

July 14, 2024

VOL. 89 NO. 28

Pastoral Vacancy
Miss Tracy Germann, Principal

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

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: “What Does It Mean To Be Blessed?” *Ephesians 1:3-14*

Order of Service: Divine Service, Setting One (pg. 151)

Hymns: 686 ~ 743 ~ 922

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Now is the hour of worship. God speaks to us and we listen and respond with our hymns, prayers and praises. Together we bless the Lord whose purpose is to save us and keep us in His faithful flock. He is The God of Grace and The God of Glory. 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* ✘ Anna Sausser, Anika Rosebrock, *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.**



WOMEN OF FREEDOM: The Women of Freedom will be meeting this week, Tues., July 16th at 7:00 PM in the north end Fellowship Hall. All ladies welcome!

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.

In God's House This Week

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

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

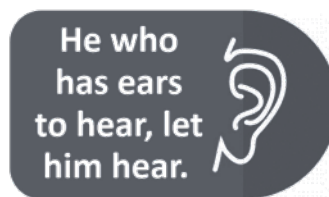
PASTORAL EMERGENCIES – In the event you require emergency pastoral care, please call **Rev. Charles Kramer at 567-277-1339.**

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
- ❖ *Marietta Damman*, recuperating at Fulton Manor following hip surgery

PREPARING OUR EARS TO HEAR – In today's Scripture readings we hear that *The Lord Jesus Brings His People through Death into Life by the Preaching of Repentance.*

Amos did not choose to be a prophet, but the Lord took him “from following the flock” and said to him, “Go, prophesy to my people Israel” (Amos 7:15). It was a hard word given him to preach: King Jeroboam would “die by the sword,” and Israel would “go into exile away from his land” (Amos 7:10–11). For this word, Amos was hated and threatened. St. John the Baptist also suffered for his faithful preaching of repentance. King Herod “sent and seized John and bound him in prison,” even though he knew that John “was a righteous and holy man” (Mark 6:17, 20). Out of pride and fear, Herod “sent an executioner with orders to bring John’s head” (Mark 6:27). Yet in Christ, St. John the Baptist “has been raised from the dead” (Mark 6:14, 16). For Christ is the destruction of death itself “before the foundation of the world,” and even now by faith, “the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ” has blessed us in Christ “with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places” (Eph. 1:3–4). Through Baptism into Christ, you also “were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit” for life and salvation (Eph. 1:13). ***“He who has ears to hear, let him hear” (Matt 11:15).***



FINANCIAL FACTS:	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 07/07/24	\$13,624.97	\$134.00	\$183.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday (7/04/24) – N/A; Sunday (7/07/24) – 122

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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 9:30-11:30 AM. If you need to drop off items at another time, please contact *Nancy Helmke* (419-758-3539), *Diann Meyer-Grieser* (419-267-3485), or *Vicki Grieser* (419-445-2986), and they will be happy to meet you and open the facility to receive your donations! PLEASE do not drop off items at the warehouse when it is closed. Thank you!

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.

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.



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 Ridgville 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...

Sorrow looks back. Worry looks down. Fear looks around. Faith looks up.