



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

June 13, 2021

VOL. 86 NO. 24  
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Rev. Charles Kramer, Principal School: 419-598-8702 Cell: 567-277-1339  
Church Website: [www.sjl.org](http://www.sjl.org)

### THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon Title & Text: "Recklessly Scatter the Seed" *Mark 4:26-29*  
Order of Service: *See printed Service Folder*  
Hymns: **804 ~ 584 ~ 654 ~ 577 ~ 921**

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**WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS** *Welcome to every member, friend, and visitor. You have entered this church, not as a stranger, but as a guest of God. May you who enter here find rest, forgiveness, and strength. May your worship here enable you to see your Savior more clearly, love Him more dearly, follow Him more nearly, and serve Him more sincerely. If you are our guest today, please fill out the blue Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and drop it in the basket at the door as you leave. Thank you for visiting us today!*

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

- ✘ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✘
- ✘ Neil Badenhop, Doug Dietrich, Joe Badenhop, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Nancy Short, Deb Wachtman, Kathy Gruenhagen, Marietta Damman, *Altar Guild* ✘

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are provided today by the Randy Rosebrock Family in honor and in memory of our family and friends who share heavenly or earthly birthdays in the month of June. We remember those who have passed, and celebrate with those who are with us still. Happy Birthdays!

**VOTERS' MEETING TODAY** – Please be aware that the congregation will meet in voting assembly immediately following the worship service in the fellowship hall. Items on the agenda: 1) Youth & Family Center on finishing the project; 2) Sale of the Napoleon property; 3) Possibilities for returning to normal worship and hosting church events.

**WOMEN OF FREEDOM** – There is no meeting scheduled for the month of June.

<b>In God's House This Week</b>		<i>Online church calendar: <a href="https://74058984.view-events.com">https://74058984.view-events.com</a></i>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Today	<b>9:00AM</b> 10:20AM	<b>Worship Service with Communion following</b> Voters' Meeting in fellowship hall
Tues.	1:00 PM	Girls Basketball Open Gym ( <i>see bulletin note</i> )
Thurs.	1:00 PM <b>7:00 PM</b>	Girls Basketball Open Gym ( <i>see bulletin note</i> ) <b>Thursday Evening Worship</b>
Sun.	<b>9:00 AM</b> 10:20AM	<b>Communion Service</b> Adult Bible Study
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  
Tune your FM radio to 87.7**

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

- ❖ *Melba Elling, Lorna Von Deylen, and Evelyn Rohrs*, at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *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
- ❖ Military: *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, Jared Dishop, and Jordan Lange*
- ❖ *Sue Hurst, Rev. Logan Scheiwe, and Eileen Fitzenreiter*, for health concerns relating to cancer
- ❖ *Norma Damman*, recuperating at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Don Lawrence*, who is battling both cancer and Covid in the hospital in Cleveland
- ❖ *Mabel Bischoff*, who is having back surgery on Tuesday at Toledo Hospital
- ❖ *Esther Layton*, recovering from surgery this week at St. Luke's Hospital in Maumee
- ❖ *Rev. Stephen Geseke*, as the congregation of Emmaus Lutheran, Wauseon, today celebrate his 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the ministry

**WORSHIP THIS COMING WEEK** – In Pastor Niermann's absence this coming Thursday and Sunday, **Rev. Dale Kern** will be joining us as our guest preacher, Communion celebrant and worship leader. He will be preaching from Job 38 a sermon titled, "**Whirlwind Voices.**" Job wanted an audience with God and he got it. The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind storm. It's not exactly what Job was expecting, but God's "whirlwind voice" is exactly what he needed. Please be sure to welcome Rev. Kern into our midst!

**ANNOUNCING OUTDOOR SERVICE DATE** – The Church Council has established **Sunday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>** as the date for our annual Outdoor Service, with the following Sunday (8/29) as a rain date. This year at the outdoor service we are also planning to rededicate the old school building as our brand new **Youth and Family Center**. Please mark your calendar for this special date and event!

## PARKING LOT NEWS

- **PAVING** - Please be aware that the grinding and paving of our parking lot is tentatively set to begin on **Monday, June 21<sup>st</sup>**. That week the parking lot will be unavailable for parking. We will cancel the Thursday evening service that week (or whichever week the work takes place).
- **FILL DIRT AVAILABLE** – If you are in need of some fill for your property, the pile along the south end of the parking lot is available for free. Come and get it! It is not clean dirt, but also contains pieces of asphalt. If you know of anyone in need of this, please help yourself.

**VBS NOTES** – VBS is still being scheduled for this summer in the mornings, 9:00 a.m. to noon. The revised dates are still being decided to coordinate with the repaving of the parking lot. Please consider serving the little ones in some capacity with our VBS. Staff recruitment forms are available on the narthex table. We still need leaders and helpers for each of the five site rotations shown on the recruitment form.



**COVID-19 MEASURES** – We now have new guidelines in place for face masks, that reflect the new state and CDC guidelines. We ask you to use your discretion when deciding whether to wear a mask, keeping in mind the “royal law according to the Scripture, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself’.” (James 2:8) Be considerate of the well-being of those around you, especially if you are not immune from having had COVID or a vaccination. (New CDC guidelines from its website state that if you have been vaccinated, you can safely resume the activities you did prior to the pandemic without wearing a mask or social distancing; and if you are not vaccinated, you should continue taking all precautions.) We will not try to distinguish who is vaccinated and who is not.

**For the time being, most other Covid mitigation measures we have been observing will continue.** We will roll them back a little at a time as we try to return to normalcy. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL & SUMMER:** There will be no Sunday School for the months of June, July, and August. We will resume Sunday School the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in September (9-12).

**PICTURE DIRECTORIES:** We are making available the extra picture directories for anyone who would like one. **We are simply asking that you make a freewill donation.** If you did not get your picture taken or have family members who would like to have a directory, please take advantage of this offer. Look for the bucket with the camera pictures on it and drop your donation into it. There is a limited supply, so when they’re gone...they’re gone!

<b>FINANCIAL FACTS:</b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 06/06/21	\$11,980.00	\$280.00	\$610.00
ATTENDANCE:	Thursday – 53;	Sunday – 88	

**MEMORIALS:** Renetta Homan - \$95.00; Phyllis Silveus - \$89.00; Ron Germann - \$78.00 all toward the St. John Endowment Fund – School Account.

**SAVE THE DATE! MARK YOUR CALENDARS! CANCEL ANY PLANS** you may have had for **July 25, 2021**. This is the date that St. John is planning to celebrate and recognize Lowell Petzoldt's retirement and his 44 years in the teaching ministry all at St. John. More details to be forthcoming, but per this announcement, we just want you to keep this date on your schedule.

**WHY LUTHERAN SCHOOLS?** *A Safe Place:* Unfortunately, in many communities children are not safe. Lutheran schools provide places where children don't have to worry about being attacked verbally or physically. Loving teachers and other staff members daily demonstrate Christ's love for them and their love for children.

**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.**

**CONTINUE BUILDING THE WALL:** The St. John Youth & Family Center is up and running. But...there are still bricks to be engraved! Why not consider filling out an application, and give it to Joyce Wiechers or Cathy Gerken along with a check (*\$100 minimum for a brick*) with the inscription info you would like on it. Checks should be payable to *St. John Lutheran Church*, with "Youth Center" on the memo line. Let's keep building, brick by brick!

### **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.

**PIERSTORF MEMORIAL LOAN FUND** – provides interest-free loans to Lutheran students who are or will be enrolled full time in a four-year undergraduate program at any accredited college or university. The maximum interest-free loan amount is \$3,000 for this year. For information, visit [www.Pierstorf.org](http://www.Pierstorf.org) to complete the 2021-2022 application. Applications close June 30, 2021.

**IF YOU'RE EVER IN A PINCH** and could use a little help, the *Good Neighbor Fund* is there to assist you too! Please don't be bashful about asking – everything is strictly confidential. Just give Pastor Niermann a call, and we'll see what we can do!

**BALCONY SEATING DURING WORSHIP** – With livestreaming and recording of our services taking place from the balcony, we ask that as much as possible the congregation be seated the *nave* (the main seating area of the sanctuary) so that the microphones don't pick up extraneous sounds from the balcony. If you feel that you need to sit in the balcony because of the fullness of the sanctuary and for social distancing reasons, please keep that in mind that the microphones are nearby. *Thank you!*

**STAMP COLLECTING:** The LWML is collecting “Stamps For Missions.” Here is what you do: Cut the stamps from the envelopes allowing ¼ inch margin or more around the stamp. The stamp may not be damaged and the perforations around the stamp must be perfect. Regular stamps are no longer accepted. You need not trim the stamp; we have someone who trims and sorts the stamps. Do not remove stamps from envelopes, albums, and older postcards. An “old” postcard is usually from 1930 or before. The most valuable stamps are commemorative and foreign. Collecting stamps is an easy way to participate in a mission project. A yellow box is on the table in the narthex.

**3-YR AND 4/5-YR PRESCHOOL UPDATE:** The 4/5-year old preschool class numbers are currently at 10 students. We are able to take a few more in this class. The 3-year old class has openings available, as they currently have 6 students enrolled. If you know of anyone interested in enrolling in our preschool program, please have them contact the school office at 419-598-8702 to obtain a registrations packet. There is a non-refundable \$30 registration fee that must accompany your registration form.

**ST. JOHN GIRLS B-BALL OPEN GYM:** Coach Schroeder will be holding open gyms for girls who will be going into Grades 3-8 next school year. These will be held at St. John from 1:00 – 2:30 pm on the following dates: June 15, 17, 22; July 8, 13, 16, 20, 22. Any questions...Call Coach Schroeder at 419-591-6655.

**SCHOOL YARD SIGNS:** Yard signs promoting St. John Lutheran School are available in the narthex. Please take a sign and place it in your front yard. The sign will let everyone know that our school is accepting student registrations from grades preschool thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**ST. JOHN SCHOOL POSITION OPENINGS** – St. John Lutheran School is seeking to fill the following paid position that will be open after this school year.

- **School Cook** – This individual is responsible for ordering/purchasing, preparing, and serving lunch for approximately 55-60 students and staff; and the clean up after lunch. This would average 15 hours per week. Must be willing to have a FBI/BCI background check.
- **Music, Computer, or Phys Ed Teacher** – These are part-time positions. The applicant must have a valid Ohio teaching license, have a background check, and adhere to Lutheran teachings. Applicant must supply 3 references and be interviewed.

If interested in any of these positions, please contact Principal Kramer at the school (419-598-8702) or in-coming school board president, Joel Stier at 419-277-1142.

**SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:** Please note the church office hours during the month of June 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!

**A SAVE THE DATE:** The *Annual Stephanie Lynn Kossow Memorial Golf Outing* will be held on Sat., July 31<sup>st</sup> this year with a 1:00 PM shotgun start. Flyers available on the narthex table!

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

**Want to get rich quick? Count your blessings!**

*“Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.” (Pa 103:2)*