

January 28, 2024

VOL. 89 NO. 4

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

Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181  
School: 419-598-8702  
Church Website: [www.sjl.org](http://www.sjl.org)

### **FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

Sermon & Text: “Concerning... Your Brother” *1 Corinthians 8:1-13*  
Order of Service: *See printed Service Folder*  
Hymns: [Baptism: “Borning Cry,” 588] ~ 849 ~ 781 ~ “Jesus is God’s Living Vine”

\*\*\*\*\*

### **WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS**

*Welcome to St. John Church! We pray that the grace of God will heal your hurts; that the strength of God will give you courage to face the work before you; and that the peace of God will keep you secure and steady in Christ Jesus. Please introduce yourself to our pastor and also fill out the blue Rite of Fellowship card from the pew 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* ✠ Anna Sausser, Anika Rosebrock *Acolytes* ✠  
✠ Dean Badenhop, Dennis Showman, Richard Elling, Dave Von Deylen, *Ushers* ✠  
✠ Diana Kruse, Mary Kossow, Karen Germann, *Altar Guild* ✠

### **BAPTISM THIS MORNING** – Jett David Myles

This morning we rejoice and are privileged to witness the baptism of **Jett David Myles** into the family of God. Jett is the infant son of Jordan & Allison Myles. He was born at the Toledo Hospital on November 6, 2023. Jett’s baptismal sponsors are Jake Myles (Jordan’s brother), and Maddie Grooms (Allison’s sister). Jett’s

grandparents are Dave & Sara Myles, Jim Grooms, and Susan Cotter. *Congratulations to this family on this happy day of Jett’s baptism into Christ. May the good work that God begins today in Jett be brought to completion on the day of Jesus Christ!*

**2024 USHER (blue) & ALTAR GUILD (pink) SCHEDULES:** The 2024 Usher and Altar Guild schedules are both available today and can be picked up on the narthex table. Thanks again to all who are willing to be of service to the Lord through St. John. You are a blessing!

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Today	<b>9:00 AM</b> 10:20AM	<b>Worship Service</b> Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "The Lamp"
Mon.	5:30 PM	B-ball: Gr. 4-6 Boys only @ St. Pats – Bryan
Tues.	<b>8:35 AM</b>	<b>School Chapel</b>
Wed.	6:15 PM	Midweek Confirmation Class ( <i>until 7:30 PM</i> )
Thurs.	6:30 AM 6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study Breakfast B-ball: Gr. 4-6 Girls; 7:00 PM Gr. 4-6 Boys vs Trinity – Toledo (H)
Sun.	<b>9:00 AM</b> 10:20AM  1:00 PM	<b>Communion Service</b> Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "The Lamp" LYF Super Bowl "Pre Order" sub sale deadline 4-H Meetings – Gerald Busy Fingers & Cloverbuds

**MATTERS FOR PRAYER** – Please keep these people in your prayers:

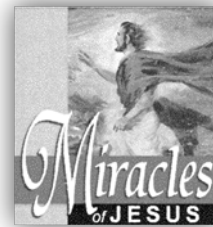
- ❖ *Melba Elling and Norma Damman*, at Genacross – Napoleon
- ❖ *Lawrence Behrmann*, at Northcrest Nursing & Rehab
- ❖ *Arlene Gerken*, at CHP Inpatient Hospice Center – Defiance
- ❖ Our Shut-Ins: *Irene Joost, Leona Durham, and Elaine Mahnke*
- ❖ Military: *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Carmon, Jared Dishop, Jordan Lange*
- ❖ *Lowell Petzoldt, Alan Gruenhagen, Sue Hurst, Dave Crandall, Eddie Harris, Delia Blake*, dealing with health concerns related to cancer
- ❖ *Marian Damman*, recuperating at home from a broken hip
- ❖ *Lowell Petzoldt*, who is receiving radiation treatments for lung cancer
- ❖ *Elaine Hesterman*, recuperating at Fulton Manor, Wauseon after hip replacement surgery
- ❖ *Emmaus Lutheran Church, Wauseon*, where *Rev. Robert O. Bartz* will be installed today at 2PM as their Transitional Interim Ministry Pastor. May God bless Pastor Bob at Emmaus!

**REPORT FROM COMBINED COUNCIL-ELDERS MEETING** – This morning after worship a report will be available from a combined meeting of the Church Council and Elders regarding our engagement of the FIVE-TWO Network for consultation services. Please pick up a copy after worship in the narthex.

**SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY --- Miracles of Jesus**

"It's a miracle!" A bride and groom were joined in marriage. They celebrated, but someone had not planned well. There was not have enough wine. It might seem like a minor inconvenience to us, but it could have been a humiliating moment for the newlyweds. It was a bad sign. They were not prepared for their wedding feast! How well were they prepared for marriage? Yet this potentially bad situation ends in happiness and joy because of Jesus. He performs a miracle and changes everything.

Each session of this study is self-contained, so you cannot "fall behind" if you miss a day. *Will you join us this morning? The coffee is on!*



## **NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS SUNDAY**

Throughout this week, LCMS Lutheran Schools across the nation, St. John included, have been celebrating *National Lutheran Schools Week*. To wrap up this celebration, we mark today as *National Lutheran Schools Sunday*. It has been our congregation's great privilege over the past 150 years to touch the lives of thousands of people through a program of Lutheran School education. Here is a quick review of what took place this past week at St. John Lutheran School:

- Monday – Classrooms took online mission trips to Australia
- Tuesday – There was NO SCHOOL due to icy road conditions!
- Wednesday – Grades K-7 went to a Jennie Williamson Concert at St. Paul Lutheran - Napoleon
- Thursday – We gathered with our Faith Families for a “Creation” art project; and had the Comfort Dogs here for a visit
- Friday – Live radio interviews on 103.1 WNDH; we assembled care packages for shut-ins

**THANK YOU!** A huge thank you to the congregation for supporting our school, so that we are able to celebrate such a wonderful week. It is with your financial support, your prayers and everything else you do to support our school, that we are able to proudly say we have a Lutheran School. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY – This Thursday, 6:30 a.m.**

This Thursday (Feb. 1), and each Thursday during Lent, our Men's Bible Breakfast will be taking a look at selected articles from the Augsburg Confession and its Apology, two of our church's foundational confessional writings. In the very first article we confess faith in the Triune God, whom we are commanded in Scripture to fear, love and trust above all things. Because of our sinful nature, however, we follow our own ideas of God and make our own idols. Yet God graciously forgives our failures to acknowledge Him. *Please join us for Men's Bible Breakfast* this Thursday morning, and make it your Lenten commitment to come each Thursday as we grow in grace and in the knowledge of Christ!



**SAVE THE DATE! LYF SUPER BOWL SUB SALE** – Get ready!!! It's that time of year again! The LYF Super Bowl Sub Sale is quickly approaching and it's time to get ready for the big game. On Sun., Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, the subs will be available for pick up after the church service. These are “pre-order only,” so stop at the table in the narthex and place your order soon (or prior to Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>). Payment is due when you pick up your subs on Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>. **Checks can be made payable to St. John LYF.** Super Bowl sub sales help raise money for the youth group's expenses to go to the National Youth Gathering in 2025. Thank you for supporting our LYF youth!



**LYF NEWS: National Youth Gathering:** 1) **Participants** - The LCMS Youth Gathering is July 19-23, 2025 in New Orleans. The Gathering is for youth participants between the ages of 14 – 19 at the time of the Gathering. Stay tuned for more details. 2) **Volunteers** - Those who are 19-25 years old may choose to serve as a Young Adult Volunteer (YAV). Feel free to contact Youth Directors, Todd or Tina Wachtman with any questions.

<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 01/21/24	\$5,083.00	\$210.00	\$155.00

**ATTENDANCE:** Sunday – 139

**2023 END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS** – The 2023 individual offering totals (green sheets) are available on the narthex table. These will also be printed in the Church Annual Report. We hope this helps those members in need of this information for tax purposes. If you have any questions on your yearly contribution information, please call Financial Trustee, *Jerry Langenhop* at 419-966-3473.

**2023 CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT** – It's time to start getting your reports ready for the 2023 Church Annual. The secretaries of the different organizations are asked to write up a summary of the year's activities and treasurers should submit their financial report for their organization. If you need your offering contribution information prior to the distribution of the Annual Report, please call Financial Trustee, *Jerry Langenhop*, at 419-966-3473. **Please turn your reports in to Joyce Wiechers by Wed., Feb. 14.**

**VOTERS' MEETING – Sunday, February 18**

Three weeks from today the voters will assemble after worship for our first meeting of the new year. A primary piece of business will be to receive the report of the endowment fund committee and vote on the disbursement of this year's endowment earnings. In addition, the annual school report will be given; and the Audit Committee will report their findings.



**LENT BEGINS THREE WEEKS FROM THIS WEDNESDAY** – Lent and Easter come earlier this year. Ash Wednesday, the first day of the Lenten season, is February 14. Each Wednesday during Lent we will have an evening service at 7:00 p.m. In readings, hymns and sermons we will use these worship moments to meditate on *The Passion According to John*. A few things to note:

- Ash Wednesday will include Holy Communion.
- The remaining five midweek services will each begin with a hymn sing.
- Confirmation class during Lent will be held from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., dismissing in time for students and families to attend the evening service.

**PART-TIME CHURCH SECRETARY POSITION** – With the announcement of Joyce's retirement at the end of this year, church council has decided to break out this position into two positions, a part-time church secretary and a full-time school secretary. **We are currently seeking applicants for a part-time church secretary.** This job would involve working two days per week (probably later in the week). Required are a high school diploma, an accounting background, a good familiarity with word processing, data base and computer use, and the ability to maintain a strict confidence. An Associate Degree in the secretarial field is a bonus. Applicants must be willing to submit a résumé, obtain a background check, supply three references, and must adhere to the religious beliefs of St. John Lutheran Church. If you are interested, or you know someone who may be interested, please call the church office at 419-598-8961.

**ST. JOHN OPEN HOUSE** – An **Open House** is planned for grade levels (PS-8) at St. John School for Wednesday evening, **February 7<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00 to 7:00 PM (note time change)**, for families who would like to come and look at our school and discuss the possibility of sending their child/children here for their education and to grow their faith. If anyone in the school or congregation might know of prospective students for Grades PS-8, be sure to pass this information on to them.

**GRIEFSHARE:** St. John is again preparing for *GriefShare*, a 13-week class for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one, a spouse, baby or child, a parent, best friend, or sibling. Whether your loss is recent or more distant, the learning, insights, opportunity to talk and listen, video presentation and study guide have proven valuable in the grieving process.



**Meetings will be held this spring, February 20 - May 21 on Tuesday evenings, 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the Youth & Family Center.** Learn more and register at [www.griefshare.org/groups/177431](http://www.griefshare.org/groups/177431).

Additionally, volunteers are invited to assist in co-facilitating, hospitality, publicity, and in prayer that the Holy Spirit would continue to guide this program of hope and healing. Contact Nancy Nemoyer, for more complete information about these opportunities to serve and support this work.

**PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT** – St. John Lutheran Preschool is now accepting enrollment applications for the 2024-25 school 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 and/or turn in their registration form. We will be opening the registration up to the public as of Feb. 2, 2024, so be sure to register soon. **Current preschool students must complete new registration forms if they will be returning next school year.** **NOTE:** The child must be 3 or 4 years old by September 30 of the year applying for preschool. The child must be completely toilet trained. There is a non-refundable \$30 registration fee that must accompany your registration paperwork. Refer a family to our preschool and your \$30 registration fee will be refunded.

**ST. JOHN SCRIP CONTINUES:** You may begin ordering SCRIP again. Please turn those orders in on Wednesdays, with payment to *St. John School PTL Scrip*. 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.**

**USE OF THE FELLOWSHIP HALL OR YOUTH CENTER** – If you would like to use the Fellowship Hall or Youth Center for any occasion on a certain date this year, **please contact the church/school office at 419-598-8961 or 419-598-8702.** In addition to calling the office, you may want to check the online church calendar at [www.sjl.org](http://www.sjl.org) and click on “Calendar.”

✘ ✘ ✘

**Food For Thought...**

**I always thought love was shaped like a ♥**

**But love is actually shaped like a †**

*“This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.” (1 John 4:10)*

COLORING PAGE

