



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

June 28, 2020

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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

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon Title & Text: "Which Prophet to Believe" *Jeremiah 28:5-9*

Order of Service: See printed Service Folder

Hymns: 528 ~ 760 ~ 809

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome in the name of the Lord. We pray that through this time of stillness and song, prayer and proclamation, you may experience the Spirit of God at work in your life. If you do not have a local church home, we extend a warm invitation to you to become a part of our church family. Simply 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. Your presence is a blessing to us.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠

✠ Neil Badenhop, Tom Von Deylen, Doug Dietrich, Joe Badenhop, *Ushers* ✠

✠ Anita Badenhop, Kathy Behnfeldt, Pat Maassel, Deb Durham, *Altar Guild* ✠



WEDDING BELLS: Today, we rejoice with *Nathan Buchhop* and *Kaylee Wentworth* on their marriage ceremony conducted here at St. John Lutheran yesterday, June 27th. We wish them continued joy in life as they begin their journey as husband and wife. Congratulations to the Buchhops!

PORTALS OF PRAYER BOOKLETS for the next quarter, *July, August, September*, are on the desk in the back of the church and at the table outside the church office. There are also large print booklets available for anybody to pick up.

A SINCERE THANK YOU! *Arlene Gerken* would like to thank everyone for their prayers given and cards sent during her recent stay at Genacross Assisted Living, Napoleon. She has now returned to her home and is enjoying every minute of it. And an additional thanks to Pastor Niermann for his visits while she was convalescing. God-willing, we hope to see Arlene out and about again soon!

In God's House This Week		Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl
Date	Time	Activities
Today	8:30AM & 10:00AM	Worship Service
Thurs.	7:00 PM	Thursday Evening Worship with Communion
Sun.	8:30AM & 10:00AM	Communion Service (both)
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Eric Moquin</i> , St. John Lutheran – Sherwood

FOR THOSE LISTENING FROM THE PARKING LOT

Pick up your bulletin and service by driving through the carport before worship

You can give your offering to the deacon at the same time

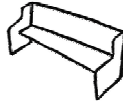
Tune your FM radio to 87.7

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*, at Assisted Living – Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Harold Behrmann*, returned to Fulton Manor, Wauseon, for recuperation
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, residing at the Ohio Veteran’s Home, Sandusky
- ❖ Armed Services: *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, Connor Gerken, Seth Handy, Nathan Nemoyer, Jared Dishop*
- ❖ *Donald Badenhop*, who fell and broke his hip. Had successful surgery at Mercy Hospital – Defiance, and has returned to Vancrest Nursing Care Facility, Holgate, for rehabilitation

PEW COLOR DESIGNATIONS FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Thursday evenings - **RED** pews
- Sunday early service – **RED** pews
- Sunday late service – **BLUE** pews



<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 06/21/20	\$6,910.00	\$235.00	\$450.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday - 43; Sunday Early - 54; Sunday Late – 72

BULLETIN SUBMISSION NOTE: With Thursday night services started, bulletin announcements must be turned in to the office by Wednesday of each week in order to be included in the Thursday and Sunday bulletin. Please make note of this. Thank you!

THANK YOU TO OUR CHURCH LAWN MOWING CREW! We are grateful that **Ron Germann** and **Joe Badenhop** have volunteered to help mow the south lawn of the church (*the ball fields*). As they are currently on the Cemetery Committee also, they are asking for possibly one or two volunteers to help with mowing the cemetery grounds periodically. Please call the church office at 419-598-8961 if you feel the urge to help out with the summer mowing. Thank you!



CEMETERY CEMENT FOOTERS – At its last meeting on June 9, the Church Council voted to proceed with pouring the final section of the cement footers at a cost of \$15,750. This pouring will complete both back rows of the southern section of our cemetery. It was essential that this matter be addressed immediately because at this time there are footers for only two more graves. We would like to thank *Ben Kruse* (Cemetery Sexton) for his many years of taking care of the finer details of operating our cemetery. It was also decided that funds for this project would be taken from the *Building Fund* (instead of borrowing). Please keep this in mind as you direct your gifts and offerings.

The Council also discussed the plot price, which at this time does not even cover the cost of the concrete footers. This matter will be revisited at the next Church Council meeting.

A NOTE ABOUT OFFERINGS – There is much for which to be thankful, even during this pandemic. In particular, we give thanks to God for everyone who has faithfully supported the ministry through this time with their continuing offerings. We are truly blessed! If you will not be returning to public services for a while yet, you can give your offering in one of these ways:

- For those listening to the FM parking lot broadcast, you may give your offering to the usher or deacon when they hand you your bulletin.
- Use the ‘**Give Now**’ online giving page – a link (the blue button) 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.

OLD SCHOOL RENOVATION – Much progress has been made at the old school building, even during these days of pandemic. Most recently a wonderful crew of men spent the day digging around the foundation so that a footer tile could be laid to improve drainage. Next up will be forming and pouring of concrete sidewalks around the building, and excavation for a stone parking area around the building. **Many thanks to everyone who has volunteered their time and service. They are saving the congregation a large amount of financial resources, and helping to bring this project to completion! Donations can still be made using the information on the brochures in the narthex.**

UPCOMING SCHOOL DATE TO REMEMBER:

- ▶ **Annual School Cleaning** has been set for **Mon., July 27** at 6:00PM. No cleaning on Tues., July 28 as carpets will be shampooed. On **Wed., July 29** starting at 6:00 PM put furnishings and desks back into classrooms, and clean other areas of the building. **Thurs., July 30** at 6:00 PM (if needed) finish cleaning remainder of building and putting furnishings and desks back into all classrooms. Please contact a School Board member if evenings do not work for you. Please read the Parent Participation Policy on FastDirect with all the details about family requirements for School Cleaning.

STAFFING UPDATE: St. John Lutheran School has had five staff members leave us this year. *Mrs. Mary DeWit* and *Mr. Lowell Petzoldt* have retired. *Mrs. Valerie Rice* has chosen to leave as our preschool teacher, along with her husband, *Mr. Nick Rice*, as our janitor. *Mr. Ben Majewski* has taken employment at a school closer to his home in Monroe, MI.

The following individuals will be added to the staff this fall. *Mrs. Haley O'Neil* will teach 3-4 grades. *Mrs. Pam Reeves* will be the preschool teacher. *Mrs. Pat Kramer* will become our Title I educator and will work with students needing extra help. Due to decreased funding from the State of Ohio, the teacher aide position will not be filled at this time. The school janitor position is close to being filled, and we are still in the process of possibly using various resources to fill the position of Grade 7-8 teacher.

The State of Ohio has limited the preschool to 9 students due to Covid19. **There are currently no openings in the 3-yr old and 4/5-yr old class. They are both full.** However, registration for Kindergarten to eighth grade is still available for this fall. If you know of someone interested in enrolling their child please call the school office at 419-598-8702.

LARGE PRINT & CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BULLETINS are available on the table in the narthex. The Children's Bulletins are coordinated with the Bible texts for each Sunday, and provide activities that tie in with the weekly themes. Pick one up today for your child.

PROJECT CONNECT (new titles) – There are many free booklets in the rack in the narthex. Be sure to check for some informative reading such as: *“Alzheimer's: Facing the Loss of a Lifetime,”* *“Talking with God,”* *“Forgiveness is a Choice,”* *“Talking Openly with Kids,”* *“Setting Priorities,”* *“Your Place in God's Plan,”* *“Stressed but Connected,”* *“Beyond Divorce,”* *“For Better, For Worse,”* *“What Is Faith in Jesus?”* and many more. Booklets furnished through Lutheran Hour Ministries.

HELP US KEEP UPDATED RECORDS – With the advent of cell phones, keeping current contact information is an issue for every organization these days, including the church. When people move or get a new phone number, they often don't think to update that information with us, often leaving us with no way to contact them for ministry related matters. So please, if you move or get a new phone number, contact the church office or make a note of it on the *Rite of Fellowship Card* and help us keep our records as up-to-date as possible.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS: Please note the church office hours during the month of July are Tuesday thru Friday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Closed over the lunch hour and all day on Mondays. If making a special trip, please call (419-598-8961) to guarantee someone will be here. Thank you!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Be bold in what you stand for; be careful in what you fall for.

“Thus says the Lord of hosts: ‘Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the Lord.’”

Jeremiah 23:16