



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

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NO. 22

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

THE DAY OF PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "Naomi Attends Pentecost"

Order of Service: *See Printed Service Folder*

Hymns: 913 ~502 ~ [Communion: 618, 497] ~ 795

WELCOME TO OUR VETERANS & VISITORS

On this Memorial Day Weekend, welcome to this service of worship in which we remember, with reverence and thanksgiving, those who gave their lives for our country. Above all, however, we would remember Him whose love includes people of all nations—our Lord Jesus who gave His life for all of us. May the remembrance of His sacrifice bring reconciliation and peace! If you are a visitor today, please fill out a blue pew card from the rack in front of you and drop it in the baskets at the doors as you leave today.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✘ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✘ Addison Naveau, Peyton Naveau, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Mike Maassel, Carey Damman, Scott Van Valkenburg *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Elaine Buenger, Deb Von Deylen, Teresa Weller, *Altar Guild* ✘

SUMMER SUNDAYS ADULT BIBLE CLASS

This morning after worship we will begin Sunday morning Bible studies that take "A Longer Look at the Lessons." These week-by-week studies take a more in-depth look at the Scripture readings that are read in worship that morning. Each Sunday is a study unto itself, so that if you have to miss one Sunday, you can easily pick up again the following Sunday. **Please join us in the fellowship hall** – there's coffee, juice, a little something to munch, blessed fellowship, and the Word of God.



SUNDAY SCHOOL: There will be no Sunday School during the months of June, July, and August. We will resume Sunday School on September 10th, which will be promotion Sunday.

In God's House This Week		<i>Online church calendar: https://74058984.view-events.com</i>
Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Study
Mon.	10:30AM	Memorial Service held at Ridgeville American Legion Hall (<i>see note</i>)
Thurs.	7:00 PM	Thursday Worship Service with Communion
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Study

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
- ❖ Our Shut-Ins: *Irene Joost, Leona Durham* and *Elaine Mahnke*,
- ❖ Military: *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Carmon, Jared Dishop, Jordan Lange*
- ❖ *Alan Gruenhagen, Sue Hurst* and *Dave Crandall*, health concerns related to cancer
- ❖ *Marietta Damman*, who underwent a back procedure to relieve pain and is recovering at home
- ❖ *Elaine Mahnke*, recovering at Northcrest Rehab, Napoleon after hospitalization
- ❖ *Lawrence Behrmann*, who will be having a new pacemaker lead installed at Toledo Hospital on Thurs., June 1



THE PASTOR'S NEW (AND SIMPLER) EMAIL ADDRESS – Please be aware that the pastor's email address has changed to make it simpler and more memorable. From now on, the pastor's email address is pastor@sjl.org. In the future this same email address will

transfer to whoever the pastor may be. Please make the change --- Pastor Niermann will not be monitoring his old email address for much longer.

MY DEVOTION BOOKLETS for the next quarter, *June, July, and August*, are available on the desk in the narthex. These are nice kid-friendly for family devotions. Take time to be together and grow in your faith. Pick up a copy today!

WANTED - JAVA JOY HOSTS There are still a few months open for hosting Java Joy, and we are looking for individuals or groups to fill in the gaps. JAVA JOY is on the second Sunday of each month, and we're looking for hosts for:

June ~ October ~ November ~ December

Please remember that hosting does not need to cost you anything – you may reimburse yourself from the Java Joy kitty. Also, hosting guidelines are available next to the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Thank you for providing this wonderful service for the fellowship and enjoyment of your church family.



SUMMER OFFICE HOURS: Please note the church office hours during the summer months are Tuesday thru Thursday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Closed over the lunch hour and all day on Mondays. If making a special trip, please call (419-598-8961) to guarantee someone will be here. Thank you!

NEXT SUNDAY IS THE FESTIVAL OF THE HOLY TRINITY

– If you love the Holy Trinity, the Father who created us, the Son who redeemed us, the Spirit who sanctifies us ~ if you love singing the hymn, “Holy, Holy, Holy” ~ if you love reciting the Athanasian Creed (and who doesn’t?) ~ if you love celebrating the mystery of God’s nature which is beyond human understanding but true nevertheless ~ you will love being in God’s house next Sunday for the *Festival of the Holy Trinity!*



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL has been set for June 19-23 from 9:00 to 11:30 each morning, Monday through Friday. Our theme this year is, *God’s Living Water*, which explores various biblical accounts of the Living Water, Jesus Christ. Students will learn about the water from the rock, the water that healed Naaman, the water Jesus offered the woman at the well, the water Jesus used to wash His disciples feet, and the water by which thousands were baptized on the day of Pentecost.



- To enroll a student, or to volunteer as a helper, please visit our VBS website at vbsmate.com/stjohnfreedomvbs23
- A link for our VBS website is also provided on our homepage at sjl.org.
- If you prefer, you can register a student using the paper forms available in the narthex.

ARCHIVES DISPLAY: The Archives Committee members have put up a display of past Confirmation classes ranging from classes who would have celebrated their 80th anniversary to those classes celebrating their 5th anniversary. Come and check it out in the side hallway by the church.

LIFELIGHT BIBLE STUDY TO BEGIN – Tuesdays, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

On the Tuesdays of summer, starting June 13, Pastor Niermann will be leading a *LifeLight* Bible study series. *LifeLight* is an extensive series of popular Bible studies that provide an in-depth look at the books of Scripture and various related topics. The goal of this series is to help us grow in Christian faith through a program of regular personal and group study. In Bible study this morning Pastor will discuss with the group which of the many studies might interest them.



<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 5/21/23	\$6,068.00	\$160.00	\$228.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday – 45; Sunday – 245

REPORT CARDS: End of the year report cards can be viewed in FastDirect as of Mon., June 5th.

ST. JOHN GIRLS B-BALL OPEN GYMS: Coach Schroeder will be holding open gyms for girls who are going into Grades K-6 next school year. These will be held at St. John from 10 – 11:30 AM on the following dates: July 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27. Informational flyers are available on the narthex table. Any questions...call Coach Schroeder at 419-591-6655.

LWML SUMMER ODES have arrived and are available in the tract rack by the narthex table. Of interest in this edition is a write up and pictures of the “service day” the St. John ladies participated in at Orphan Grain Train in Napoleon in February. Pick up your copy today!

UPDATE - PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT – St. John Lutheran Preschool is still accepting enrollment applications for 2023-24 school year. The 4-yr old class still has about 4 open spots. The 3-yr old class still has availability for next year. Anyone interested in enrolling your child in our preschool program should contact the school office at 419-598-8702 to request an enrollment packet.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL POSITION OPENINGS – St. John Lutheran School is seeking people to fill several positions that will be opening after this school year.

- **Kindergarten Teacher** – The requirements are: Must have a Bachelor’s degree in education, obtain a background check, supply three references and adhere to the St. John Lutheran Church & School religious beliefs.
- **7th & 8th Grade Teacher** – The requirements are: Must have a Bachelor’s degree in education, obtain a background check, supply three references and adhere to the St. John Lutheran Church & School religious beliefs.
- **Music Instructor** – This individual is responsible for classroom music one day per week in Grades K-8. Applicant must obtain a background check along with three references.
- **STEM Instructor** – This individual is responsible for overseeing the STEM program one day per week in Grades K-8. Applicant must obtain a background check along with three references.
- **School Cook** – This individual is responsible for ordering/purchasing, preparing, and serving lunch for approximately 40-50 students and staff during the school year; along with clean-up afterwards. This would average 15 hours per week. Applicant must obtain a background check.
- **Freedom Flock Director** – This individual is responsible for overseeing the aides in charge of the care of the students in the after-school care program each day from 3:00-6:00 pm; submitting payroll hours; purchasing snacks; filling in as an aide when needed . Applicant must obtain a background check.

If you know of anyone interested, please call the school office or reach out to Miss Germann at tgermann@sjl.org.

INTERESTED IN A CHURCH PROFESSION? WE’D LIKE TO HELP! Recently a number of young people from St. John have pursued educational goals to prepare them for full-time service as teachers and pastors. If you are interested in a church profession (*as a pastor, deaconess, teacher, lay minister, or a Director of Christian Education, Christian Outreach, Parish Music, or Family Life Ministry*), our congregation would like to support you by offering a tuition gift. An application for this gift is available online --- type www.sjl.org/student_gift_app.pdf into your browser (*there is no link*) and fill out the application. Deadline for fall enrollment is June 1st.

WOMEN OF FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIPS: Here is another opportunity to encourage and help young people prepare for service to the church as pastors, teachers, lay workers, deaconesses, etc. \$500 per year Women of Freedom Scholarships are available to any young person attending one of our synodical schools. Simply contact any Women of Freedom member for more details about this.

PIERSTORF COLLEGE FUND: The Pierstorf College Fund is a one-of-a-kind pan Lutheran financial aid program that provides interest-free loans to all Lutherans pursuing a higher education who live in the State of Ohio. These loans are specific to students who are or will be enrolled full time in a four-year undergraduate program at any accredited college or university. This year, the maximum interest-free loan is \$4,000 for the school year. For information, visit www.Pierstorf.org to complete the online 2023-2024 application. Application deadline is June 30, 2023. Questions can be emailed to Pierstorf@messiahfp.org.

HEARING ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE: If hearing in worship has been a problem for you, pick up one of the receiver units for our hearing assistance system. An usher will assist you and you'll hear much more clearly. (*Also, please let us know how the system is working for you.*)

For those who use the hearing assistance system regularly and for the sake of hygiene, we ask that you claim one of the ear buds as your own and keep it with you in your purse, pocket, etc. Bring it with you when you come to church, and simply plug it into one of the receivers. At the end of the service, unplug the ear bud to take with you until the next time.

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!

THE LUTHERAN HOUR – Locally you can listen to the Lutheran Hour Ministries broadcast on WMTR 96.1 FM, Archbold at 7:30 AM or on WNDH 103.1 FM, Napoleon at approximately 9:00 AM every Sunday. They cover many interesting topics relevant to today's issues.

PROJECT CONNECT – There are many free booklets in the rack in the narthex. Be sure to check for some informative reading. Some titles are: *“Alzheimer's: Facing the Loss of a Lifetime,” “Talking with God,” “Forgiveness is a Choice,” “Talking Openly with Kids,” “Setting Priorities,” “Your Place in God's Plan,” “Stressed but Connected,” “Beyond Divorce,” “For Better, For Worse,” “What Is Faith in Jesus?”* and many more. These booklets are furnished through the Lutheran Hour Ministries.

OPEN HOUSE: *Terry & Karen Norden* are hosting an open house to celebrate their daughter, Grace's accomplishments of becoming a Doctor of Veterinary medicine. This open house will be held on Sun., May 28th beginning at 4pm at the Norden residence (17756 US Hwy 6, Napoleon). Stop in and congratulate the “new” **Dr. Norden, DVM**. Congratulations Grace!

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE: The Ridgeville Corners Memorial Day service to remember those who served our country will be held on **Mon., May 29 at 10:30 AM** at the Ridgeville American Legion. Children age PreK thru 4th Grade are invited to participate in the flag drill at the service. Practices will be held on Tues., May 23 & Thurs., May 25 at 6:30 PM. Call *Laura Bickel* at 419-267-5203 or *Jennie Behnfeldt* at 419-267-5636 for questions or more info on the flag drill.

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Food For Thought...

**There is no better teacher than the Holy Spirit,
and no better text than the Holy Scriptures.**

*“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things,
and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.” (John 14:26)*

COLORING PAGE FOR MEMORIAL DAY

