

St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

July 7, 2024

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NO. 27

Pastoral Vacancy
Miss Tracy Germann, Principal

Church: 419-598-8961
School: 419-598-8702
Church Website: www.sjl.org

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Guest Preacher: Rev. Dan Dahling
Sermon & Text: "Did Jesus Fail?" *Mark 6:1-13*
Order of Service: Divine Service, Setting Three (pg. 184)
Hymns: 717 ~ 839 ~ [Communion: 629, 770] ~ 965

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

- ✘ Elaine Buenger, *Organist* ✘ Brayden Damman, Nolan Bickel, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Derek Damman, Dave Myles, Tim Badenhop, Denny Bockelman, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Lou Ann Rosebrock, Diane Von Deylen, *Altar Guild* ✘

SUMMER ADULT BIBLE CLASS

This morning after worship we will have Sunday morning Adult 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.**



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.

In God's House This Week

Online church calendar: <https://74058984.view-events.com>

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Adult Bible Study
Tues.	10:00AM 7:00 PM	Girls Basketball Open Gym (<i>see note</i>) Church Council Meeting
Wed.	10:00AM 5:15 PM	Girls Basketball Open Gym (<i>see note</i>) School Board Meeting
Thurs.	7:00 PM	Thursday Evening Worship
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 1:30 PM	Worship Service with Communion following Adult Bible Study 4-H Meetings: Gerald Busy Fingers & Cloverbuds

PASTORAL EMERGENCIES – In the event you require emergency pastoral care, please call Rev. Charles Kramer at 567-277-1339.

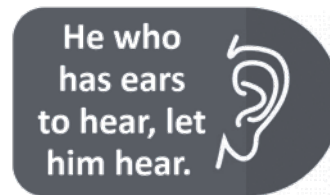
MATTERS FOR PRAYER – Please keep these people in your prayers:

- ❖ Melba Elling, Norma Damman, and Elaine Hesterman, at Genacross
- ❖ Lawrence Behrmann, at Northcrest Nursing & Rehab
- ❖ Our Shut-Ins: Irene Joost, Leona Durham, and Elaine Mahnke
- ❖ Military: Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Carmon, Jordan Lange
- ❖ Lowell Petzoldt, for health concerns related to cancer

PREPARING OUR EARS TO HEAR – In today's Scripture readings we hear that *The Ministers of Christ Are Sent with His Authority to Forgive Sins and Give Life.*

The prophet Ezekiel was raised up by the Spirit of the Lord and sent to speak an unpopular Word to the rebellious house of Israel. As a prophet, he was not to speak his own word, but to preach the Law and the Gospel: "Thus says the Lord GOD," whether the

people "hear or refuse to hear" (Ezek. 2:4–5). So, too, in the footsteps of the prophets before Him, the Lord Jesus "went about among the villages teaching" (Mark 6:6). In His hometown, as elsewhere, "many who heard him were astonished," marveling at His wisdom and at the "mighty works done by his hands," and yet "they took offense at him" (Mark 6:2–3). The offense culminates in His cross, which is, ironically, the heart and center of His "authority over the unclean spirits" (Mark 6:7). It is by that authority of His cross that those He sends preach repentance, "cast out many demons" and heal the sick (Mark 6:12–13). Thus, the apostle Paul boasts in the cross of Christ and in his own weaknesses, knowing that God's grace is sufficient and that the power of Christ "is made perfect in weakness" (2 Cor. 12:8–9). *"He who has ears to hear, let him hear" (Matt 11:15).*



SUMMER QUARTERLIES & ODE's: Women of the congregation can now pick up the summer edition of the LWML Quarterly along with the ODE's that are in the tract rack by the narthex table.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 06/30/24	\$3,189.00	\$145.00	\$180.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday (6/27/24) – 29; Sunday (6/30/24) – 91

MEMORIALS for *Alan Gruenhagen*: St. John Lutheran School - \$1,692; St. John Lutheran Endowment Fund – *Capital Projects* - \$1,692; St. John Lutheran Endowment Fund – *School Acct* - \$64; LWML Mission “Mites” - \$10

SCHOOL JANITOR POSITION OPEN – St. John Lutheran School is seeking an individual to fill the janitorial position for the school. This person is responsible for ordering supplies, daily cleaning of the school proper, cafeteria, hallways, restrooms, etc. This would average 15 hours per week. Applicant must submit references and obtain a background check. Please contact the school office at 419-598-8702 or Principal Germann at tgermann@sjl.org.

FULL-TIME SCHOOL SECRETARIAL POSITION: We are now accepting résumés from anyone interested in applying for the full-time position of School Secretary. This is a fulltime position, working year-round. Requirements are a high school diploma, an accounting background, a good familiarity with Word, Excel, and Google Drive, 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. Resumes should be emailed to tgermann@sjl.org, or dropped off at the school office.

ANNUAL SCHOOL CLEANING DATES have been set for Mon., July 22 and Wed., July 24 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. Carpets will be cleaned on Tues., July 23.

PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT – *Help spread the word about our preschool program!* St. John Lutheran Preschool is still accepting enrollment applications for 2024-25 school year. **Both classes still have several open spots to fill for next year.** Please help us fill these 3-yr and 4-yr old spots quickly. Anyone interested in our preschool program should contact the school office at 419-598-8702 to request an enrollment packet.

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 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24. Informational flyers are available on the narthex table. Any questions...call Coach Schroeder at 419-591-6655.

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.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS: Please note the church office hours during the summer months are Tuesday thru Friday: 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 or 598-8702 to guarantee someone will be here.

TURN YOUR OLD USED CELL PHONE INTO A GIFT FOR THE POOR AND FOR YOUR CHURCH! Informed sources tell us that the average American household has 5 to 6 old unused cell phones lying around. Now you can put those phones to good use AND keep them out of the landfills. Bring them to church and deposit them in the large white box in the narthex. They will be forwarded to a company that sorts them and prepares them to be given to poor families for emergency use, and sends us a check. Old cell phones range in value from \$1 up to \$50.



LARGE PRINT HYMNALS are available on the narthex table. Just pick one up and use it during worship, then return it to the table after worship. We hope these hymnals will be a blessing to you!

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 the church office 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.

HOMEMADE ICE CREAM SOCIAL: On Sun., July 21st 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!

SAVE THE DATE! The 16th Annual Stephanie Kossow Memorial Golf Outing will be held at White Pines Golf Course on Sat., July 27th, with a 1:00 PM shotgun start. Forms available today!

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Thought for the Week...

Morning praise will make your days!