



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

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

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: “Broken Addiction” *Romans 7:25a*
Order of Service: *Service of Prayer & Preaching LSB pg. 260*
Hymns: **570** ~ Psalm 145 ~ **700** ~ “The Flesh and the Spirit” ~ **707**

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

You are among Christian friends today. We all have come to the Lord’s House to hear what He has to say and to be doers of the Word and not hearers only. We pray that His grace will touch and move you. If you are a visitor, we ask that you fill out the blue Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack and drop it in the baskets at the doors as you leave this morning. Your presence is a blessing to us.



SERVING IN GOD’S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✠ Garrison Kruse, Nolan Bickel, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Dave Myles, Tim Badenhop, Denny Bockelman, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Diana Kruse, Mary Kossow, Karen Germann, *Altar Guild* ✠

JAVA JOY TODAY! It’s the second Sunday of the month, and that means **Java Joy** following the service. Take a little time to enjoy a bite to eat and some fellowship. A table is set up in the front hallway. Your gifts to the “kitty” help keep **Java Joy** alive and going. We thank *Jeff & Char Weber*, and *Tracy Weber* for hosting Java Joy for July. Thank you!

Interested in being a **Java Joy** host? Please sign up on the table in the narthex. Don’t let finances stop you – you are welcome to reimburse your expenses from the kitty if you wish.



<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec’d 7/02/23	\$7,725.00	\$150.00	\$240.00

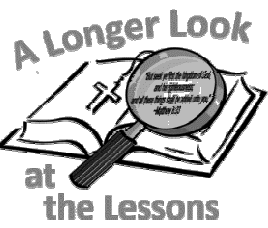
ATTENDANCE: Thursday – 46; Sunday – 116

In God's House This Week *Online church calendar: <https://74058984.view-events.com>*

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM 1:30 PM	Worship Service w/Communion following <i>Java Joy</i> ; Adult Bible Study 4-H Meetings – Gerald Busy Fingers & Cloverbuds
Tues.	9:30 AM 10:00AM 7:00 PM	LifeLight Bible Study @ Youth Center Girls' Basketball Open Gym (until 11:30 AM) Church Council Meeting
Wed.	10:00AM 5:30 PM	Girls' Basketball Open Gym (until 11:30 AM) School Board Meeting
Thurs.	10:00AM 7:00 PM	Girls' Basketball Open Gym (until 11:30 AM) 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* and *Leona Durham*
- ❖ Military: *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Carmon, Jared Dishop, Jordan Lange*
- ❖ *Alan Gruenhagen, Sue Hurst, Dave Crandall, Eddie Harris*, 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
- ❖ *Arlene Gruenhagen*, recuperating from shoulder replacement surgery this past week
- ❖ *Our friends at St. Paul Lutheran – Liberty Center* as they install Rev. Charles Kramer this afternoon as part-time pastor. Service is at 4:00 p.m.



SUMMER SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS

This morning after worship we be having Bible study that takes “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.**

PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT – *Help spread the word about our preschool program!* St. John Lutheran Preschool is still accepting enrollment applications for 2023-24 school year. **The 3-yr old class still has several open spots to fill for next year. The 4-yr old class has 4 openings left.** Please help us fill these 3-yr and 4-yr old spots quickly. Anyone interested in enrolling your child in our preschool program should contact the school office at 419-598-8702 to request an enrollment packet.

PORTALS OF PRAYER BOOKLETS for the next quarter, *July, August, September*, are on the desk in the back of the church. There are also large print booklets available for anybody to pick up.

LIFELIGHT BIBLE STUDY will meet this Tuesday, July 11. We will be discussing the second lesson of our *End Times* study, “Death and Dying.” Compare these two poets...

Earth, that nourished thee,
shall claim thy growth
To be resolved to earth again
to mix forever with the elements.

-William Cullen Bryant

One short sleep past,
we wake eternally,
And death shall be no more;
death, thou shalt die.

-John Dunne



LifeLight

What a difference Christ makes for our eternal reality, and what a difference faith in Christ makes when we are confronted by death! It is the difference between hopelessness and hope!

If you'd like to do a little study ahead of July 11, you can pick up the *lesson two* study guide in the narthex. Or you can just come and join the conversation. Either way, we hope you'll join us for *LifeLight* as God sheds the light of life upon us through His Word. We meet in the **Y&FC East Room**. A stair lift is available if you need it!

LCMS NATIONAL OFFERING IS UNDERWAY --- Look for *Old Mission Offering Box* to make your contribution to this synod-wide offering!

Every three years, when our church body assembles for its national convention, a special national offering is received for a designated mission. This year the *LCMS National Convention* will be held in Milwaukee July 29 to August 3, where the national offering will be gathered at the opening worship service. Sister congregations from all over the nation will send their contributions with their respective circuit delegates, to be added to this national offering. Our congregation's contribution to this offering will come from three sources:



1. This year's **VBS offerings**, totaling \$209;
2. Some of the previous years' **earnings of our Endowment Fund Mission Account** (amount to be determined by council; Stewardship Board is recommending \$1,000);
3. **Your gifts and offerings**, being gathered these first three weeks of July in the *Old Mission Offering Box* (Cash, or checks to *St. John Lutheran Church* – memo: '*National Offering*')

These combined funds will be taken to the convention by our circuit delegates, Rev. Peter Marcis and Mr. Randy Carothers, who will place our gift in the offering at the convention worship service. ***This year's offering is designated for the translation and production of doctrinal and educational resources for disseminating and teaching the Gospel to language groups around the globe.*** Many are clamoring to learn of Jesus, but do not have access to material in their mother tongues that can teach them. This is our opportunity to bless them. It's a mission worthy of our support!

POSITIONS FILLED: We are happy to announce the hiring of *Mrs. Megan Sherman* as the Kindergarten Teacher, and *Mrs. Aymie Barnes* as the Art Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year.

Resumes are still being accepted for: **7th & 8th Grade Teacher, Music Instructor, STEM Instructor, School Cook, and Freedom Flock After Care Director.**

If you know of anyone interested, please call the school office at 419-598-8702 or reach out to Miss Germann at tgermann@sjl.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – Outdoor Mission Festival

Mark your calendar --- this year's outdoor service is set for **Sunday, August 20 at 9:30 a.m.** Here is a preview of what will be happening that day.

- **Mission Festival** – Our guest preacher that day will be **Rev. Charles Tessaro**, Bible Translation Consultant for Nigeria with *Lutheran Bible Translators*.
- **Presentation of Mission Gift** – We will present Rev. Tessaro a gift from our congregation for the translation of the Gokanna Small Catechism. More information will be coming.
- **Blessing of the Backpacks** – Students returning to school, any school, are invited to bring their backpacks for a blessing and a little something to clip on as a reminder.
- **Congregational Meal** – About 11:00 a.m. we will sit down to a meal in the fellowship hall, and hear a little more from Rev. Tessaro about his work with Bible translation.
- **Classroom Visit & Supply Drop-Off:** Following the Worship Service students can stop by their classroom and drop off their supplies for the first day of school on Wed., Aug. 23rd. School fees can also be paid during this time.

ANNUAL SCHOOL CLEANING DATES have been set for Mon., July 24 and Wed., July 26 starting at 5:00 PM both nights. Please read the Parent Participation Policy in FastDirect with all the details about family requirements for School Cleaning. The carpets will be cleaned on Tues., July 25.

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.

MARK YOUR CALENDER FOR HAWK'S COMMUNITY DAYS: Coming again in August (Sat., Aug. 19th) will be Hawk's Community Days. On that day, Hawks will donate 10% of the their sales for the day, to St. John Lutheran School. This has been a big success for both St. John School and Hawks in the past. We will have flyers available as it gets closer. Let's keep up the great support shown for St. John, by ordering your favorite food at Hawk's Pizza on Sat., Aug. 19th.

HOMEMADE ICE CREAM SOCIAL: On Sun., July 16th from 11am – 1pm, Zion Lutheran Church in Ridgeville Corners will be hosting a homemade Ice Cream Social at the church. They will be serving hot chicken sandwiches, hot dogs, cheesy potatoes, Cole slaw, baked beans, chips, pie, cake and a beverage. Freewill donation and carryout available. Come and enjoy!

GOLF OUTING: The 15th Annual Stephanie Lynn Kossow Memorial Golf Outing will be held at White Pines Golf Course on **Sat., July 29th**, with a 1:00 PM shotgun start. Registration forms available on the narthex table!

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Food For Thought...

Swallowing your pride will never give you indigestion!

"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up." (James 4:10)