



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

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Miss Tracy Germann, Principal

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THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon: "I Can't, He Can" *Luke 14:25-35*

Service: *See printed Service Folder*

Hymns: 851 ~ 565 ~ 953 ~ [Communion: 629, 696] ~ 692

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 have no church of your own, we invite you to make this your home church. 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 by the doors as you leave today.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Addison Naveau, Peyton Naveau, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Elmer Maassel, Denny Behnfeltd, Ted Ripke, Bob Norden, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Pat Maassel, Kathy Behnfeltd, Deb Von Deylen, Anita Badenhop, *Altar Guild* ✠

ALTAR FLOWERS – Altar flowers are placed today in honor of the 65th Wedding Anniversary of **Marvin & Arlene Gruenhagen**, which was this past week, Thurs., Sept. 1st. We, along with their family, wish them many more years of happiness and marriage. Congratulations to the Gruenhagens!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY is canceled today, and will resume next Sunday.

RANSOMWARE ATTACK – Please be aware that our church computer network has been attacked by ransomware, which is impacting day-to-day operations at church and school. The full extent of what this will mean for us is yet to be known. Efforts are being made to recover, but please keep in mind that communication could be difficult for a while since our church database was also affected in this attack.

REGULAR VOTERS' MEETING will be held two weeks from today, on Sunday, September 18 after worship in the fellowship hall.

In God's House This Week		<i>Online church calendar: https://74058984.view-events.com</i>
Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00AM	Communion Service
Mon.		NO SCHOOL – Labor Day
Tues.	8:20 AM 8:35 AM	First Day for 4/5-yr old Preschoolers Chapel Service
Wed.	8:20 AM 6:15 PM	First Day for 3-yr old Preschoolers Midweek Confirmation Class (<i>until 7:30 PM</i>)
Thurs.	7:00 PM	Thursday Evening Worship
Sun.	9:00AM 10:20AM	Worship Service w/Communion following 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*
- ❖ *Military: Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Niermann, Jared Dishop, Jordan Lange*
- ❖ *Sue Hurst, Eileen Fitzenreiter, and Dave Crandall, concerns relating to cancer*
- ❖ *Donald Landry, at Ohio Veteran’s Home, Sandusky, and battling lung cancer*
- ❖ *Steve Hurst, following recent heart bypass surgery and additional health concerns*
- ❖ *The Family of Steve & Sue Hurst, grieving the sudden loss of Steve’s younger brother, Willie, this past week. May God continue to be with this family through their trials at this time.*
- ❖ *Esther Layton, moved to Defiance Hospice Center on Aug. 22nd after taking a fall*

THURSDAY EVENING SERVICES take place each week, May through October, at 7:00 p.m. Now that the school year is underway, we will resume gathering in the sanctuary for these services. Holy Communion will be celebrated at the Thursday service this week.

MY DEVOTIONS for September, October, and November 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.

WOMEN OF FREEDOM: The next Women of Freedom meeting will be Tues., Sept. 20. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend! *****LADIES!** Reminder to send in your reservation for the LWML Fall Retreat! Enjoy the morning program and brunch on Sat., Sept. 17, at St. John Lutheran (Stryker) - 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Extra forms are posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Come and bring a friend!

SHARE THE BOUNTY OF SUMMER – This morning there is a table set up under the carport where you can bring any spare produce from your garden and share it with others in the congregation. Bring whatever you can and take whatever you can use, and share the bounty of summer!

ATTENTION 7th and 8th GRADERS – A new season of confirmation instruction is underway, with class sessions on Wednesday evenings at 6:15 PM in the Youth & Family Center. Next up is...

**7th & 8th
GRADERS**

- **Junior High LYF** – Todd Wachtman, our new youth leader, has planned a kick-off gathering for us on Sunday, Sept. 18 at 4:00 PM in the Upper Room of the Y&FC (*see the announcement elsewhere in this bulletin*). Right after that, it's...
- **Acolyte Training** – Right after that first LYF gathering we will head over to the sanctuary and take about 45 minutes for acolyte training.

LYF KICKOFF GATHERING – Some exciting things are in the works for the youth of St. John, under the leadership of our new youth leader, Todd Wachtman. Join us for a new year of *Lutheran Youth Fellowship (LYF)* in **The Upper Room** at the Youth & Family Center starting Sunday, Sept. 18. Junior High at 4:00 PM, Senior High at 5:00 PM. A meal will be provided.

- We will explore examples of God's work through young leaders in the Bible. It's a four-part Bible discussion series, so we'll have this wrapped up by Christmas.
- We will start making plans for the annual LYF Ice Cream Social fundraiser right away! We'll brainstorm ideas for the next meeting and a future servant event.

Now that you have the first LYF gathering on the calendar, check your mailbox for more information on upcoming LYF dates and times. Didn't get anything in the mail? Come to the first meeting and we'll get you the list. Questions? LYF@sjl.org.

Join us for a new season of LYF!

SUNDAY SCHOOL / CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: It's time to gear up for another season of Christian education and Sunday School at St. John, beginning on Sun., Sept. 11th. Grades K-6 will be using the 'Enduring Faith' curriculum. While students are in Sunday School, all adults and Sunday School parents are invited to come to Adult Bible Study held in the north end of the fellowship hall. Meanwhile, preschool, junior and senior high classes will continue their normal schedule.

FINANCIAL FACTS:	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 8/28/22	\$7,686.00	\$622.00	\$230.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday – 36; Sunday – 100

MEMORIALS for *Henry Gerken*: St. John Lutheran Memorial Fund - \$1,480
St. John Endowment Fund (School) - \$89

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.

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!

Family Fun Event

SOMETHING IS BREWING IN THE STEWARDSHIP BOARD for a family fun event. All we can say right now is to mark your calendar for the evening of Sunday, October 30th. More details will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead. Let's just say it will be a treat for our mouths and for our eyes!

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.

PIANO! ANYONE??? When Miss Bartok moved to Missouri, she was not able to take her piano with her. So if you or anyone you know is in need of a good piano, please contact Joyce in the church office (419-598-8961) to make arrangements to pick it up. Thank you!

LIONS RECYCLE FOR SIGHT – How You Can Help? If you have used prescription or nonprescription glasses or sunglasses in your drawers, desk, or closet, you can donate them now! Children's glasses are especially needed. Both plastic and metal frames are accepted. There is a box under the narthex table for the collection of these used glasses.

ATHLETIC BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP: St. John Athletic Booster membership drive is underway. Fees remain the same as in the past with \$20 for husband/wife; \$10 for a single membership. Make checks payable to *St. John Boosters*. Forms available on the narthex table. Go Eagles!

SPIRITWEAR: Orders are now being taken for St. John School 2022 spirit wear. Order forms are on the narthex table for anyone interested. Orders need to be turned in to the school office by Monday, Sept. 12th.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- ♥ **St. John Lutheran – Defiance Ladies Aid** is hosting a "Time after Time" Fashion Show in the gym at St. John Lutheran School on **Sun., Sept 11th from 3-4:30 PM**. Please pick up a flyer on the narthex table to get all the information about this mission outreach.
- ♥ **St. John Lutheran – Stryker** (corner of Routes 6 & 66) will be having a benefit for Steve & Sue Hurst on **Sun., Sept. 18th from 11 AM until gone**. This will be a "drive-thru" Brisket or Pulled Pork dinner. Free-will donation. See flyers posted on the entry doors for more information.

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Food For Thought...

Sin is a short word with a long sentence.

"And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." Matt 25:46