



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

August 2, 2020

VOL. 85 NO. 31

Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor  
Rev. Charles Kramer, Principal

Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181  
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### NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon Title & Text: "I Can't Do It" *Matthew 14:15*  
Order of Service: *Divine Service, Setting Three (pg. 184)*  
Hymns: 571 ~ 575 ~ [Communion: 555, 818] ~ 740

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### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

*Welcome guests to this place of praise and prayers as we gather together as part of the family of our Heavenly Father. We invite you to join us now and return again to celebrate the salvation we have in Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord. Help us get to know you better by filling out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and drop it in the basket at the table in the narthex as you leave today.*

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### **SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING**

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠
- ✠ David Badenhop, Jerry Short, Dan Wiechers, Denny Von Deylen, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Kaylee Buchhop, Ronda Wentworth, Karen Lulfs, Karan Niebergall, *Altar Guild* ✠

**THANK YOU, PASTOR KRAMER!** This morning we welcome to the pulpit our called principal, Rev. Charles Kramer, and thank him for filling in for Pastor Niermann who is away on vacation. May God bless his preaching of the Word, and may our ears and hearts be open to receive it!

**MASKS AT ST. JOHN** – Masks are now required when entering and exiting the building, and when singing or speaking. Masks can be removed during longer periods of listening, such as Scripture readings, sermon, prayers, etc. This is due to rising positive Covid cases in Henry County.

**BULLETIN SUBMISSION NOTE:** With Thursday night services in session, 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!

In God's House This Week		Online church calendar: <a href="http://www.DynaCal.com/sjl">www.DynaCal.com/sjl</a>
Date	Time	Activities
Today	8:30AM & 10:00AM	Communion Service
Tues.	7:00 PM	School Board Meeting
Thurs.	7:00 PM	Thursday Evening Worship
Sun.	8:30AM & 10:00AM	Worship Service with Communion following
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM

**FOR THOSE LISTENING FROM THE PARKING LOT**

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

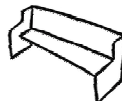
You can give your offering to the deacon at the same time

Tune your FM radio to 87.7

Drive-thru Communion after worship under carport

**PEW COLOR DESIGNATIONS FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING**

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



**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*, at Fulton Manor, Wauseon
- ❖ *Donald Badenhop*, has returned to Vancrest Nursing Care Facility, 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, Jared Dishop*
- ❖ *Madelyn Dishop & Tanner Kuhlman*, who were married this past Fri., July 31<sup>st</sup> at St. Paul Lutheran, Napoleon. Congrats to the new Mr. and Mrs. Kuhlman!
- ❖ *Cheryl Yaw*, for a heart catherization this past Fri., July 31<sup>st</sup> at Community Hospital, Bryan

**OPTIONS FOR HOLY COMMUNION DURING COVID** - During this time of pandemic, we are making Holy Communion available in the following ways:

- **Thursday evening Communion services** prior to first and third Sundays
- **First and Third Sundays each month** – in the Sanctuary, and drive-thru after each service
- **Second Sundays** – after both services in the sanctuary

Please note – Drive-thru Communion is on the first and third Sundays only for those who have participated in the Divine Service from the parking lot.

**ARCHIVES DISPLAY:** In honor of *Lowell Petzoldt's* retirement after serving St. John Lutheran School for 44 years, the Archives Committee has updated their display with pictures and documents from Mr. Petzoldt's teaching career. We have pictures of his family, past and present students, fishing buddies (*fishing stories not included*) and his many achievements throughout his career. Please stop by and check out the nice tribute to Mr. Petzoldt and his part in St. John School's history.

**RITE OF FELLOWSHIP CARDS:** Due to the decreased attendance from the pandemic, we are asking that, for the time being, members do not need to fill out the Rite of Fellowship cards. Attendance is not being tracked at this time. We will inform you when to resume filling out the attendance cards. This will also save the church on expenses. Thank you.

**UPCOMING DATE FOR YOUR CALENDAR** – Please make note of these upcoming dates and make sure to clear your calendar for you to be there!

- **Sunday, Aug 30 Outdoor Worship Service**, *in the Old School yard*, along with Installation of Gr 3&4 Teacher *Mrs. Haley O'Neil*, followed by an outdoor reception to welcome Mrs. O'Neil, Mrs. Matson, and Mrs. Reeves to the St. John teaching staff.



**SHARE THE BOUNTY OF SUMMER** – This morning a table has been set up under the carport where you can bring any spare produce from your garden and share it with others in the congregation. Bring whatever you can and take whatever you can use, and share the bounty of summer! The table will be set up each Sunday through mid-September or so.

<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 07/26/20	\$4,290.00	\$170.00	\$245.00

**ATTENDANCE:** Thursday - 23; Sunday Early - 29; Sunday Late – 17

**FURNISHINGS FOR OLD SCHOOL RENOVATION EAST ROOM** - The church council discussed furnishings for the east room of the old school renovation project which is envisioned to be a versatile room available for meetings, conferences, classes, family events, etc. of up to approximately 50 people. To furnish the room, the council settled on purchasing *Lifetime*™ brand tables and chairs because of their high quality and durability. We are planning to purchase the following:

- 8 six-foot banquet tables - \$85 each
- 50 chairs - \$25 each
- 2 60-inch TVs and wall mounts (for both rooms) - \$500 each

If you would like to give a gift toward these purchases, we are prepared to begin receiving them. Gifts may be included with your regular offering (make a notation on your envelope), or deposited into the clear box marked "Old School Furnishings" located on the narthex table (special envelopes for your gift are available). Thank you for your gifts as we come down the homestretch on this project!



**PROJECT CONNECT** – 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.

**HEARING ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE**: If hearing in worship has been a problem for you, pick up one of the receiver units for our hearing assistance system. An usher will assist you and you’ll hear much more clearly. (*Also, please let us know how the system is working for you.*)

For those who use the hearing assistance system regularly and for the sake of hygiene, we ask that you claim one of the ear buds as your own and keep it with you in your purse, pocket, etc. Bring it with you when you come to church, and simply plug it into one the receivers.

**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.

**IF YOU’RE EVER IN A PINCH** and could use a little help, the *Good Neighbor Fund* is there to assist you too! Everything is strictly confidential. Just give Pastor Niermann a call!

**LIONS RECYCLE FOR SIGHT** – If you have used **prescription or nonprescription** glasses or sunglasses in your drawers, desks, or closets, you can donate them now! Children’s glasses are especially needed. Both plastic and metal frames are accepted. There is a box on the table in the narthex for the collection of these used glasses.

**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.

**STAFF POSITION OPENING**: St. John Lutheran School is looking for an aide for the Freedom Flock After School Care Program. This individual must be 18 years old, have a high school diploma, be willing to have a background check, and supply several references. If interested, please email Pastor Kramer at [ckramer@sjl.org](mailto:ckramer@sjl.org). Thank you!

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

**Kindness is the insignia of a loving heart.**

*“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another,  
as God in Christ forgave you.” (Eph. 4:32)*