

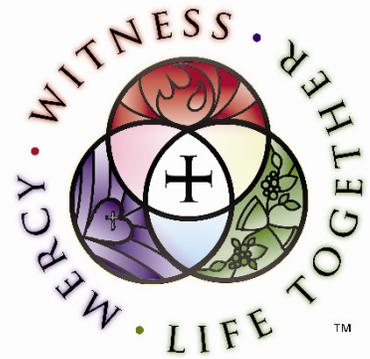
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

16035 County Road U

Napoleon, Ohio 43545

Church: (419) 598-8961

School: (419) 598-8702



News & Notes

April 19, 2020

During these unusual days of pandemic, we will not be preparing the regular church bulletin, but will instead make this 'News & Notes' page available weekly on the website. In addition, paper copies of this page will be available on Tuesdays outside the church office for anyone coming in to drop off an offering.



HE IS RISEN INDEED! – Peace is in short supply these days, but Christ has made true peace His Easter gift to His people. “Peace be with you” were His very first words to the disciples (*John 20:21*). Ever since that first Easter, His peace has been the promise that sustains the Church through even the most disturbing times. Peace is the promise that all is well between us and our heavenly Father, on account of Christ’s suffering

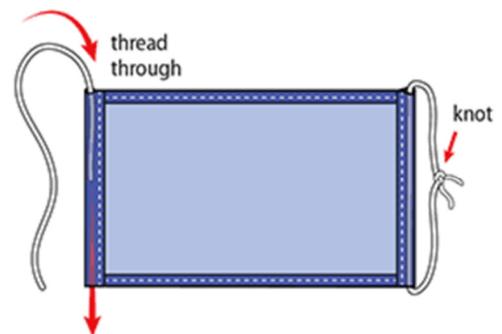
and death, and that the day of our own resurrection from death will soon come when all of life will once again be as it was always intended to be – peaceful forever!

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT – FACE MASKS

Sewing as an act of charity has a long history dating all the way back to Dorcas (*Acts 9:36-42*) who sewed garments for people. **If you have sewing skills, would you consider taking part in this time-honored act of charity by sewing protective face masks for our neighbors?** Here are the details...

- All materials are being purchased through our *Good Neighbor Fund*, except for thread.
- The design of the mask is very simple, according to CDC guidelines – a 6x10 inch rectangle of a double-layer cotton fabric, hemmed or turned, with casings on the short sides to receive elastic cords --- NO PLEATS!
- Kits with one yard of fabric, enough for 12 masks, as well as complete instructions, will be available Tuesday morning at the church. Pick up one or more, and go to work!
- Elastic cord is hard to come by these days, and is currently on order. When it arrives, it will be made available to everyone for final completion of the masks.

There will be 21 kits available, enough for 252 masks. What a great blessing these will be to our community, and what a fantastic way to serve Christ through our neighbor!





NOW AT PEACE: On Thursday, April 16th, *Dorothy Gerken*, 86, fell asleep in Jesus. Dorothy's funeral will take place privately at St. John Lutheran Church on Mon., April 20, 2020, at 11:00 AM. The service will also be live-streamed. Her committal service will be at St. John's Cemetery following the service. Please remember, in prayer, her husband *Henry*, as he will dearly miss her. Also, children *Beverly (Mike) Becker*, *Randy (Liza)*, and *Bethann*, and their extended families.

Due to the pandemic, those wishing to give a memorial donation may do so by mailing it to Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home. Memorial designations, including St. John Lutheran Church, as well as directions, are listed in the obituary.

MATTERS FOR PRAYER – Please keep these people in your prayers:

- ❖ Shut-Ins: *Norma Damman*, *Renetta Homan*, and *Lester Rabe*
- ❖ *Melba Elling*, and *Lorna Von Deylen*, at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Evelyn Rohrs* and *Arlene Gerken*, at Assisted Living – Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Harold Behrmann*, at Fulton Manor – Wauseon
- ❖ *Donald Badenhop*, now residing at Vancrest Assisted Living – Holgate
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, residing at the Ohio Veteran's Home, Sandusky
- ❖ Armed Services: *Justin Atkinson*, *Jason Rohrs*, *Emily Schroeder*, *Connor Gerken*, *Seth Handy*, *Nathan Nemoyer*
- ❖ *Dale VonDeylen*, brother of Deb Durham and Dave VonDeylen, who is currently undergoing cancer treatments
- ❖ *Evelyn Rohrs*, who has had serious health concerns this past week

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 04/12/20	\$10,087.00(<i>includes</i> <i>Good Friday</i>)	\$85.00	\$125.00

ATTENDANCE: All services live-streamed due to Covid-19 pandemic

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE: \$235.00 – Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty

ONLINE SERVICES FROM ST. JOHN

- Online services will be made available on **Sundays by 9:00 a.m.**
- Be sure to access the service PDF files so that you can follow along with each service
- Links for all these worship resources will be made available on **sjl.org** and on our Facebook page.

OFFERINGS DURING THIS TIME – The gifts of God's people are essential to the continuation of ministry. There are three ways we suggest giving your gifts during this time especially...

- Use our new '**Give Now**' online giving page – a link is on our website
- Mail your offerings to the church
- Drop off your offerings on Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to noon, outside the church office

More detailed information is available on the "Sustaining Ministry" document online.



PORTALS OF PRAYER BOOKLETS

- Booklets for the second quarter (April-June) are available for you to pick up outside the church office.
- OR, on Facebook, search ‘Portals of Prayer’ and head to their page for each day’s devotion.
- For many fantastic materials that *Concordia Publishing House* is making freely available during this time, go to cph.org and click the purple “**For Home, Browse Resources**” link. You will find links for many resources that are normally available by subscription only:
 - ‘**My Devotions**’ devotions for teens
 - ‘**Happy Times**’ magazine for children, the April/May issue
 - ‘**Family Time**’ devotions for families with children
 - ‘**Today’s Light**’ (April issue) for a more in-depth consideration of daily Scripture readings
 - ‘**Lutheran Life**’ online flip book (Spring issue) with many wonderful, articles for spiritual growth
 - ‘**Lutheran Witness**’ (special issue) with exceptional articles for expanding your mind
 - ‘**CPH Music**’ links on either Spotify or Amazon Music

GETTING BACK TO WORSHIP – There is talk now of reopening our nation for business, and it’s time for us to think about reopening our doors for worship.

- The Church Council discussed this matter but because of all the uncertainty, no decision was made at this time. The council will meet again on Tuesday, April 28 to see if there is enough information for us to make any firm decisions.
- For now, the plan for reopening our doors, whenever that happens, is to have worship on Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings at the normal times, but with plenty of social distancing, as well as other precautions.
- The Council voted to purchase an FM transmitter so that as we get back to worship, we can broadcast services out to the parking lot. This will permit people at higher risk, as well as those who are initially uncomfortable with public gatherings, to come to the church and listen to the service on their car radios. Also, if we need to restrict the number of people gathered for worship, the overflow crowd could listen this way as well.

Please stay tuned for further information!

