



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

September 25, 2022

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

Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181
School: 419-598-8702 Cell: 419-270-8863
Church Website: www.sjl.org

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Not As It Seems" *Luke 16:19-31*

Order of Service: *Service of Prayer & Preaching LSB pg. 260*

Hymns: **850 ~ 844 ~ 848**

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 new 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* ✠

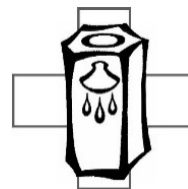
✠ Elmer Maassel, Denny Behnfeldt, Ted Ripke, Bob Norden, *Ushers* ✠

✠ Pat Maassel, Kathy Behnfeldt, Deb Von Deylen, Anita Badenhop, *Altar Guild* ✠

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are placed in honor of the 67th Wedding Anniversary of *Ron & Elaine Hesterman* by Todd & Chris Hesterman and their family. They wish Ron & Elaine many more years together. Their actual anniversary is today. Congratulations Ron & Elaine!

IN ADDITION...two roses are being placed on the piano by Todd & Chris in honor of the 1st birthdays of their twin grandchildren, Nathaniel and Elizabeth Hesterman, children of Rev. Justin & Jessi Hesterman. Nathaniel and Elizabeth celebrated their birthdays on September 23rd.

BAPTISM THIS MORNING – This morning after the Sunday School hour, little *Luka David Riefers* will be baptized into Jesus' death and resurrection, to be reborn as a child of the heavenly Father. Luka is the son of Kevin Riefers and Bailey Bost. He was born on May 18, 2022 at the Defiance Regional Medical Center. Witnesses of the baptism are Josh Radel and Jake & Allison Spurgeon. His grandparents are Bob & Karen Riefers and Tom & Brenda Bost. 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.



In God's House This Week		Online church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl
Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "The Lamp"
Mon.	5:30 PM	<i>Bread From Heaven</i> Food Pantry distribution
Tue.	8:35 AM 7:00 PM	School Chapel Board of Elders Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM	Midweek Confirmation Class (<i>until 7:30 PM</i>)
Thurs.	7:00 PM	Thursday Evening Worship
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 10:30AM	Communion Service Sunday School LYF Ice Cream Social (<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
- ❖ *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*, now home and recuperating from recent heart surgery
- ❖ *Kayla Jackman*, who will be having a C-section delivery on Fri., Sept. 30th at FCHC

THANK YOU! St. John School would like to thank everyone who participated in the Hawk's Community Day fundraiser held on August 20th. We received a check for \$401.50, which was 10% of the total sales that day. They again complimented our church and school for the overwhelming support given by all of you toward this fundraiser. We hope they will include us again next year. Stay tuned!

MIDWEEK CONFIRMATION CLASS – Starting this Wednesday (Sept 28) we will meet in the 3&4 grade classroom (instead of the Y&FC). Enter the building through the double doors under the portico, and pastor will have the room open and ready for you.

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. Only during the last 500 years of Christian history have some churches stated that Jesus' words, "This is My body... This is My blood," mean "This represents My body... My blood." These churches no longer take the Lord's words at face value, but interpret them as symbolism. But this is Christ's last testament, 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. The coffee is on!

LYF ICE CREAM SOCIAL: The LYF is hosting its annual Ice Cream Social **next Sunday, Oct. 2nd from 10:30am-Noon.** The menu is: *Chicken Sandwich or Hot Dog, Baked Beans, Chips, Schwan's Ice Cream, and drink.* 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 **THIS HAS CHANGED!** - 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): @sjllyfjh OR High School (9th-12th): @sjllyfhs

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 9/18/22	\$8,206.00	\$300.00	\$220.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday – 28; Sunday – 121

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! Please don't be bashful about asking – everything is strictly confidential. Just give Pastor Niermann a call, and we will see what we can do for you!

WHAT I WISH MY NON-LUTHERAN FAMILY KNEW ABOUT... Are you looking for a way to explain Biblical Lutheran teachings like Baptism, Closed Communion, The Lord's Supper, The End Times, Funerals and Worship to non-Lutherans? Issues, Etc., a radio-talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL, interviewed Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller about these topics and more. You can listen to the entire series at your convenience at issuesetc.org/whatiwish/.

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.



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!

TRUNK-or-TREAT

BE A TRUNKER! On Sunday, October 30 at 4:00 PM, St. John will be hosting its first ever community TRUNK-or-TREAT. The idea is for members of our congregation to provide this event for our community by getting involved as **TRUNKERS**. A TRUNKER's job is to provide treats and games (*optionally*) for trick-or-treaters from the community and church. Here's what's involved when you sign up to be a Trunker...



- **Purchase candy and treats for the kids**
- **Optionally, decorate the back end of your car and perhaps dress up in a coordinating costume (you can be as creative as you'd like, or do nothing).** Please stay away from really scary themes, and let's go more for fun! There are all kinds of ideas on the internet if you do a Google image search like "decorate for trunk or treat."
- **Bring along a quick little game (also optional)** for the kids to play at your trunk. Again, there are all kinds of ideas if you search "games for trunk or treat" or something like that. How about a ring toss onto a long pumpkin stem? Or engage them for a second treat in a game of tic-tac-toe using candy corn and mini marshmallows?
- **Maybe offer a little prize along with a treat.**
- **Arrive at the church on October 30th by 3:30 PM,** in time to find a parking spot (*attendants will direct you*) and get your trunk all set up for trick-or-treaters at 4:00.

To sign up as a TRUNKER, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex, or use the link on the church website (sjl.org) to sign up online. Let's get involved and make this happen for our community. Thank you in advance for your participation!

PTL DETERGENT FUNDRAISER: ORDER DEADLINE is Friday, Sept. 30th. 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. 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!

DRIVE-THRU MEAL: The School Board is hosting a Drive-thru Meal on Sun., Oct. 16th with serving from 10:30 until gone. The menu will be Brisket, Pulled Pork, Chips, Applesauce, and Cookie. A freewill offering will be taken. Plan ahead...come out and support the school!

SIGNS, SIGNS, EVERYWHERE A SIGN! Tell your friends and neighbors about St. John Lutheran School by picking up a corrugated plastic yard sign in the back of the church. Place it in your front lawn or other obvious place to promote the school. Thank you for telling others about our school!

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS need to be turned in to the office by Wednesday of each week in order to be included in the Thursday and Sunday bulletin. Please note this. 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.

OHIO ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN: The Ohio Division OGT is located in the north end of the Culligan Water Conditioning building on Independence Drive in Napoleon. Someone is usually there to receive items on the first Tuesday of the month from 9:00-11:00 AM. If you need to drop off items at another time, please contact *Nancy Helmke* (419-758-3539), *Diann Meyer-Grieser* (419-267-3485), *Vicki Grieser* (419-445-2986), or *Harold Behrmann* (419-598-8311) and they will be happy to meet you and open the facility to receive your donations!

SCRIP AT ST. JOHN: Let's plan ahead! Scrip is great for having "extra money" in your wallet. Purchase gift cards to use for personal shopping or going out to eat. Plan ahead now for birthdays and holidays! Scrip orders will be received on Wednesdays, ordered on Fridays and delivered the following Tuesday. Order forms and program information are posted on FastDirect under 'Links,' titled SCRIP Order Forms and SCRIP Program Info. There are also hard copies in the 'School Info' rack outside the office and in the tract rack by the narthex. Please feel free to share with family and friends. 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.**

THE LUTHERAN HOUR – The Lutheran Hour Ministries can be heard on a few radio stations in our area. They cover many interesting topics relevant to today's issues. Broadcasts are Sundays on: Archbold's WMTR 96.1 at 7:30 AM and Napoleon's WNDH 103.1 at 9:00 AM.

WORSHIP ANEW: Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc. produces a weekly, 30-minute Lutheran broadcast worship service called Worship Anew (*formerly Worship For Shut-Ins*). Each service includes music, scripture readings, prayers, and a pastor delivering a message that is designed to feel one-on-one to the viewer. For over 50+ years, the ministry's dedicated staff and supporters have touched the lives of countless viewers around the world. They look forward to the continuation and expansion of this ministry in the years to come. Lutheran Ministries Media would like to thank you for your prayers and support of God's work through Worship Anew. Broadcasts can be viewed every Sunday on: *Toledo's WTVG (CW) Channel 13.2 at 10:30 AM.*

LARGE PRINT & CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BULLETINS are available today on the table in the narthex. The Children's Bulletins are coordinated with the Bible texts for each Sunday, and provide activities that tie in with the weekly themes. Pick one up today for your child.

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Food For Thought...

**What should not be heard by little ears
should not be spoken by big mouths!**

"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea." Matthew 18:6

COLORING PAGE

The Parable of The Rich Man and Lazarus

