



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

October 24, 2021

VOL. 86 NO. 43
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

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon: "The Blind Men of Mark's Gospel" *Mark 10:52b*
Service: See printed Service Folder
Hymns: **915 ~ 841 ~ 867 ~ 814**

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

The peace of the Lord be with you! May the praise, the preaching and the prayer in today's service give you joy and confidence to face the week ahead. If you are visiting with us, kindly take a moment to sign the Guest Book to record your visit. If you are a visitor, 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 table in the narthex as you leave today.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘ Maddox Oyer, Cooper Speiser, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Scott Van Valkenburg, Mike Maassel, Carey Damman, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Sandy Von Deylen, Mary Kay Rettig, Kathy Badenhop, *Altar Guild* ✘

TEACHER INSTALLATION TODAY – Mrs. Pat Kramer

At the past Voters' Meeting, the congregation elected to call **Mrs. Pat Kramer** as a teacher in our school for the term of this school year. Mrs. Kramer will be officially installed into her teaching office this morning. Following the service, there will be a JAVA JOY for Mrs. Kramer in the front hallway.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY THIS MORNING - Provoking Proverbs ♦ Fifth Commandment

"You shall not murder." The Catechism teaches us that there is much more to murder than a violent act by which we take someone's physical life. Indeed, we should not even "hurt or harm our neighbor in his body."

In our Sunday Adult Study, we are looking at the biblical Proverbs categorized according to the Ten Commandments. Join us this morning as the **Proverbs provoke us** to take better care of our neighbors by helping and supporting them in every physical need. **Each session is a study unto itself, so don't feel like you shouldn't come if you weren't there for previous sessions.** Bible Study is a wonderful time of growth in God's Word and of Christian fellowship. **Oh, and we have coffee too!**



In God's House This WeekOnline church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00AM 10:20AM 3:00 PM	Worship Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" LYF Halloween/Reformation Party (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Mon.	5:30 PM	<i>Bread From Heaven</i> Food Pantry distribution
Tues.	8:35 AM 5:30 PM	School Chapel Budget Committee Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM	Jr. High Confirmation Class (<i>until 7:30 PM</i>)
Thurs.	7:00 PM	Thursday Evening Worship
Fri.		End of 1 st Quarter Grading Period
Sun.	9:00AM 10:20AM	Reformation Worship Service Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp"
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. James Strawn</i> , St. James Lutheran – Burlington

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, Norma Damman, Evelyn Rohrs*, at Genacross – Napoleon
- ❖ *Ruth Mahnke*, at Assisted Living – Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Hildegard Behrmann*, at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne, IN
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, residing at the Ohio Veteran's Home, Sandusky
- ❖ Military: *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, Jared Dishop, Jordan Lange*
- ❖ *Esther Layton, Sue Hurst, Eileen Fitzenreiter, and Don Lawrence*, for cancer
- ❖ *Clara Meyer*, recovering from a fracture to her back sustained in a fall, and experiencing significant pain. May God grant her relief and recovery!
- ❖ *Beretta Doctor and Robin Showman*, for current health related issues
- ❖ *Jamie Damman, (Chad Damman's wife)*, recovering from back injuries sustained in a serious car accident a few weeks ago
- ❖ *Florence Jones*, consulting with an oncologist on Monday about cancerous masses on both lungs. God give her strength for the fight ahead!

UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES**Reformation Day – Sunday, October 31**

In this Festival Service we will meet up with Jehoiakim, one of the last kings of David's dynasty, and one of the very first paper shredders. Despising God's Word, he literally shredded it with a knife. But to no avail – God's Word forever shall remain! It withstood onslaughts by both kings and popes, and will always be our firm foundation. Such is the promise of the Reformation.

All Saints Sunday – November 7

This day on the Christian calendar is poignant, as we remember the saints who've gone before us to heaven; and we anticipate the day when we will reunite with them in Christ's kingdom forever.

SINGING NEXT SUNDAY: All St. John Students and children attending Sunday School classes will be singing in the 9:00 AM Worship Service on Sunday, Oct. 31st. Those in Sunday School will begin practicing today. Please plan to attend and sing on the 31st!! See you today, for your first practice! Thanks, *Char Weber - St. John Music Director*

LYF HALLOWEEN/REFORMATION PARTY – Join us on today for a Halloween/Reformation party at the Youth & Family Center. Find your favorite costume or dress up with a friend to have a “spooktacular” time. We will have Halloween/Reformation themed games and snacks. Sr & Jr High youth will meet together from 3:00 – 5:00 PM. Youth are welcome and encouraged to bring a friend to join the fun!

NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT PROCESS IS UNDERWAY – The Stewardship Board has begun the process of identifying individuals to fill the various offices of our congregation for service to Christ and His people. We ask that everyone please keep this process in your prayers, praying that God would incline the hearts of those nominated or appointed to accept. If you receive a letter or oral request to take an office, please give the matter prayerful consideration. The Stewardship Board has prayed for you, that God might use you and the gifts He has given you, for His service and glory.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 10/17/21	\$8,134.40	\$270.00	\$515.00
ATTENDANCE:	Thursday – 35;	Sunday – 135	

MEMORIALS for *Donald Badenhop*: St. John Lutheran Home Fund – \$1,745.00

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.

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.

A REMINDER: If you are the LAST person to leave the building at the end of the day or after a meeting, etc., please make sure that the hallway lights are turned off and that the main entry doors (*where the buzzer is located*) are closed. With a tight budget, every little bit of electrical savings will benefit the church and closing the doors assures the safety of the building. Thank you!

BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL SEASON: The 2021-2022 basketball season is fast approaching with practices scheduled to begin November 1st and 2nd. The 3-6 grade teams (*both boys and girls*) will consist of any active church member's children that are currently in grades 3 to 6 and are interested in participating this year. **Girls Practices begin Mon., Nov. 1st from 3:45PM to 5:15PM.** **Boys practice will begin Tues., Nov. 2nd from 5:30PM to 7:00PM.** Additional practice dates and times will be given out at practices. Please contact Athletic Director – Joe Badenhop (419) 438-5435 if your child is interested.

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS: If you are looking for community service hours this year, why not consider coming to a young boys or girls basketball game and operate the scoreboard or help in the concession stand? With only Gr. 3 – 6 teams this year, there would only be 2 games played instead of four, as in previous years. The younger players would enjoy having you be a part of their day.

SCRIP ORDER FORM: Why not start your Christmas shopping early! There are so many vendors on the Scrip order form, that you can't go wrong. Check it out and submit your order on Wednesdays. Orders are placed on Fridays and then delivered on the following Tuesday. The order form is posted on FastDirect under 'Links,' titled SCRIP Order Forms and SCRIP Program Info, There are also hard copy order forms in the tract rack in the narthex. Please feel free to share with family and friends. Payment must accompany orders. **Any questions about SCRIP can be directed to the SCRIP Coordinator Kristyn Honemann at 419-966-0207 or email at honemann@embarqmail.com.**

HOCKEY NIGHT WITH THE TOLEDO WALLEYE! St. John Church and School will be heading to the Toledo Walleye hockey game on Fri., Nov. 19th. The game starts at 7:15 PM. Ticket prices are \$17 per person. Payment is due upon signup in order to hold your ticket. Please see a St. John teacher after services on Sundays or contact the church office to reserve your tickets. Thursday Night Worship attendees can sign up at the narthex table and a staff member will contact you. Ticket purchase deadline is Fri., Nov. 12th. Any questions? Please contact Sarah Bartok at sbartok@sjl.org.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA: The Ridgeville Sons of the American Legion are asking you to join them in their mission to place "wreaths across America" in 2021. National Wreaths Across America Day is Dec. 18, 2021. Sponsored wreaths are placed on grave markers at state and national veterans' cemeteries, as well as at local, community cemeteries each December. Wreath Sponsorship Forms and more information is available on the narthex table. Wreaths may also be sponsored online at www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org. Order deadline is Nov. 15, 2021.

FILLING FALL FLING – On Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021, the Filling Home Women's Guild will hold their *Annual Filling Fall Fling*. This will be held from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM in the Therapy Center on the Filling Home campus. See flyer on the bulletin board for more info!

✂ ✂ ✂

FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

If you are more fortunate than others, build a longer table, not a taller fence.

"Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor." (1 Cor. 10:24)

CHRISTMAS CARDS: Check out the table in the hallway by the cry room! The Women of Freedom have put out boxes of Christmas Cards for sale. The dish cloths have been discontinued.

POSITION OPENING: The school cook position is open again. We are feverishly looking for someone to fill this position. Until further notice, parents will have to continue packing lunches for their children. Thank you all for your patience!

COUNCIL MINUTES – This is just a reminder that council meeting minutes are not published until they are approved a month later. If you would like to read about the most recent council meeting, an unofficial and unapproved copy of the minutes is available for viewing in the church office, usually within a week after the meeting.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR – The Lutheran Hour Ministries can be heard on a few radio stations in our area. They cover many topics relevant to today's issues. Broadcasts can be heard Sundays on: Archbold's WMTR 96.1 at 7:30 AM; **Napoleon's WNDH 103.1 at 9:00 AM.**

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!

LUTHERAN LIFE MAGAZINE: We have about 40 Lutheran Life magazines for congregation members to pick up with their Portals of Prayer or My Devotion booklets at the desk in the narthex. These were sent with our Concordia Publishing House book orders this summer and have a lot of good stories that celebrate the joys, trials, vocations, and differences of many God-given families. Enjoy!

CHURCH HISTORY BOOKS – If at any time during the year you need a gift for a current or former member of St. John, why not consider one of our Church History Books. This book is full of interesting facts about St. John's and is available in the church office at a cost of \$12.00.

ST. JOHN CHURCH LIBRARY – Stop in and check out the growing number of books available in the church library, located in the hall next to the sanctuary. The books in this library have been screened to assure that they are true to the Word of God and can be trusted to be theologically sound. To borrow a book, just take it with you, and then return it to the basket when you've finished reading. A complete list of the books in the church's library can be found by clicking on the "Book Inventory" link on the library page of our church's website. <http://www.sjl.org/library.html>

GERALD HISTORY BOOKS – If you didn't get one yet, you can still do so. Stop in at the church office to purchase your copy or you can also send \$12 to Robert L. Stockman, 1218 Spoonbill Landing Circle, Bradenton, FL 34209, and he will mail your copy to you via USPS.

If at any time during the year you need a gift for a current or former member of St. John, why not consider this history book about the development of Gerald? This book is full of interesting facts about Gerald, Freedom Township, and St. John Church. Get your copy today!