



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 Co. Rd. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

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Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor  
Miss Tracy Germann, Principal

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### EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Guest Preacher: Rev. Terry Cripe  
Sermon: "Do you have a financial planner?" *Luke 12:13-21*  
Service: *See printed Service Folder*  
Hymns: 590 ~ 554 ~ 743 ~ 781 ~ 685 ~ 782

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### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

*Welcome! We are here at the Savior's invitation; therefore let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, receiving mercy and finding grace to help in every time of need. 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 baskets at the door as you leave today.*

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### **SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING**

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠ Dakota Szabo, Olivia Foor, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Tim Badenhop, Denny Bockelman, Dave Myles, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Ronda Wentworth, Kaylee Buchhop, Karen Lulfs, Karan Niebergall, *Altar Guild* ✠

**OUR GUEST PREACHER TODAY** – This morning it is our great pleasure to welcome to St. John **Rev. Terry Cripe**, former pastor at **Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church** in Defiance, and also former Ohio District President. Rev. Cripe and his wife Marlene reside in Defiance and have made **Christ Our Savior** their home church. We welcome Rev. Cripe amongst us both today and next week as well, and pray that God will richly bless his service to us of God's Word and sacraments.

**WELCOMED INTO HEAVEN** – On Friday, July 22, 2022, Henry Gerken, 89, was welcomed peacefully into heaven. Henry's funeral was held here at St. John on Tues., July 26 at 11:00 AM with interment at St. John Lutheran Cemetery following the service. We will miss Henry's soft-spoken nature and subtle humor, but can rest assured knowing he is at peace now. Please keep Bev (Mike), Randy (Liza), Bethann, and their families in your prayers at this time of loss for them.

<b>In God's House This Week</b>		<i>Online church calendar: <a href="https://74058984.view-events.com">https://74058984.view-events.com</a></i>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Today	<b>9:00AM</b> 10:20AM	<b>Worship Service</b> Adult Bible Study
Tues.	6:00 PM 7:00 PM	School Board Meeting Gerald Busy Fingers 4-H ( <i>Youth Center</i> )
Thurs.	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Thurs. Evening Worship with Communion</b> ( <i>Fellowship Hall – North</i> )
Sun.	<b>9:00 AM</b> 10:20AM	<b>Communion Service</b> Adult Bible Study
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
- ❖ *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 *Dave Crandall*, concerns relating to cancer
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, at Ohio Veteran’s Home, Sandusky, and battling lung cancer
- ❖ *Irene Joost* and *Jason Foor*, recuperating from recent health concerns
- ❖ *Steve Hurst*, following heart bypass surgery this past week

**CHURCH/SCHOOL SECRETARY ON VACATION:** Please make note that Joyce Wiechers will be out of the office from July 31 thru August 8 for vacation. The bulletin next Sunday (8-07) will have limited information in it. Any additional information for that Sunday will be announced by Rev. Cripe.

How  
we got  
the  
BIBLE

**SPECIAL TWO-PART BIBLE STUDY** – With Rev. Terry Cripe

**How We Got the Bible**

As God's written Word, the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments are the source of His revelation to man. But how did this book of books come to be? If mere mortals were involved in the writing, production, transmission, and preservation of these writings, how do we know they can be trusted as the inspired Word of God?

This two-part study will be led by Rev. Terry Cripe, our guest preacher this Sunday and next. Together we will take a look at the historical development of the Bible as it has come down to us through the centuries. With special emphasis on God's divine activity through the Spirit-inspired authors of the Old and New Testaments, this study will show how the Bible is His book, His Word-revealed to man that they might know the way of salvation as revealed by the prophets and made real in the flesh through the life, death, and resurrection of God's son, Jesus Christ. ***Join us this morning for 'How We Got the Bible' – Part 1.***

**ANNUAL SCHOOL CLEANING** is completed and the School Board would like to thank all those parents that came to help out with this massive project. We truly are blessed at St. John with the commitment of our school families. Great job...and thanks again!

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 21**

### **OUTDOOR SERVICE ♦ CONGREGATIONAL MEAL ♦ SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE**

Mark your calendars for August 21<sup>st</sup>. It's going to be a special day for all.

- **Annual Outdoor Service** - Pray for favorable weather! (It was a bit hot and muggy last year!) **Worship will be at 10:00 a.m.** on the yard next to *The Youth & Family Center*. This year we'll rearrange things so we can sit on the lawn and utilize the shade of the large tree.
- Also during the Outdoor Service we will introduce and install our new school staff – **Miss Tracy Germann** as Principal, and **Mr. Stephen Benson** as 5-6 grade teacher.
- **Blessing of the Backpacks** – **All students of all grades and all schools** (parochial and public) are invited to bring their school backpacks to the Outdoor Service for “The Blessing of the Backpacks.” Each participating student will receive a *Jesus Ichthus* fish key ring to put on their backpack for the year as a constant reminder that they are first and foremost students, or disciples, of Jesus!
- **Congregational meal afterwards in the fellowship hall** (*freewill offering*). You'll have a chance to formally greet Miss Germann and Mr. Benson and hear from them about their lives and ministries and what brought them here to us. Let's make this a card shower for them as well. More details will be forthcoming.
- **SJLS School Open House** – Students are also invited to stop by their classrooms on the 21<sup>st</sup> to meet and greet their teachers. This is for Kindergarten thru Grade 6 students who can drop off school supplies in their classrooms, prior to school starting the following Wednesday.

**THURSDAY EVENING SERVICES** take place each week, May through October, at 7:00 p.m. Until school resumes, we are gathering in the north fellowship hall for these services. As always, Holy Communion is celebrated on the Thursday evenings prior to Communion Sundays.

### **JOIN A MINISTRY PLANNING TEAM FOR A MOTHER/DAUGHTER BANQUET**



The *Stewardship Board* is in the initial stages of planning a mother/daughter banquet for the fall of 2022. We are seeking individuals, both women and men, to form a ministry planning team to coordinate this event. We need the help of the women to plan an event that will have appeal to girls and women, and the help of men to coordinate the set-up, serving, and clean-up for the event so that the girls and women can enjoy a nice evening together. Sign up today as part of this planning team using the form provided in the narthex. Thank you!

### **PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT – Ohio Sales Tax Holiday**

Just to let you know, the state of Ohio has declared a *Sales Tax Holiday* from Friday, Aug. 5 to Sunday, Aug 7. During the holiday, the following items are exempt from sales and use tax:

- An item of clothing priced at \$75 or less;
- An item of school supplies priced at \$20 or less; and
- An item of school instructional material priced at \$20 or less.

**SCHOOL FEES:** School fees can be paid beginning Monday (Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup>) and Tuesday (Aug 23<sup>rd</sup>) from 8am – noon...and also following Opening Chapel on Wed., Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>.

<b>FINANCIAL FACTS:</b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 7/24/22	\$7,015.00	\$40.00	\$340.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday – 34; Sunday – 95

### **THREE WAYS TO GIVE YOUR REGULAR OFFERING**

- Deposit your envelope or offering in the offering plate being passed during the service.
- Use the '**Give Now**' online giving page – a link (the blue button) is on our website.
- Mail your offering to the church.

**THANK YOU V.B.S. STUDENTS & FAMILIES** – We received a thank-you letter from Pastor Shirrel Petzoldt at *Good Shepherd of the Deaf Lutheran Church* in Toledo. He writes:

*We, the members of Good Shepherd of the Deaf Lutheran Church, want to thank you...for your VBS love offering of \$206.75. Please know that we appreciate your gift to our ministry. Your congregation has been a loyal supporter for the ministry God has given us. Thank you for what you do, and the support you give to this ministry. Your prayers we cherish so much. Thank you!*



Our VBS offerings are making a difference, giving hope and encouragement to our brothers and sisters in Christ to the deaf community in Toledo through *Good Shepherd*. Thanks again to the students and families for their giving response this year!

**PRESCHOOL INFO:** Per the July 5<sup>th</sup> School Board meeting, the 4/5-yr preschool will begin on Tues., Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:20 AM. The 3-yr preschool will begin on Wed., Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:20 AM. Open House and Parent Meeting information will be coming very soon. Stay tuned!

### **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 **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.

If you know of anyone interested in these positions, please call the school office at 419-598-8702.

**INTERESTED IN A MUDHENS GAME?** We received word that our very own, Zach Willeman will be pitching for the Omaha Storm Chasers Minor League Team (affiliated with the Kansas City Royals MLB Team), at Mudhens Stadium from August 9<sup>th</sup> thru the 14<sup>th</sup>. Zach is a relief pitcher for the Storm Chasers and could see action on any of these game dates. Can't guarantee that you'll see Zach pitch, but you can still enjoy a good game and maybe see Zach in the bullpen or dugout.

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### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

**Need a lifeguard? Ours walks on water.**

*"Save me, O God, for the waters have threatened my life." Psalm 69:1*