

St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

April 24, 2022

VOL. 87

NO. 17

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sermon: "THEN the Disciples Were Glad!" *John 20:19-20*

Service: Service of Prayer & Preaching (LSB pg. 260)

Hymns: 469 ~ [Baptism: 'Borning Cry,' 588] ~ 470 ~ 468

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

The Lord calls all of us to a new way of living under His wonderful grace in our Savior. If you are our guest this morning, it is a pleasure to have you worshipping with us. Please help us get to know who you are by introducing yourself to our pastor and by filling out the blue Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and dropping it in the basket at the doors as you leave.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘ Paul Sausser, Garrison Kruse, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Elmer Maassel, Ted Ripke, Bob Norden, Denny Behnfeldt, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Deb Von Deylen, Anita Badenhop, Pat Maassel, Kathy Behnfeldt, *Altar Guild* ✘

BAPTISM THIS MORNING – This morning we rejoice with **Scott & Megan**

Bostelman as they present their infant son, **Brooks Monroe**, for Holy Baptism.

Brooks was born on February 15 at the Henry County Hospital. His baptismal sponsors are Clay Badenhop (Megan's brother), and Greg Bostelman (Scott's brother). His grandparents are Neil & Anita Badenhop and Rod & Jeri Bostelman. In this holy washing, Brooks is joined to Christ in His death and resurrection. May the good work that God begins in him this day be brought to completion on the day of Jesus Christ! The flowers on the piano today are placed in honor of Brooks' baptism.



AT REST – On Saturday, April 16th, *Florence Jones*, 85, passed away at Fulton Manor, Wauseon, Ohio. Florence's funeral service was held here at St. John on Thurs., April 21 at 11:00 AM. Her burial followed in St. John Lutheran Cemetery. May God console Doug, Sandi, Linda, Patti and their families with the sure promise of salvation through Christ our Lord! Keep them in prayer.

In God's House This WeekOnline church calendar: <https://74058984.view-events.com>

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00AM 10:15AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Adult Instruction Classes begin (<i>see bulletin note</i>) Adult Bible Class; "The Lamp"; Last day for Sunday School
Mon.	8:30 AM 4:00 PM 5:30 PM	Gr. 5 Outdoor Education (Mon/Tues/Wed) Confirmands – Lord's Supper Mini-Retreat (<i>until 7:00 PM</i>) <i>Bread From Heaven</i> Food Pantry distribution
Tues.	8:35 AM	School Chapel
Wed.	6:15 PM	Jr High Confirmation Class (<i>until 7:30 PM</i>)
Fri.	8:15 AM	Donuts with Dad, Grandpa, Uncle, etc. (PS, K thru 7 grade)
Sat.	8:30 AM	LWML Napoleon Zone Spring Rally (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Sun.	9:00AM 10:15AM 10:20AM 10:45AM	Communion Service Special Voters' Meeting "The Lamp" Adult Bible Class; Adult Instruction Class (<i>later due to Voters' Mtg</i>)
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
- ❖ *Lawrence Behrmann*, at Northcrest Nursing & Rehab and in hospice care
- ❖ 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
- ❖ *Cheryl Yaw* and *Diane Von Deylen*, recuperating from recent knee replacement surgery
- ❖ *Leah Maassel* and *Jordan Saylor*, who were married in a ceremony yesterday here at St. John. Leah is the daughter of Mike & Tana Maassel. May God bless this couple with many years together of life and love.

SPECIAL VOTERS' MEETING NEXT SUNDAY – A special Voters' Meeting has been called for next Sunday to handle a couple of items of pressing business. 1) School report about how next year is shaping up, especially for grades 7&8; 2) hiring of a new principal; 3) issuing a call for a teacher for the 5&6 grade to replace Miss Bartok, who has accepted a call to Springfield, Missouri; 4) an announcement about lighting plans for the sanctuary.

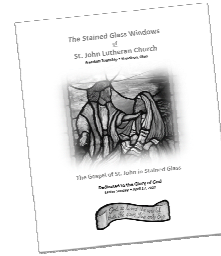
REMAINING EASTER LILIES – If you supplied any flowers for our Easter celebration and didn't yet claim them, please feel free to pick them up after worship this morning.

THURSDAY EVENING SERVICES SET TO RESUME – Starting May 5th, the first Thursday of May, we will resume our Thursday evening worship services, at 7:00 p.m. each Thursday through October. Our Thursday services are a preview of the service for the following Sunday. Holy Communion will be offered on the Thursday's prior to Communion services on the first and third Sundays of each month.

STAINED GLASS WINDOW NEWS

Last Sunday it was our great joy and privilege to unveil the final Resurrection stained glass window, and to dedicate all 19 windows to the glory of God. In the afterglow of this red letter day for our congregation, there are still a few tokens of this celebration that you can pick up this morning in the narthex.

- **A booklet – “The Stained Glass Windows of St. John”** – with a brief history and descriptions of each window will be available today. Sometime when you have a few moments, use the booklet for close-up self-guided tour of the windows.
- **Stained Glass Cross Necklaces** are also available this morning in the narthex. Steve & Sue Hurst made these crosses for us from the same glass used to make our windows. Choose a cross and pair it with a cord or chain. Wear it as one boasting of Christ crucified for us!



ADULT INSTRUCTION AND MEMBERSHIP CLASS BEGINS TODAY

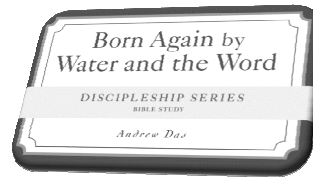
This morning Pastor Niermann will begin teaching an **Adult Instruction and Membership Class** after Sunday services. This class is for anyone interested in learning more about what our church teaches and confesses, and will also be a membership class for those who may wish to join our congregation - although, of course, there is no obligation for class participants to do so. Classes will run for about 10 weeks through the end of June, with a break on Confirmation Sunday. We will meet after worship each Sunday for an hour, about 10:15-11:15 a.m., in the conference room near the restrooms.

This is also an excellent opportunity for members of St. John to be refreshed in the primary teachings of our faith, and to invite someone to come with you who may be interested in joining our fellowship.

NEW ADULT BIBLE STUDY BEGINS TODAY

A new Sunday Bible study will get underway this morning titled **“Born Again by Water and the Word – A Study of Infant Baptism.”** One of the most noticeable differences between Christian denominations is whether or not they baptize infants. Many protestant denominations do not practice infant baptism, and even require those who join their fellowships to renounce their baptism as an infant and be re-baptized.

What does Scripture say? *This study will be led by Jeremy Heilman, son of our members Don & Kay Heilman and formerly an LCMS pastor.*



CONFIRMATION CLASS HAPPENINGS – For the Confirmation Class of 2022, here are important dates to remember...

- Mon. Apr. 25 Lord's Supper Mini-Retreat: Tomorrow, 4:00 - 7:00pm
- Wed. May 4 Preparation for Questioning: 6:15 - 7:45pm
- Wed. May 11 Preparation for Questioning: 6:15 - 7:45pm
- Thr. May 12 Confirmand Questioning: 7:00pm, followed by rehearsal
- Sun. May 15 **Confirmation Sunday**

LUTHERAN WITNESS RENEWAL – It's time to renew your subscription to the Lutheran Witness for the year. To subscribe or renew your subscription, **simply place \$16.00 in an envelope**, along with your name and address, and place it in the Sunday collection plate or bring it to the church office. **Deadline for subscriptions is May 15th**.

2021 CHURCH'S ANNUAL REPORT: These are available on the narthex table after the service. Thanks to everyone for your information submitted to be included in this report.

FINANCIAL FACTS:

Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need \$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 4/17/22 \$22,087.18	\$805.00	\$325.00

Special: \$100 – *Bread From Heaven Food Pantry*; \$300 – LCMS Disaster Response;
\$200 – LCMS World Relief & Human Care; \$200 – *LCMS Help for Displaced Ukrainians*

ATTENDANCE: Sunday (Early) – 174; (Late) – 270

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE: \$1,025 – Sufficient Grace Ministries; Attendance: 112

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE: \$1,620 – Home Fund; Attendance: 178

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.

VBS PLANNING TO BEGIN – Yes, it's time to start thinking about *Vacation Bible School* for this year. VBS has been tentatively scheduled for June 13-17. The first order of business is to identify and **VBS DIRECTOR** to help lead the way in this ministry to our children. If you would be interested in serving the little ones in this way, please speak with Pastor Niermann.



LWML QUARTERLIES are available in the tract rack in the narthex. These are available for all women of the congregation. Please pick up a copy today!

LWML SPRING RALLY - The Women of Freedom are invited to the Napoleon Zone Spring Rally to be held at St. James Lutheran Church, Burlington, on Saturday, April 30th with registration at 8:30 AM and the program following at 9:00 AM. The guest speaker will be *Judy Kaufmann*, who will share her highlights of her trip to Israel. Please see the flyer in today's bulletin for all the information.

PROJECT CONNECT – There are many free booklets in the rack in the narthex. Be sure to check for some informative reading such as: "*Alzheimer's: Facing the Loss of a Lifetime*," "*Talking with God*," "*Forgiveness is a Choice*," "*Talking Openly with Kids*," "*Setting Priorities*," "*Your Place in God's Plan*," "*Stressed but Connected*," "*Beyond Divorce*," "*For Better, For Worse*," "*What Is Faith in Jesus?*" and many more. Booklets furnished through Lutheran Hour Ministries.

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!

CHURCH LIBRARY – The church library, located in the hall next to the sanctuary, is growing to contain a lot of excellent books that will edify your faith. 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. Please check out the selection. To borrow a book, just take it with you, and then return it to the basket when you've finished reading.

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. For more information, visit www.Pierstorf.org and complete the 2022-2023 application. Applications open April 15, 2022 and close June 30, 2022.

INTERESTED IN A CHURCH PROFESSION? WE'D LIKE TO HELP! Recently a number of young people from St. John have pursued educational goals to prepare them for full-time service as teachers and pastors. If you are interested in a church profession (*as a pastor, deaconess, teacher, lay minister, or a Director of Christian Education, Christian Outreach, Parish Music, or Family Life Ministry*), our congregation would like to support you by offering a tuition gift. An application for this gift is available online --- type www.sjl.org/student_gift_app.pdf into your browser (*there is no link*) and fill out the application. Deadline for fall enrollment is June 1st.

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.**

PRESCHOOL GRADUATION will be **Tues., May 17th** at 6:30 PM in the sanctuary. This ceremony is for the 3-yr old and 4/5-yr old classes. Everyone is invited to this big day for the preschoolers. There will be a program followed by light refreshments.

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.

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!

ST. JOHN SCRIP: Scrip orders will be received on Wednesdays, ordered on Fridays and delivered on the following Tuesday. Order forms are posted on FastDirect under 'Links,' titled SCRIP Order Forms and SCRIP Program Info, there are also hard copies on the table in the narthex and in the 'School Info' rack outside the office. 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.**

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.
- St. John Lutheran School is seeking a part-time **school custodian** position for next school year.
- St John Lutheran School is seeking a **long term sub 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.
- 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.

To set up an interview for any of these positions, please contact the school office at 419-598-8702.

ST. JOHN GIRLS B-BALL OPEN GYMS: Coach Schroeder will be holding open gyms for girls who are going into Grades K-6 next school year. These will be held at St. John from 1:00 – 2:30 PM on the following dates: **June 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22; July 12, 13, 19, 20**. Flyers with more information are available on the narthex table. Any questions...Call Coach Schroeder at 419-591-6655.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

The Bee Gees aren't the only ones Stayin' Alive!

"We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him" Romans 6:9