



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 Co. Rd. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

September 18, 2022

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Miss Tracy Germann, Principal

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FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon Text: *Luke 16:1-15*

Order of Service: Divine Service, Setting Four *LSB pg.1 203*

Hymns: "There Is A Green Hill" ~ **852** ~ (Communion: **618, 829**) ~ **537**

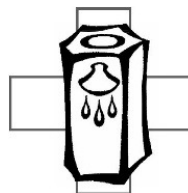
WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS *Warm greetings and love in Christ are extended to all members and guests. We trust that you will experience the warmth of Christian fellowship, the inspiration of worship and the peace that comes from an awareness of God's presence. May we be showered with those blessings as 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

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

SATURDAY BAPTISM – We rejoice with Eric & Kayleigh Riefers, upon the baptism on Saturday of their son, **Hunter Joseph**. Hunter was born on July 19, 2022 at the Fulton County Health Center in Wauseon. Witnesses of the baptism are Mallory Flory and Greg & Kelly Ruskey. His grandparents are Bob & Karen Riefers, Debby & Mike Schuller, and Tom & Judy Maggert. May God in His mercy give this child growth in faith as well as in body, and bring to completion the work He begins in Holy Baptism.



VOTERS' MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TODAY CANCELED – There being no pressing matters of business, the church council voted to cancel the Voters' Meeting scheduled for this morning. The next regular meeting is set for December.

WOMEN OF FREEDOM: The next Women of Freedom meeting will be on Tues., Sept. 20th at 7:00 PM. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend!

In God's House This WeekOnline church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM 4:00 PM	Communion Service Adult Bible Study; Sunday School Jr High LYF, followed by Sr High LYF at 5:00PM (<i>see bulletin note</i>)
Tue.	8:35 AM 7:00 PM	School Chapel Women of Freedom Meeting; Stewardship Board Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM	Midweek Confirmation Class (<i>until 7:30 PM</i>)
Thurs.	11:00AM 7:00 PM	<i>Donald Landry</i> funeral Thursday Evening Worship
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "The Lamp"
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
- ❖ *Esther Layton*, moved to Defiance Hospice Center
- ❖ **Military:** *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Niermann, Jared Dishop, Jordan Lange*
- ❖ *Sue Hurst* and *Dave Crandall*, concerns relating to cancer
- ❖ *Steve Hurst*, recuperating from recent heart surgery and additional health concerns
- ❖ *The family of Donald Landry*, especially Sarah VerMeulen and Allison, as they grieve Don's passing early Tuesday morning. May God console them with the promises of His love and salvation! Don's funeral is set for Thurs., Sept 22nd at 11:00 AM here at St. John.
- ❖ *The family of Eileen Fitzenreiter*, who grieve the passing of Eileen on Sat., Sept. 10th. We pray comfort for her husband, Tom; and children, Heather and Toby (Jill) Fitzenreiter during these difficult days. Eileen's Celebration of Life was held on Fri., Sept. 16th at St. Paul – Napoleon.
- ❖ *Hunter Joseph Riefers*, newly baptized on Saturday – that in the years ahead God may give this child growth in faith as well as in body, and bring to completion the work He begins in Baptism

CHILDREN'S CHOIR: Children attending St. John Parochial and Napoleon Public Schools will be singing on Reformation Sunday, October 30th. We will begin practice each Sunday, before Sunday School beginning in October, with Mrs. Weber. If public school parents would like the links to the music, please email Mrs. Weber at cweber@sjl.org. We will meet on the 30th at 8:45 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Please make every effort to have your children join us in worship and song.

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. Many churches do not take the Lord's words, "*This IS my body, this IS my blood,*" at face value, but interpret His words to mean that the bread and wine are merely *symbolic* of His body and blood. But this is Christ's last testament to us, bequeathed to us the night He was betrayed. Dare we play with the words of His last testament?



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. And...the coffee is on!

ATTENTION 7th and 8th GRADERS – TODAY IS THE DAY!

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 TODAY 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** – Following the LYF meeting we will head over to the sanctuary and take about 45 minutes for acolyte training.

LYF KICKOFF GATHERING TODAY – Come and join us for a new year of *Lutheran Youth Fellowship (LYF)* in **The Upper Room** at the Youth & Family Center starting today at 4:00 PM – Junior High; 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 make plans for the annual LYF Ice Cream Social fundraiser. We'll brainstorm ideas for the next meeting and a future servant event.

Questions can be directed to new youth leader, Todd Wachtman at LYF@sjl.org.

LYF ICE CREAM SOCIAL: The LYF is hosting its annual Ice Cream Social on **Sunday, October 2nd from 10:30am-Noon**. The menu is: Chicken Sandwich or Hot Dog, Baked Beans, Chips, and Schwan's Ice Cream. Freewill offering! Carry out will be available. The youth of our congregation are raising funds for upcoming group events and service projects. This will also kick off fundraising for the 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA! We appreciate your support!

LYF Remind App - Youth and Parents: Get LYF updates by joining Remind. This will keep you up to date on meetings, events, and fundraiser opportunities. Send a text message to 81010 with one of the following codes: Junior High (6th-8th): **stjohnlyfjh** OR High School (9th-12th): **stjohnlyfhs**

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 9/11/22	\$7,755.00	\$350.00	\$390.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday – 36; Sunday – 132

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.



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!

IF YOU'RE EVER IN A PINCH and could use a little help, the *Good Neighbor Fund* is there to assist you! Please don't be bashful about asking – everything is strictly confidential. Just give Pastor Niemann a call, and we will see what we can do for you!

PORTALS OF PRAYER BOOKLETS for the quarter of October, November, and December are on the desk in the narthex. There are also large print copies available.

LUTHERAN LIFE MAGAZINE: We have several copies of Lutheran Life magazines for congregation members to pick up with their Portals of Prayer or My Devotion booklets at the desk in the narthex. These were sent with our Concordia Publishing House book orders this summer and have good stories that celebrate the joys, trials, vocations, and differences of many God-given families.

PTL DETERGENT FUNDRAISER: It's time for the *Profitable Solutions* Liquid Laundry Detergent & Fabric Softener fundraiser sponsored by the PTL. This fundraiser involves selling bulk laundry detergent (including pods!), softener, scent booster, dish soap, dishwasher pods and trash bags! All products are comparable to name brands. You will be receiving 42% more detergent (350-500 loads!) for the same price you'd pay in store! Blue information sheets and order forms are available on the narthex table today. **ORDER DEADLINE is Friday, Sept. 30th**. Please direct any questions to Nicole Stier at 419-966-7376 or Margo Behnfeldt at 419-966-3469. We look forward to another successful campaign!

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.

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.

ST. JOHN SCRIP: You may begin ordering SCRIP again. Order forms are in the tract rack in the narthex. Please turn those orders in on Wednesdays, with payment to *St. John School PTL Scrip Program*. The gift cards will be sent home the following week on Tuesday. Payment must accompany orders. **Any questions about SCRIP can be directed to SCRIP Coordinator Kristyn Honemann at 419-966-0207 or email at honemann@embarqmail.com.**

DRIVE-THRU TODAY: **St. John Lutheran – Stryker** (corner of Routes 6 & 66) is having a benefit for Steve & Sue Hurst **today 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...

When Jesus spent time with sinners, He was not changed – THEY were!

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” Hebrews 13:8