



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

August 9, 2020

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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](http://www.sjl.org)

### TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon Title & Text: "Courage" *Matthew 14:26-27*

Order of Service: *Matins (pg. 219)*

Hymns: 791 ~ 606 ~ 941 ~ 722

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### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

*Now is the hour of worship. God speaks to us and we listen and respond with our hymns, prayers and praises. Together we bless the Lord whose purpose is to save us and keep us in His faithful flock. He is The God of Grace and The God of Glory. 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**

✠ Bethann Gerken, *Pianist* ✠

✠ David Badenhop, Jerry Short, Dan Wiechers, Denny Von Deylen, *Ushers* ✠

✠ Kaylee Buchhop, Ronda Wentworth, Karen Lulfs, Karan Niebergall, *Altar Guild* ✠

**THANK YOU AGAIN, PASTOR KRAMER!** This morning we, again, welcome Rev. Charles Kramer as our guest preacher, 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	Worship Service with Communion following
Tues.	7:00 PM	Church Council Meeting
Thurs.	7:00 PM	Thursday Evening Worship
Sun.	8:30AM & 10:00AM	Communion Service
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Carl Rockrohr</i> , Zion Lutheran – Ridgeville Corners

**FOR THOSE LISTENING FROM THE PARKING LOT**

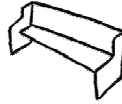
Pick up your bulletin and service by driving through the carport before worship

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

Tune your FM radio to 87.7

**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*
- ❖ *Cheryl Yaw*, for recent heart issues, and prayers answered

**THANK YOU SO MUCH!** A big THANK YOU to all the people sewing masks for the congregation members to be used during the COVID pandemic. Your diligence is amazing! The fabric and elastic gets disbursed to you all, and shortly thereafter, there are bright and colorful completed masks for us to take. We want you to know that your hours of sewing are very much appreciated. Thank you for keeping us all safe during this crucial time! May God bless each one of you!

**MANY THANKS:** A big “THANK YOU” to all the school families who teamed up to tackle the big job of cleaning the school building for the upcoming school year. There was a lot of support this year again, and because of that, the cleaning went very smoothly. And a special thanks to the painters for refreshing the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade classroom. Great job St. John families!!

**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 this upcoming date 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.

<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 08/02/20	\$20,872.80	\$320.00	\$455.00

**ATTENDANCE:** Thursday – 18; Sunday Early - 29; Sunday Late – 31

**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.

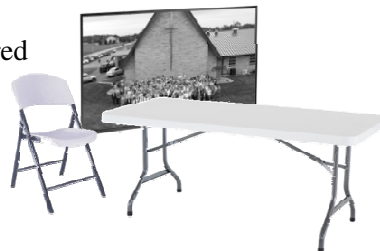


**SHARE THE BOUNTY OF SUMMER** – This morning a table has been set up under the carport where you can bring any spare produce from your garden and share it with others in the congregation. Bring whatever you can and take whatever you can use, and share the bounty of summer! The table will be set up each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

**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!



**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!

**PARENT HANDBOOKS:** The 2020-21 Parent Handbook will be posted and available via the FastDirect Communication network very soon. A message will be sent to each family through FastDirect. Handbooks will only be printed for those St. John families that do not have internet access via computers, cell phones, i-Pads, etc. Go to [www.fastdir.com/stjohnfreedom](http://www.fastdir.com/stjohnfreedom) and click on “Links”.

**UPCOMING SCHOOL & PRESCHOOL DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- ▶ **Preschool Parent’s Meeting & Open House** – On **Mon., Aug. 24 at 6:00 PM** there will be a Preschool Parent’s Meeting held in the Fellowship Hall for children entering the 3-yr old preschool class. Immediately following this meeting (at 7:00 PM) there will be a Parent Meeting for children entering the 4/5-yr old preschool class. Parents will meet the new teacher as well as be informed about student expectations in the classroom. The basics of navigating in the FastDirect Communication system will also be presented. The classroom will be open and staffed during these meetings. **All Preschool parents are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting. Masks are now required when entering and exiting the building.**
- ▶ **School Open House** – The St. John School will be holding an open house on **Tues., Aug. 25th from 6:00 – 7:00 PM** for Kindergarten thru Gr. 8 families. **Masks are now required when entering and exiting the building.** We will meet first in the Fellowship Hall. That will be a time to introduce our staff members and set the tone for the school year. After meeting in the Fellowship Hall students can drop off materials in their classrooms, meet teachers, and pay fees in the school office.

**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.

**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!

**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.

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**DO YOU KNOW YOUR CHURCH HYMNS?...**

**The Golfer’s Hymn:** “There Is a Green Hill Far Away”

**The Dentist’s Hymn:** “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

## **WOMEN OF FREEDOM NEWS:**

**The Women of Freedom were planning to send two delegates to LWML's 28<sup>th</sup> Ohio District Convention in Dayton, OH on June 19-21, 2020. The theme was "Hope Fully on God's Grace" from 1 Peter 1:13. Fifteen delegates from the Napoleon Zone were eagerly looking forward to this gathering.**

**The main purpose of these gatherings is mission inspiration, conducting business of the Ohio District, and the important decisions of selecting the grant recipients to be funded during the next biennium (2020-2022). On April 20, 2020, they decided to cancel this convention. The President contacted each Zone president and gave instructions to implement balloting by mail. The result of this balloting was: 1) Support for Seminarians, \$15,000; 2) Support for fulltime Church Workers, \$10,000; 3) Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne Food Co-op, \$10,000; 4) Missionary Couple, Central OH – POBLO, \$15,000; 5) Lutheran Military Veterans & Family Ministries, \$10,000; 6) Orphan Grain Train – Ohio, \$7,500; 7) Braille Workers – Bringing Light to Those in Darkness, \$10,000; 8) Lutheran Family Service in Haiti, \$10,000; 9) Worship Anew, \$5,000; 10) I Was a Stranger – Lutheran Books for Immigrants (partial payment of \$7,500); for a total mission grant goal of \$95,000 to be raised over the next biennium.**

**Every one of us makes an impact on LWML, and the world, through service and Mite Box offerings. The LWML organization around the world tops \$127 million from all 40 districts and national LWML.**

**The Lord prepares each of us to trust in Him, to turn challenges into opportunities and to share Jesus love and peace with others. Take heart, the Lord remains in control, as we serve Him together. Thank you for your service,  
*Women of Freedom***

*God is love and whoever abides in love abides in God  
and God abides in him. (1 John 4:16)*

(OVER)

## **SCHOOL NOTES**

- ✓ **1st DAY OF SCHOOL** for St. John is Thurs., Aug. 27 , with classes beginning at 8:20 AM. **Masks are now required when entering and exiting the building.** Students arriving after that time will need to report to the school office.
- ✓ **OPEN HOUSE** – (Gr.K-8) On Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:00 PM for Kindergarten thru Gr. 8. All classrooms will be open and we invite parents and students to come in and bring in their school supplies, meet their teacher, and pay their school fees. **Masks are now required when entering and exiting the building.**
- ✓ **OPEN HOUSE FOR PRESCHOOL** - On Monday, Aug. 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM there will be a Parent Meeting for the incoming 3-yr old Preschoolers. Then at 7:00 PM there will be a Parent Meeting for the 4&5-yr old Preschoolers. **Masks are now required when entering and exiting the building.** This will include an overview of the FastDirect Communication information system we have implemented at St. John. The classroom will be open for parents and students to bring in their class supplies and meet the teacher.
- ✓ **SCHOOL OFFICE** will be open on Tues., Aug. 25<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM for anyone that wants to pay their enrollment fee and drop off school supplies to the classroom. **Also return any St. John Library books from last school year at this time.**
- ✓ **OPENING SERVICE** will be Aug. 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:35 AM in the church. **Masks are now required when entering and exiting the sanctuary.** Following the service, *Principal Charles Kramer* will welcome our new students. **All are welcome to attend this Opening Service!**
- ✓ **SCHOOL PICTURES** will be taken by *Emilie Parsons* of Emilie's Photo Design and are scheduled for Thurs., Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM for the 4/5 Preschool class and Grades K-8; and Fri., Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM for 3-yr old Preschoolers and anyone absent on Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>. Order forms will be sent home shortly after school starts.
- ✓ **LUNCH PROGRAM** – Lunch prices remain the same. We have put Preschool and Grades K-4 together for one price, and Grades 5-8 for one price. They are: PS 4/5 - Gr. 4 - \$2.75, Gr. 5-8 - \$3.00. Extra milk is 50¢. The adult meal price is \$3.25 and \$3.75 w/milk. Money sent in for lunches are posted to each families lunch account in FastDirect Communication. You can view your balance by clicking on the Finance icon at the top of the FastDirect home page.
- ✓ **BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP** – St. John Booster membership for the 2020-21school year are: \$20.00 for husband and wife; \$10.00 for single. Make checks payable to *St. John Boosters*.
- ✓ **SCRIP PROGRAM** will be offered again this school year. Anyone willing to help the PTL with this fundraiser can contact *Kristyn Honemann* at 419-592-0643.