former vicar), dealing with heart issues and recovering from an ablation



SJLS HONORS OUR VETERANS – Tomorrow is Veterans Day in American, and this morning you are invited to stop out in the front hallway to see the displays honoring America's veterans. The students of St. John School, grades 5-8, each researched a specific war in U.S. history, and prepared a display depicting some of what they learned. In addition, each student was assigned to write a letter thanking a veteran of the war they had researched. All of this is our little way of showing appreciation for all Veterans and for their service to our nation.

NEWS ON THE KELLERS: As some of you may have heard, *Pastor Brent & Hanne Keller* had a new little addition to their family a few weeks ago. *Evangeline Charissa* weighed in at 4lb.11oz., was 17” long, and arrived several weeks early. Anyone wishing to send a congratulatory card to them, or a get well wish to Pastor Keller, here is their address: 106 Church Street, Alcester, SD 57001.

JR. HIGH LYF will be meeting today (Sun., Nov. 10th) at 4:30 PM. All youth currently in grades 6th-8th are welcome to join us. Come for the fellowship, Bible study, and snacks.

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.

WOMEN OF FREEDOM: Our next meeting is Tuesday, Nov. 19th at 7:00 PM. *Judy Burkholder*, RN, from Wauseon, will be our speaker that night. She now offers hyperbaric-oxygen therapy at her home. She will explain how she runs her home services and will answer any questions about the benefits of this type of therapy. We will also have election of officers. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend.

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. Today’s bulletin insert gives more details and suggests donations for the event. 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.)

POINSETTIA SALE BEGINS! The poinsettia sale for Christmas is now underway, and pink order forms are available on the narthex table. **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.



THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

“Come, ye thankful people, come!” Join us for our celebration of our national day of Thanksgiving. We will gather for worship on **Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, Nov. 27**, at 7:00 p.m. Also, we encourage participation in a double offering:

- **MONETYAR OFFERING** – The offerings we give in the offering plate will support Henry County Christmas Cheer and its work of assisting low income families in our area;
- **FOOD OFFERING** – Everyone is encouraged to bring non-perishable food items for our food pantry, and to present before the service or during the offering at a table in front of the sanctuary.

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 is taking place now! 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.



To sign up, head to the **church directory 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.

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 11/03/19	\$14,647.05	\$419.00	\$555.00

ATTENDANCE: Sunday – 11/03/19 – 268

MEMORIAL of \$500 given to St. John Lutheran School for Carl Rohrs' 29th birthday

PTL MEETING: There will be a PTL meeting on Mon., Nov. 11th at 7:00PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please plan to attend this meeting. We will be finalizing plans for the Nov. 15th Family Fun Night. Hope to see you there!

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!

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 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: Start your Christmas shopping early! There are so many vendors on the Scrip order form, that you can't go wrong. Scrip orders are 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.

SPORTS SCHEDULE NOTE: With *Brad Rosebrook* as our Athletic Director, please go to his "Calendar" in Fast Direct frequently as this is where he will post the sports schedules and any changes to the sports schedules. Keep in mind that in order to view the games for the basketball season, you can go to either FastDirect directly (*thru the school*) or you can enter the church's website (www.sjl.org), click on "School" at the top of page, click on "FastDirect School Info. System" on the left side of page, click on "BulletinBoard/Calendar" on the left side of page, and then scroll down to Brad Rosebrook, Athletic Director and click on **his** "Calendar".

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. A barrel has been placed in the fellowship hall for the collection of canned goods, dry goods and paper products. You may also leave your donations by the desk in the narthex. 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!

CHURCH LIBRARY – The church library, located in the hall next to the sanctuary, is growing to contain a lot of excellent books that will edify your faith. The books in this library have been screened to assure that they are true to the Word of God and can be trusted to be theologically sound. To borrow a book, just take it with you, and then return it to the basket when you've finished reading.

WHY DO WE? A suggestion was made a while back about a feature in our bulletin that asks and answers questions about why we do what we do in our worship and practice. This was an excellent idea that would enrich everyone's worship and life of faith. A few suggestions would be: **Why do we turn to the cross during a processional? Why do we not sing certain hymns and songs? Why do we use Creeds? Why do we practice "closed Communion?" Why do we baptize infants?** If you have a question you'd like to see answered, please submit it using the form on the table in the narthex.



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.

AREA EVENTS

- ◆ **SOUP & PIE DINNER** – Today with serving at 11:30 AM – St. Paul Lutheran Church, Liberty Center, is hosting a Soup & Pie Dinner. See flyer on bulletin board.
- ◆ **COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER!** The churches and service groups of Henry County are hosting a community Thanksgiving Meal at St. Paul Lutheran, 1075 Glenwood Ave., Napoleon on Thurs., Nov. 28th from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM. See flyer!
- ◆ **CHRISTMAS VILLAGE CRAFT SHOW** will be held at the Ridgeville Legion Hall, Sun., Dec. 1st from 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Lunch is available. Come and browse the shops!
- ◆ **CHRISTMAS TREE OF LIGHTS** will be lit on Thurs., Dec. 5th at 2:00 PM at Genacross Lutheran Home – Napoleon Campus. Please call 419-592-1688 for information on how to donate in order to honor or memorialize someone.
- ◆ **THE TOLEDO SYMPHONY** will perform a Christmas Concert at St. Paul Lutheran Church – Napoleon Township, on Wed., Dec. 18th beginning at 7:30 PM. Tickets on sale thru their church office at 419-758-3522. See flyer!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

God promises a safe landing, not necessarily and calm voyage.

“Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.” Acts 14:22