



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

August 8, 2021

VOL. 86 NO. 32
Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181
Rev. Charles Kramer, Principal School: 419-598-8702 Cell: 567-277-1339
Church Website: www.sjl.org

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Guest Preacher: Rev. Charles Kramer
Sermon Title & Text: “Seeing and Not Believing” *John 6:36*
Order of Service: *See printed Service Folder*
Hymns: **873 ~ 821 ~ 744 ~ 625** ~ “Great God, Our Creator”

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. If you are visiting with us today, please 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.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

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

ANNUAL OUTDOOR SERVICE – Our *Annual Outdoor Service* is set for **Sunday, Aug. 22nd**, just two weeks from now. (The following Sunday is the 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*. The building will be open for touring that day. Plan now to attend!

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION – At their recent meeting the elders discussed whether we should begin receiving Holy Communion once again at the altar rail. After much discussion, it was decided that for now we will continue as we have during the Covid pandemic. This is in large part because of the surge of the Covid ‘Delta Variant’ and present uncertainties about how serious this surge may become. We thank everyone for their patience in this matter; we pray that we will be able to return to the altar rail soon to receive Christ’s Holy Supper.

In God's House This Week		<i>Online church calendar: https://74058984.view-events.com</i>
Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00AM 10:20AM	Worship Service w/Communion following Adult Bible Class
Thurs.	7:00 PM	Thursday Evening Worship
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Class
Mon. - Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Stephen Niermann</i> , St. John Lutheran – Napoleon

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

Drive-thru Communion after worship under carport

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

- ❖ *Melba Elling, Lorna Von Deylen, Norma Damman, Evelyn Rohrs*, at Genacross – Napoleon
- ❖ *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, Jordan Lange*
- ❖ *Sue Hurst, Eileen Fitzenreiter, and Don Lawrence*, for health concerns relating to cancer
- ❖ *Esther Layton*, recovering from recent surgery
- ❖ *Florence Jones*, for an outpatient procedure at UTMC on Wed., Aug. 11th

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS: Please note the church/school office hours during August (until Aug. 24) 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.

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 September or so.



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

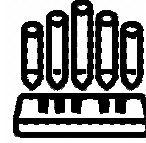
- **Thursday evening Communion services** prior to first and third Sundays
- **First and Third Sundays each month** – in the Sanctuary, and drive-thru after the service
- **Second Sundays** – after the service in the sanctuary

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

FINANCIAL FACTS:	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 08/01/21	\$10,906.00	\$285.00	\$260.00
ATTENDANCE: Thursday – 38; Sunday –129			

INTERESTED IN PLAYING THE ORGAN? BEING A CHURCH ORGANIST?

Through a generous gift to the *LCMS Ohio District* from a family that loves Lutheran worship and hymnody, grant money is available for you to take organ lessons with an eye toward serving as a church organist. This grant can fund lessons for beginners, for pianists transitioning to organ, or for current organists wanting to hone their skills. Speak with the Pastor if you are interested!



PARENT HANDBOOKS: The 2021-22 Parent Handbook will be posted and available via the FastDirect Communication network by mid-week. 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 and click on “Links”.

ST. JOHN SCHOOL POSITION OPENINGS – St. John Lutheran School is seeking a few people to fill the following positions that are open for the next school year.

- **Computer Instructor** – This individual is responsible for computer instruction one day per week for Grades K thru 8. Must have a teaching license and background check.
- **Music Instructor** – This individual is responsible for classroom music instruction one day per week for Grades K thru 8. Must have a background check.
- **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.
- **Freedom Flock Aide** – This individual is responsible for watching the students that use the After School Care Program during the school week. Freedom Flock is open from 3-6PM Mon – Fri. Must have a FBI/BCI background check.

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

UPCOMING SCHOOL & PRESCHOOL DATES TO REMEMBER:

- ▶ **School Open House** – The St. John School will be holding an open house on **Tues., Aug. 24th from 6:00 – 7:00 PM** for Kindergarten thru Gr. 8 families. 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.
- ▶ **Preschool Parent’s Meeting & Open House** – On **Wed., Aug. 25 at 6:30 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 7:30 PM) there will be a Parent Meeting for children entering the 4/5-yr old preschool class. Parents will be informed about student expectations in the classroom and also the basics of navigating in the FastDirect Communication system. The classroom will be open and staffed during these meetings. **All Preschool parents are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting.**

FREEDOM'S FLOCK – St. John's after school program will begin at 3:00 PM on the first day of school, August 25. Please contact Director *Karen Riefers* to pre-register your child(ren) and pay the \$15 per family registration by August 25, if possible. You can also access the Freedom's Flock Handbook and Registration/Medical forms on FastDirect. If any adult or student (16 or older) would like to volunteer to also help with the program, you may contact Karen at 419-598-8686.

SCHOOL NOTES:

- ✓ **1st DAY OF SCHOOL** for St. John is Wed., Aug. 25 , with classes beginning at 8:20AM. Students arriving after that time will need to report to the school office.
- ✓ **OPEN HOUSE** – (Gr.K-8) On Tuesday, August 24th from 6:00-7:00PM for Kindergarten thru Gr. 8. See note above in the bulletin.
- ✓ **OPEN HOUSE FOR PRESCHOOL** - On Wednesday, Aug. 25th at 6:30PM there will be a Parent Meeting for the incoming 3-yr old Preschoolers. Then at 7:30PM there will be a Parent Meeting for the 4&5-yr old Preschoolers. See note above in bulletin.
- ✓ **SCHOOL OFFICE** will be open on Tues., Aug. 24th from 8:30 – 11:30AM and 1:30 – 3:00PM for anyone that wants to pay their enrollment fee and purchase supplies from the book store.
- ✓ **OPENING CHAPEL SERVICE** will be Aug. 25th at 8:35AM in the church. Following the service, *Principal Charles Kramer* will welcome our new students. Once back in their rooms the children, by classrooms, will have the opportunity to purchase school supplies from our book store if they have not already done so. **All are welcome to attend this Opening Service!**
- ✓ **SCHOOL PICTURES** will be taken by *Emilie Parsons* of Emilie's Photo Design. Final arrangements are being scheduled yet. Order forms will be sent home shortly after school starts.
- ✓ **LUNCH PROGRAM** – Still searching for a cook. So until one is hired, parents will be packing lunches for their children. When our hot lunch program is back up and running, lunch prices will 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 Athletic Booster membership fees for the 2021-2022 school 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.