



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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Church Website: www.sjl.org

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "One Is the Loveliest Number" *Luke 15:1-10*

Order of Service: See printed Service Folder

Hymns: 609 ~ 602:sts 1,4 ~ 744 ~ (Prayers: 773) ~ 711

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We welcome all who have come to worship our God with us today! Each day we live is a priceless gift from God, loaded with possibilities to learn something new, to gain fresh insights into His great truths. May we be showered with those blessings as we together profess His Name today. Please fill out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and drop it into the baskets at the doors as you leave today.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✠ Brice Baumert, Alex Wachtman, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Elmer Maassel, Denny Behnfeldt, Ted Ripke, Bob Norden, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Pat Maassel, Kathy Behnfeldt, Deb Von Deylen, Anita Badenhop, *Altar Guild* ✠

ADULT BIBLE STUDY this morning will continue our look into the Holy Supper of our Lord, its meaning and its place in our lives as Christians. How appropriate that as the first sin came with Satan's invitation to take and eat the fruit God had forbidden, so also the antidote for sin should come with the invitation to take and eat the fruits of Christ's cross offered in His Holy Supper. Join us for Bible study this morning as we grow together in grace, in the knowledge of the Lord, and in our appreciation for His gift of Holy Communion. The coffee is on!



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.

In God's House This Week

Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service w/Communion following Adult Bible Class; Sunday School begins; "The Lamp"
Mon.	7:00 PM	PTL Meeting
Tue.	8:35 AM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM	School Chapel led by Gr. 5&6 Website Committee Meeting Church Council Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM	Midweek Confirmation Class (<i>until 7:30 PM</i>)
Thurs.	6:30 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Men's Bible Breakfast School Pictures taken for PS-4/5, Kindergarten, Gr. 3&4 Thursday Evening Worship
Fri.	9:00 AM	School Pictures taken for PS-3, Gr. 1&2, Gr. 5&6
Sat.	8:30 AM	LWML Fall Retreat (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 10:30AM 4:00 PM	Communion Service Sunday School; "The Lamp" Voters' Meeting Jr High LYF, followed by Sr High LYF at 5:00PM (<i>see bulletin note</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
- ❖ *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 appears to be at the end of life and receiving comfort care
- ❖ *Steve Hurst*, following recent heart bypass surgery and additional health concerns
- ❖ *The Family of Tom Kruse*, especially his wife Becky, their children Justin and Katherine; and his sister Lori Bickel. Tom passed away suddenly last Sunday in Tulsa, OK. A funeral and luncheon is scheduled here at St. John this Thurs., Sept. 15th at 2:00 PM.
- ❖ *Esther Layton*, moved to Defiance Hospice Center on Aug. 22nd after taking a fall

REGULAR VOTERS' MEETING will be held next Sunday, September 18 after worship in the fellowship hall.

Bible Study



MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST THIS THURSDAY – *The best part of waking up is a delicious breakfast, great fellowship, and the Word of God!* Join us for Men's Bible Breakfast this Thursday at 6:30 AM for all of the above! Currently we are engaged in a study titled, "The Great Deceiver," a look at the wiles of Satan and the ways we can defeat him in the strength of Christ. It is food for the body and the soul, and we hope you can join us!

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS TODAY – During the worship service we will involve the children with a children’s message as the new season of Christian education begins.

There is no greater work a Christian can do than to lead the children to Christ in faith and trust. If it is a blessed thing even to give a cup of water to a child (Matt. 10:42), how much more blessed it is to give a child the very Bread of Life – to give them Jesus!

Also remember that on some of the Sundays, the Sunday School students will be practicing music for worship during the openings. Be sure your child is present to learn the songs and anthems that will be sung in the Lord’s House throughout the year.

WOMEN OF FREEDOM: The next Women of Freedom meeting will be Tues., Sept. 20. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend! *** **LADIES!** Forgot to send in your Fall Retreat reservation for Saturday at St. John. Stryker? No problem, just call Linda Bostelman (419-258-3373) or Lois Rosebrock (419-598-8248) to get with the program! See you there. . .



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 next 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!

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.

FINANCIAL FACTS:	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 9/04/22	\$7,640.00	\$760.00	\$225.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday – 58; Sunday – 103

SIGNS, SIGNS, EVERYWHERE A SIGN! Today we are making available **St. John Lutheran School** yard signs for display in your lawn or any visible area you can think of. These free signs can be taken from the back of the narthex. You make take as many as you need in order to give our school some good advertising.

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!

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.

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 **today 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.
- ♥ **8th Annual Kevin Schwiebert Memorial Redhead Run 5K** will be held on Sat., Sept. 17th with registration beginning at 8 AM. See flyer on bulletin board for registration information.

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Food For Thought...

**Life in this world is saying, “But after this week things will slow down a bit”
over and over again until you die.**

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” Matt 11:28