



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

March 6, 2022

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NO. 10

Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor
Rev. Charles Kramer, Principal

Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181
School: 419-598-8702 Cell: 567-277-1339
Church Website: www.sjl.org

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Sermon: "It's Personal" *Luke 4:1-13*
Service: Divine Service, Setting Three (*LSB pg. 184*)
Hymns: **668 ~ 418 ~** (Communion: **424, 637, 656**) **~ 655**

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS "God himself is present. Let us now adore him, and with awe appear before him." *The High and Holy One comes to his people, granting peace and strength to every yearning heart. 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 visiting with us, know that we are honored to welcome you. Please register your attendance by filling out the blue Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and drop in the baskets at the door as you leave today.*



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠ Garrison Kruse & Brice Baumert, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Denny Von Deylen, Dave Badenhop, Dan Wiechers, Jerry Short, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Mary Kossow, Diana Kruse, Karen Germann, *Altar Guild* ✠

ADULT BIBLE STUDY THIS MORNING

Provoking Proverbs ♦ Eighth Commandment

Mark Twain once said, "A lie can travel around the world and back again while the truth is lacing up its boots." His observation speaks to the great destruction the tongue is capable of doing to our neighbor. In fact, the **Eighth Commandment of our God is perhaps one of the most difficult for us to master.** As St. James says, we use our tongues both to praise God and to tear down our fellow human beings whom God made in His image. The tongue "*is a restless evil,*" he writes! (*James 3:8*)



Join us this morning as the *Proverbs provoke us* to tame our tongues, and to use them to build up one another. **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: <https://74058984.view-events.com>

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "Lamp" Youth Group
Tues.	8:35 AM 7:00 PM	School Chapel Church Council Meeting
Wed.	5:45 PM 7:00 PM	Jr High Confirmation Class (<i>until 6:45 PM</i>) Lenten Worship Service ; Offering: <i>Good Shepherd for the Deaf, Toledo</i> Acolyte: <i>Dakota Szabo</i> Ushers: <i>Denny Bockelman, Tim Badenhop, Dave Myles</i> Altar Guild: <i>Karen Germann, Mary Kossow, Diana Kruse</i>
Thurs.	6:30 AM	Men's Lenten Bible Study Breakfast
Sun.	9:00AM 10:20AM 2:00 PM	Worship Service w/communion following Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "Lamp" Youth Group LWML Prayer Service (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM

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:

- ❖ *Melba Elling, Lorna Von Deylen, Norma Damman*, at Genacross – Napoleon
- ❖ *Ruth Mahnke*, at Assisted Living – Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Hildegard Behrmann*, at Northcrest Nursing & Rehab
- ❖ *Military: Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Niermann, Jared Dishop, Jordan Lange*
- ❖ *Esther Layton, Florence Jones, Sue Hurst, Eileen Fitzenreiter, and Don Lawrence*, for health concerns relating to cancer
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, at Ohio Veteran's Home, Sandusky, and recently diagnosed with lung cancer
- ❖ *Bill Von Deylen*, recuperating at home now after his recent hospitalization
- ❖ *Elmer Maassel*, recovering nicely at home following knee replacement surgery
- ❖ *Marian Damman*, for a scheduled surgery this past Friday at Defiance – Mercy Health Clinic
- ❖ *Florence Jones*, struggling with congestive heart failure and shortness of breath
- ❖ *The Family of Evelyn Rohrs*, especially her children, Susan, Jim, and Tom. Evelyn died in Christ last Thursday. Visitation is today at Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home from 3-8PM. Her funeral is tomorrow (Monday) at 11:00 AM here at St. John.

CONFIRMATION PLANNING MEETING THIS MORNING – After the Sunday School hour, at 11:15 a.m., the Confirmation Class of 2022 and their parents will meet in the 7-8 grade classroom to make plans for Confirmation Sunday and all that leads up to it.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS NEXT WEEKEND: Spring is on its way and that means it's time to "spring ahead" and turn our clocks ahead one hour. This happens next Sunday, March 13th at 2:00 AM. Don't forget!! ☺

CHILDREN SINGING: The Kindergarten thru Grade 8 children of St. John Church and School will be singing in the 9:00 AM Service on Sunday, March 27th in the balcony. We will meet that morning in the fellowship hall at 8:40 AM to practice. We will be practicing each Sunday from now on prior to Sunday School beginning. The song we will sing is "Were You There?" Thanks, *Char Weber*

ANNUAL CHURCH CLEANING – Finally...get those buckets and rags ready!!! We are gearing up for the 2022 annual church cleaning. The listing of people for this year's cleaning groups are on the narthex table. If you are on the list and feel you are not physically able to help with the cleaning for whatever reason, let your co-chair know and we'll make a note of that. Thank you!

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 2/27/22	\$4,893.00	\$190.00	\$330.00

ATTENDANCE: Sunday – 174

ADD'L MEMORIALS - Clara Meyer: Home Fund - \$6,537.31; Building Fund - \$6,537.31

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.

SANCTIFYING YOUR DAILY ERRANDS WITH THE WORD OF GOD... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: LGBTQ vs. Man & Woman Made in the Image of God; The Salutation & the Collect; Jesus as Prophet; Baptismal Validity and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

2021 END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS – The 2021 individual offering totals (green sheets) are available on the narthex table. These will also be printed in the Church Annual Report. We hope this helps those members in need of this information for tax purposes. If you have any questions on your yearly contribution information, please call past Financial Trustee, *Jerry Langenhop* at 419-598-8151.

2021 CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT – Still missing a few reports from secretaries and treasurers of the various organizations within the church and school. **Please turn your reports in to Joyce Wiechers ASAP.**

Also, if you've moved, eliminated your landline phone, or have a new phone number, contact the church office or make a note of it on a *Rite of Fellowship Card* and drop it in one of the baskets in the narthex to help us keep our records as up-to-date as possible.

Lent Midweek 2022

The Lenten season is a time for God's people to review and rehearse anew the story of our salvation in the passion, suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior. Lenten midweek services will be held each Wednesday during Lent at 7:00 p.m.



PLACES OF THE PASSION

Our midweek Lenten theme this year is, "**Places of the Passion.**" This worship and sermon series will take us to places like Bethany, the House of Simon the leper, the Courtyard, the Judgment Hall, Calvary and the open tomb, as we walk with Jesus all the way! **Here is the schedule of our Lenten midweek services:**

WEEKLY THEME

- Ash Wed.: Jerusalem - Eye of the Storm
Imposition of Ashes, Holy Communion
- **Lent 2: Bethany – House of Fragrance**
- Lent 3: Mount of Olives – Singing Slopes
- Lent 4: Gethsemane – Garden Goat Rope
- Lent 5: The Courtyard – Galleria of Guilt
- Lent 6: Judgment Hall – Forum for Freedom

OFFERING

- St. John Church Vocation Students
- Good Shepherd Lutheran for the Deaf**
- Filling Home of Mercy, Napoleon
- National Youth Gathering
- Worship Anew TV program
- Lutheran Hour Broadcast

Lenten Midweek services are on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.



Each midweek Lenten service will begin with a hymn sing. We will sing stanzas of hymns selected by the congregation. Think ahead of hymns you would like to sing (that don't include *Alleluia's*), and be prepared to offer your suggestions at these services.

MEN'S LENTEN BIBLE BREAKFAST

Each Thursday during the Lenten season, the men will gather at 6:30 a.m. in the north fellowship hall for breakfast and a half-hour Bible study.

People have all kinds of ideas about what happens to your soul after you die. But since death was God's response to Adam and Eve's sin, who would know better than God Himself what happens when we die? The question in death becomes, "Which way will we go?"

Many Christians reject the idea that hell is an option. Instead, they stress God's love and ignore His holiness and justice. Yet we do not fear, for Christ is our mighty Savior from hell, having gone there Himself to declare His victory!

Please consider joining us each Thursday during Lent as we nourish our bodies with breakfast, and our souls with God's Word.



MY DEVOTIONS for March, April, and May are available this Sunday on the desk in the back of the church. Pick up your copy today! If you know of someone who would enjoy these, take one for them.

LENTEN DEVOTIONS FROM L.H.M. – Lutheran Hour Ministries has made available their 2022 Lenten Devotions, on the theme, "Suffering Servant." These devotions show Christ walking with us. Taking on our humanity, the Savior enters a world hostile toward God and blackened by sin. Stepping into our darkness, Jesus was "the light of men." Bearing our punishment, He was lifted up on the cross, and there he died, rising three days later in resurrection victory. Several booklets have been printed and are available on the narthex table. Pick up your copy and make these devotions part of your daily household routine during this Lenten season!

LWML PRAYER SERVICE: St. Luke Lutheran Church's LWML would like to invite you to join them for the 2022 LWML Prayer Service on Sun., March 13, 2022 from 2-3PM at the church located on State Route 108, Wauseon, OH. See flyer on the bulletin board in the narthex.

ARCHIVES DISPLAY: The Archives Committee has a new display up with the pictures of the students and teachers for the school year 2021-2022. This display includes the preschool classes too.

BUY A BRICK? Want to buy a brick for the Youth Center yet? We will be placing another order for more name plates to be printed sometime at the end of February. Now would be a good time to fill out an order form if you want to be added to the order. Forms are available in the tract rack by the narthex table. There are still plenty of bricks left to put your name (*or your family name*) on one.

WHY LUTHERAN SCHOOLS – NURTURING FAITH: Faith is nurtured by daily proclamation of the Gospel, teaching children the Word of God and how to read and understand that Word on their own, and by modeling and challenging students to live the Christian faith.

KINDERGARTEN CLINIC & ELIGIBILITY for students entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2022! The St. John K-clinic will be held on Thursday, March 24th beginning at 1:30 PM. **St. John Lutheran School's eligibility date for entering Kindergarten is that a child must be five years old on or before September 30th to enroll in Kindergarten.** Items needed for our St. John clinic are: An original and/or certified copy of their birth certificate; a physical dated after August 2021 (*if available*); immunization records; Social Security number; child custody documents if applicable; and the baptism date/baptismal certificate, or dedication date. *NOTE: If your child is enrolled in our Preschool program, we already have the items listed above and you will not need to bring them the day of the clinic.*

NOTE: KINDERGARTEN HALF DAY! Please note that on Thurs., March 24th (*the day of the K-garten Clinic*), the Kindergarten class will dismiss at 11:20 AM. Please make pick up arrangements at that time for your child on March 24th. Thank you!

ENROLLMENT FOR PRESCHOOL: The St. John Lutheran Preschool is now accepting enrollment applications for 2022-23 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 have opened the registration up to the public, so be sure to register soon.** There is a non-refundable \$30 fee that must accompany your registration paperwork. The School Board approved rates for the 2022-2023 school year are: 3-yr old Preschool - \$100/month; 4/5-yr old Preschool - \$250/month.

ATHLETIC BANQUET – SAVE THE DATE! The St. John Athletic Banquet will be on **Sun., March 27th at 4:30 PM.** More details to follow.

POSITION OPENINGS:

- St. John Lutheran School is seeking a **school custodian** for next school year. This is a part time position. For further information or to set up an interview please contact the school office at 419-598-8702.
- St John Lutheran School is seeking a **long term substitute teacher for kindergarten.** Our current teacher will be taking a maternity leave beginning the first week of September. Applicant must have a valid teaching certificate, obtain a background check, and supply three references. For further information or to set up an interview please contact the school office at 419-598-8702.
- St. John Lutheran School is asking for your help as we are seeking names for consideration for the **Principal position** and the **7th & 8th Grade Teacher position** for the 2022-2023 school year. Pastor Kramer (Principal) and Pat Kramer (Grade 7&8 Teacher) will both be leaving us at the end of the current 2021-2022 school year. Requirements for the jobs are: Must have a Bachelor degree in education, obtain a background check, supply three references, and adhere to the St. John Lutheran Church and School religious beliefs. If you have names please call the school office at 419-598-8702.

OHIO DISTRICT NEWS: The Lutheran Church – Ohio District wants to share some news with you. A Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) has been established in the Ohio District. Later this year, donations of up to \$750 will be able to be made into the SGO. That money will then go to the Lutheran School of the donor’s choice. That money will be used as scholarship money at the school designated by the donor. The donor will then be able to receive a tax credit for the full amount they donated (up to \$750), directly on their Ohio State Tax return. This is exciting news! As more information becomes available, in the months ahead, we will share it with all of you.

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.**

PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST TODAY – hosted by the Ridgeville Township Fire & Rescue with serving from 7:00 AM – 1:00 PM at the Ridgeville American Legion Hall. This will be a drive-thru only! Proceeds to benefit fire & rescue equipment. Freewill donation.

SWISS STEAK DINNER: The Ridgeville American Legion is hosting a **Drive-Thru Swiss Steak Dinner on Sun., March 13th** with serving from 11:00 AM until sold out. On the menu: Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Green Beans, Roll, Dessert. This will be held at the Legion Hall on County Road 19. The cost is \$10. Hope to see you there!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

There is more grace in God than sin in you!

“where sin abounded, grace did much more abound.” Rom 5:20