



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

January 17, 2021

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SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Sermon Title and Text: "Whose Body Is It?" *1 Corinthians 6:12-20*
Order of Service: Divine Service, Setting Three (*LSB pg. 184*)
Hymns: **402 ~ 707 ~** (Communion: **907, 783**) ~ **411**

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome to St. John Church! "I sought the Lord and He answered me, and delivered me from all my fears" (Ps. 34:4). Let us seek the Lord together this day. Let us offer up our fears and doubts, that we may go forth strengthened and empowered for another week. If you are visiting us today, know that we are honored by your presence. Simply fill 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.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠
- ✠ Dean Badenhop, Rich Elling, Dave Von Deylen, Dennis Showman, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Diane Von Deylen, Lou Ann Rosebrock, *Altar Guild* ✠

ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY has been canceled until further notice. We will reevaluate in January to see if it's feasible for us to begin meeting again.

NEW ALTAR GUILD (pink) & USHER (blue) SCHEDULES: The 2021 Altar Guild and Usher Schedules are available today and can be picked up at the narthex table. Thanks again to all who are willing to be of service to the Lord through St. John. You are a blessing!

COVID-19 MEASURES – The two most important things we can do to prevent the spread of viruses are 1) social distancing, and 2) wearing a mask 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.

In God's House This Week *Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl*

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00AM 1:00 PM	Communion Service B-ball: Gr. 4-6 Girls; 2:00 PM Gr. 4-6 Boys; 3:00 PM Gr. 7&8 Girls; 4:00 PM Gr. 7&8 Boys vs St. Paul - Napoleon
Mon.		NO SCHOOL – MLK Jr. Day observed
Tue.	8:35 AM 6:00 PM	School Chapel B-ball: Gr. 4-6 Boys vs St. John – Defiance
Wed.	6:15 PM	Midweek Confirmation Class
Thurs.	7:00 PM	Thursday Evening Worship
Sat.	10:00AM	B-ball: Gr. 4-6 Boys; 11:00 AM Gr. 7&8 Girls; 12:00 PM Gr. 7&8 Boys vs Trinity – Toledo
Sun.	9:00 AM 4:00 PM	◆ ◆ National Lutheran Schools Week ◆ ◆ Worship Service Jr/Sr High LYF Meeting (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. James Fundum</i> , Immanuel Lutheran – Hamler

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

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

- ❖ Shut-Ins: *Norma Damman, Renetta Homan, and Annetta Rosebrock*
- ❖ *Melba Elling and Lorna Von Deylen*, at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Evelyn Rohrs and Ruth Mahnke*, at Assisted Living – Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Harold Behrmann*, at Fulton Manor, Wauseon
- ❖ *Donald Badenhop*, at 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, Jared Dishop*
- ❖ *Sue Hurst, Rev. Logan Scheiwe, Sharon Badenhop, Peter Gerken, and Phyllis Silveus*, for issues related to cancer
- ❖ *Marian Dickmann and Arlene Wallace*, recuperating at their homes after recent falls taken
- ❖ *Crew Gerken*, born prematurely and in the NICU at Riverside Hospital, Columbus
- ❖ *Rev. Robert Nemoyer*, at Indian Meadows – Wauseon (*formerly Heartland*) for rehab

OFFERING BOXES – Be sure to only use your 2021 envelopes. Please discard your 2020 envelopes to save confusion for the Finance Trustees. If you did not receive a 2021 box of envelopes but would like one, please contact *Jerry Langenhop* (419-598-8151).

SCRIPTURES THIS DAY – Second Sunday after Epiphany

As we are early in the Epiphany season, we see that Jesus is busy calling his disciples at the beginning of his three-year ministry. A theme of Epiphany is the light shining on Jesus, who is revealed as Savior of the world. In the *Gospel* from John, we hear Jesus call Philip to follow him. Philip in turn finds Nathanael with the good news that the Messiah promised by Moses and the prophets has come. Usually, the *Old Testament Reading* reflects an aspect of the Gospel, and the same happens this week as we hear the Lord call Samuel into his prophetic office.

The sermon text for the day, the *Epistle* (1 Cor 6:12–20), begins a four-week series of readings from 1 Corinthians. This text, while not specifically describing a call from God, touches on the importance of human beings having the light of God's truth shed upon their lives as God calls all his children to faithful discipleship.

MORE COPIES OF MY DEVOTIONS for December, January, and February are available on the desk in the back of the church. Pick up your copies today!

MIDWEEK CONFIRMATION CLASS RETURNS TO THE 7-8 GRADE CLASSROOM. Class is conducted each Wednesday evening from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. Parents can drop off their students at the double doors closest to the classroom.

PTL SOUP & PIE DINNER (cancelled) – The PTL Soup & Pie Dinner scheduled for Sun., Jan. 24th has been cancelled this year. PTL is working on coming up with an alternate menu for a future drive-thru meal they will plan to offer. Please keep watching the bulletin for future information.

CABINETS FOR OLD SCHOOL RENOVATION - Are you or anyone you know doing a kitchen remodel and want to make a donation to the old school renovation? For the east room we need 7-1/2 to 8 total feet of kitchen base cabinets in good condition to form a serving/storage area in the south-east corner of the room. We could use various kinds of cabinets - drawer stacks, basic door cabinets, even a sink cabinet (although we will not be using a sink). No corner units; just a straight row of cabinets. If you think you might have something or know of something that could work, please speak with Pastor Niermann, and we'll get the right people to look at it.

WOMEN OF FREEDOM PROGRAM BOOKLETS – The Program Booklets for 2021 are on the narthex table. Pick yours up today! Be sure to check to see what month you are on for serving. If that does not work out for you, you can switch with someone.

LWML: All women of the church are considered members of the LWML – active or inactive. The Ohio District Edition (ODEs) containing news pertaining to our area can be picked up on the table at the rear of church. Editions of the LWML Quarterly are available in the rack.

THREE WAYS TO GIVE YOUR REGULAR OFFERING

- Deposit your offering in the narthex when you come to worship, or if you're listening to the FM broadcast, 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 offering to the church.

LYF SUPER BOWL SUB SALE! It's that time of year again! Super Bowl Sunday is quickly approaching and it's time to get ready for the big game. Why not help out our church's LYF as well? On Sunday, February 7th, we will be selling Super Bowl subs to help raise money for our youth group. Each sub will cost \$3.00 (or 4 for \$10.00) and will contain salami, bologna, ham, white cheese, and yellow cheese on a 6 inch sub bun. To place your order, please fill out a pre-order form (inserted in today's bulletin) and place it in the basket at the back of the church or bring it to the church office by Monday, February 1st. Orders can also be taken from the link on the St. John Church Facebook page. Subs will be available for pick up after church on February 7th until 11 AM via a drive-thru pick up similar to what was done for the Ice Cream Social. Payment will be due at the time of pick up. Checks can be made out to St. John LYF. Thank you for supporting our LYF youth!

LYF MEETING (date changed): The LYF will be getting together on Sunday, January 24th at 4:00 PM. As of right now, the plan is to meet in the new Youth Center. We will be talking/brainstorming about more ideas for our area as well as have a small Bible Study. We will also be discussing the Super Bowl Sub Sale for this year. This meeting is for both Jr. High (6th-8th grade) and Sr. High (9th-college) youth. Please keep in mind that if Henry County is still considered a "Level 3" (red county) according to the Health Department, we will not be meeting in person but will meet on Zoom instead. This information will be communicated in the Remind app a few days prior to the scheduled meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Miss Bartok.

Sunday Bible Study to Resume for Lent

A Lenten fast does not have to consist of just fasting and abstinence from things we love, but it can also be about doing new things that will enrich our faith and make our lives more meaningful. **To this end, you are encouraged to join us when Sunday Bible study resumes on the first Sunday of Lent, Feb 21.**



- **“PROVOKING PROVERBS”** is the title of the study we will undertake that day.

Did your parents ever say to you, “Money doesn’t grow on trees”? Did you ever repeat that to your children? If so, you understand the power of a proverb to stick in the mind and to impact our lives.

The **PROVERBS** of the Bible are pithy, memorable and often fun little sayings of wisdom that we can apply to our walk with Christ. We’ll find all kinds of Proverbs to help us keep God’s commands and to take “every thought captive” to Christ, (2 Cor. 10:5) like this proverb: “Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.” (4:23)

Put it on your calendar and plan to attend. Your life of faith will definitely be enriched by these memorable bits of wisdom.



VBS PLANNING TO BEGIN – Yes, it’s time to start thinking about **Vacation Bible School** for this year. VBS has been tentatively scheduled for June 7-11. The first order of business is to identify and **VBS DIRECTOR** to help lead the way in this ministry to our children. If you would be interested in serving the little ones in this way, please speak with Pastor Niermann.

NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK: NLSW is scheduled for Jan. 24 – Jan. 29, 2021.

National Lutheran Schools Week provides the network of 1,900 LCMS preschools, elementary schools and high schools with the public opportunity to proclaim and celebrate God’s work in Lutheran schools. In this, Lutheran schools thank God for the opportunity to provide excellent academic preparation for the children they serve and for the opportunity to share Jesus’ amazing love with students and their families. National Lutheran Schools Week gives schools the ability to proclaim these great blessings within the communities they serve. Lutheran schools are amazing incubators for faithful witness of God’s love through Christ by teachers and students alike.

“Sent to Serve” is the theme for the 2021 National Lutheran Schools Week celebration. The associated scripture verse is Matthew 20:28 which says: “*The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many*”.

ST. JOHN REGISTRATION OPEN HOUSE – An **Open House** is planned for grade levels (PS-8) at St. John School for Wednesday evening, **February 3rd, from 6:30 to 7:30 PM** for families who would like to come and look at our school and discuss the possibility of sending their child/children here for their education. If anyone in the congregation might know of prospective students for Grades PS-8, be sure to pass this information to them.

PRESCHOOL:

- **ENROLLMENT FOR PRESCHOOL:** The St. John Lutheran Preschool is now accepting enrollment applications for 2021-22 school year. Anyone interested in enrolling your child in our preschool program should contact the school office at 419-598-8702 to request an enrollment packet. We will be opening the registration up to the public as of Feb. 2, 2021, so be sure to register soon. There is a non-refundable \$30 registration fee that must accompany your registration.
- **TUITION** – Here are the School Board approved rates for the 2021-2022 school year: 3-yr old Preschool - \$80/month; 4/5-yr old Preschool - \$210/month.

ST. JOHN CHURCH LIBRARY: Books have recently been added to the church library located in the hallway west of the sanctuary. New children’s books include “How Can I Help” and “Funtastic Family Nights”. Other additions to the library include “Broken”, “The Reformation”, “Without this Ring, Surviving Divorce” and “Religion on Trial, Cross-Examining Religious Truth Claims”. A list of material available from the library can be found at: <http://www.sjl.org/librarylist.pdf>. The library is self-serve. Simply take a book or DVD and return it in the basket provided when finished.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 01/10/21	\$7,755.00	\$130.00	\$160.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday – 31; Sunday – 105

MEMORIALS for Lester Rabe: St. John Endowment Fund - \$2,250; St. John Endowment Fund – School Acct. - \$75; St. John Church Building Fund - \$10; Filling Home – Napoleon - \$10; Hospice – Defiance - \$480; Lutheran Hour Ministries – 2 gifts given; no amount specified

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE – HELP WITH SANCTUARY TECHNOLOGY

- **Have you got a ‘knack’ for technology? Have you ever considered that ‘knack’ to be a gift of God that can be used in service to Him and His people?** We could use some help in worship with the sound board and with video recordings and uploading.
- And while we’re at it, **we could also use some volunteers to help as “slide clickers” to advance worship slides during services.** This task does not require any technical skills, just the ability to press a button on a remote control.

Please think and pray about it, and get the word out, and we’ll begin signing up people soon, and will then provide training. These are wonderful ways to serve!

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 the service
- **Second Sundays** – after the service in the sanctuary



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

ST. JOHN SCRIP CONTINUES: You may begin ordering SCRIP again. Please turn those orders in on Wednesdays, with payment to *St. John School PTL Scrip*. The gift cards will be sent home the following week on Tuesday or Wednesday. Payment must accompany orders. **Any questions about SCRIP can be directed to SCRIP Coordinator Kristyn Honemann at 419-966-0207 or email at honemann@embarqmail.com.**

THE FLOWER CALENDAR for 2021 is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. If you wish to sign up for a certain Sunday to place flowers on the altar or the piano, sign your name on that Sunday and then about two weeks before that date, call *Mabel Bischoff* at 419-598-8757 to let her know if you are getting your own flowers or if you want the Women of Freedom to take care of them. **The price for the flowers through the Women of Freedom is \$21.00.** Please remember that it is your responsibility to contact *Mabel Bischoff*. Also, please contact the church office with the information for the bulletin before Wednesday of the week you are placing the flowers in church. This will insure that you are not forgotten or overlooked.

USE OF THE FELLOWSHIP HALL – If you would like to use the Fellowship Hall for any occasion, on a certain date this year, **please contact the church/school office at 419-598-8961 or 419-598-8702.** In addition to calling the office, you may want to check the online master calendar at <http://www.dynacal.com/sjl/> (*you can also link to it from www.sjl.org*).

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Give your troubles to God. He's up all night anyway.

“Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.” (Psa 121:4)