



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

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NO. 12

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

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Sermon: " Turn to Life" *Jeremiah 26:8-15*
Service: Divine Service, Setting Four (*LSB pg. 203*)
Hymns: 809 ~ 423 ~ (Communion: 702, 761, 704) ~ 917

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome in the name of the Lord. We pray that through this time of stillness and song, prayer and proclamation, you may experience the Spirit of God at work in your life. May God richly bless your worship! If you are visiting us today simply 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 today. Your presence is a blessing to us.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✠ Cooper Speiser & Brice Baumert, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Denny VonDeylen, Dave Badenhop, Dan Wiechers, Jerry Short, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Mary Kossow, Diana Kruse, Karen Germann, *Altar Guild* ✠

WE MOURN the passing of *William "Bill" VonDeylen*, 93, on Tues., March 15th at the Inpatient Hospice Center in Defiance, Ohio. Bill's funeral is today at St. John at 1:00 PM. His committal will take place in St. John Lutheran Cemetery following his funeral service. Bill's quiet humor and wit will be missed by everyone who knew him. And his dear Detroit Tigers will miss him too! Please keep *Janet, Tom & Sandy, Anne & Tuffy*, and the extended *VonDeylen* and *Inselmann* families in your prayers at this time of loss for all of them.

EASTER LILY DONATIONS – This year we are having difficulty locating suppliers for Easter lilies, so instead of ordering them as we usually do, we will take donations in the narthex and use your gifts to purchase our lilies locally. If, for some reason, we simply cannot find lilies, we will use those gifts to purchase others flowers. **If you can give a gift of \$8 to \$10, you would be welcome to take one of the flowers home with you after the Easter services. You can put your donation in the "Easter Flower" container located on the narthex table.** Thank you!

| In God's House This Week | | Online church calendar: https://74058984.view-events.com |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Date | Time | Activities |
| Today | 9:00AM 10:20AM 1:00 PM | Communion Service Sunday School; "Lamp" Youth Group <i>Bill VonDeylen's</i> funeral and committal service |
| Tues. | 8:35 AM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM | School Chapel Shepherd Committee Board of Elders |
| Wed. | 5:45 PM 7:00 PM | Jr High Confirmation Class (<i>until 6:45 PM</i>) Lenten Worship Service ; Offering: <i>National Youth Gathering</i> Acolyte: <i>Addison Naveau & Peyton Naveau</i> Ushers: <i>Denny Von Deylen, Dave Badenhop, Dan Wiechers, Jerry Short</i> Altar Guild: <i>Karen Germann, Mary Kossow, Diana Kruse</i> |
| Thurs. | 6:30 AM 1:30 PM | Men's Lenten Bible Study Breakfast Kindergarten Clinic (<i>see bulletin note</i>) |
| Sun. | 9:00AM 10:20AM | Worship Service Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "Lamp" Youth Group |
| Mon.-Sat. | 7:30 AM | Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM |

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, Sue Hurst, Eileen Fitzenreiter, and Don Lawrence*, concerns relating to cancer
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, at Ohio Veteran's Home, Sandusky, and battling lung cancer
- ❖ *Elmer Maassel, and Marian Damman*, recovering at home following recent surgeries
- ❖ *Florence Jones*, moved to hospice care at Fulton Manor, Wauseon

ADULT BIBLE STUDY THIS MORNING is cancelled, so that preparations can continue in the fellowship hall for the funeral luncheon this afternoon. We will resume our study next Sunday.

EASTER BREAKFAST SIGN UP – There will once again be an Easter Breakfast served between the two services on Easter morning (8:00-9:15 AM). A lot of help with donations is needed. Please sign up on the chart in the narthex to donate items and/or to help with serving on Sunday. Any refrigerated or bakery items in stay-fresh containers can be brought to the church on Saturday morning (4-16). All items need to be at the church prior to 8:00 AM Easter morning.

CEMETERY NOTE: With warmer weather upon us, please take time now to remove any grave blankets, as well as Christmas floral arrangements that have been placed on gravesites. Thank you!

CHURCH CLEANING GROUP #2 will be cleaning their area on Mon., March 21st at 5pm. Bring buckets and rags. There will be pizza furnished.

PORTALS OF PRAYERS for *April, May, June*, are available on the desk in the narthex. There are also large print booklets available for anybody to pick up.

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!

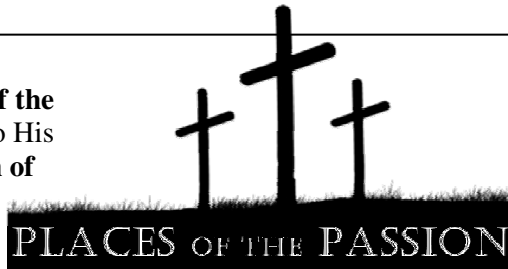
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|-----------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| FINANCIAL FACTS: Home Fund | Synod & Missions | Building Fund |
| Weekly Need \$9,792.78 | \$500.00 | \$961.54 |
| Rec’d 3/13/22 \$7,011.00 | \$460.00 | \$190.00 |

ATTENDANCE: Sunday – 174

LENTEN SERVICE #2: Good Shepherd Church – Toledo - \$630.00 Attendance: 69

Lent Midweek 2022

Our midweek Lenten theme this year is, “**Places of the Passion.**” This week we continue our walk with Jesus to His favorite quiet place on the Mount of Olives, the **Garden of Gethsemane.** Ironically, this place of peace and quiet will soon be the scene of mayhem and confusion as Judas and his entourage enters the scene. Yet in the middle of the fracas is the One who is in complete control, directing these seemingly chaotic events to their eternally intended purpose. To the eyes it may look like a “garden goat rope,” but faith sees God’s hand and purpose at work!



Here is the schedule for our remaining Lenten midweek services:

WEEKLY THEME

OFFERING

- Lent 4: Gethsemane – Garden Goat Rope National Youth Gathering
- Lent 5: The Courtyard – Galleria of Guilt Worship Anew TV program
- Lent 6: Judgment Hall – Forum for Freedom 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.

One of the most difficult things about death is the separation it creates between us and our loved ones. That break from our loved ones seems so permanent, for never again will we see that person in this life and world. **But does it have to be that way?** Is there a possibility some day of reunion? What do the Scriptures say? Join us this Thursday!



EQUIPPING THE PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS... 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 subjects include: Responding to the Arguments for Atheism & Agnosticism; Humanism vs. Faith in the Holy Trinity; LGBTQ+ Ideology in Public Schools; The Post-Resurrected Jesus Appears in Galilee and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

DESIGNATE YOUR CHOICE DOLLARS – It's that time of year again to direct your 2021 "Choice Dollars." The deadline to direct your 2021 dollars is March 31, 2022. You may be getting a phone call from Mary Kossow at the Thrivent office to help you direct your Choice Dollars.

Thrivent associates are now able to process your dollars online, so no signed form is needed. If you have not received a call from Mary and think you may have 2021 "Choice Dollars," just call the Ridgeville Corners Associates at 419-267-0113 and they will be glad to check for you! Thank You!

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.

FREE OR REDUCED CHURCH WORKER TUITION AT CONCORDIA, ST. PAUL

Our Concordia University in St. Paul, Minnesota has announced free tuition for all pre-seminary and pre-deaconess students, as well as a \$6,000 tuition cap for other church work students (Directors of Education, Outreach, Parish Music, and Lutheran School Teacher). Now, as ever, the church needs young people to answer the call to ministry. Spread the word about these financial incentives, and encourage a young person in your life to consider a church work career.

WHY LUTHERAN SCHOOLS – SEEKING THE LOST: Lutheran schools, which enroll children from all parts of the community, provide new and varied opportunities for evangelism by the congregation and its staff. These opportunities are not available in any other way. That's why Lutheran schools are considered the most effective agencies in congregational evangelism and why pastors of growing congregations with schools in nearly every case, identify the school as the congregation's most effective outreach agency. Eighty-five percent of the fastest growing congregations in the Synod operate schools.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT! St. John School will be hosting a Family Movie Night on Fri., March 25th at 6:30 PM in the cafeteria/fellowship hall. Movie theatre refreshments will be provided by the St. John Athletic Boosters. Anyone can come and enjoy the evening with us!

YUMMY FUNDRAISER: St. John Lutheran School is having a fundraiser that began Mon., March 7 and runs thru Tues., March 22. What makes up “yummy” you ask? Well...there is Butter Braid pastries, Amish pretzels, Mrs. Fields cookie dough, Puff Crust Pizza, and Joyful Traditions cake rolls!

There is a table set up in the side hallway today with students available to take orders. If you miss ordering today you can contact any St. John student to place an order or you can use the online link provided on the front side of this bulletin insert. Payment is due with your order. Checks made payable to **St. John Lutheran School**. Online orders will be paid online by the customer.

All items will be delivered FROZEN on Tues., April 5 and must be picked up between 2:30 and 4:30 pm. THANK YOU for helping make this fundraiser really benefit our school! Proceeds will be used for Preschool Educational Materials which give our littlest Eagles a great foundation for years of academic success! If you have any questions please contact Pam Reeves or Bonnie Niermann.

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 UPDATE! The St. John Athletic Banquet will be on **Sun., March 27th at 4:30 PM.** The Boosters will furnish the meat, sides, drinks, and table service. They are asking families to bring a dessert to share. Hope to see many of you at the banquet as we honor our St. John athletes and also hear from the St. John alumni high school seniors!

PTL COOKBOOKS – The “Recipes and Remembrances” cookbooks from PTL are still available for purchase. They have a very nice collection of great recipes in them and would make a neat gift for that “hard to buy” family member or friend. The cookbooks are available on the narthex table for \$10. If writing a check, please make it payable to: *St. John PTL*. Thank you for supporting the PTL!

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!

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.**

GOT SOME TIME? Why not be an adult volunteer at St. John School. You could listen to children read, talk about your time in the military, work with flash cards, or tell children about a hobby or craft you enjoy doing. The possibilities are endless and your time with them will be priceless!

If you would be interested in volunteering in the next school year, please call the school office at 419-598-8702 and give us your name and a contact number. The school will contact you. Thank you in advance for thinking about volunteering at our school.

POSITION OPENINGS:

- St. John Lutheran School is seeking a **preschool teacher aide** (3-yr class) for Wednesday and Friday mornings next school year. Applicant must have experience with preschool-age children, 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 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.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

A rich man without God is just a poor man with money.

*“You say, “I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing,”
and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked.*

Revelation 3:17