

# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

July 28, 2024

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Pastoral Vacancy

Miss Tracy Germann, Principal

Church: 419-598-8961

School: 419-598-8702

Church Website: [www.sjl.org](http://www.sjl.org)

### TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "What (Most of) Creation Knows" *Mark 6:45-56*

Order of Service: Service of Prayer & Preaching (pg. 260)

Hymns: 809 ~ 752 ~ 806

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### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

*Welcome! We are here at the Savior's invitation; therefore, let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, receiving mercy and finding grace to help in every time of need. If you have no church of your own, we invite you to make this your home church. If you are a visitor, please fill out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and pass it to the center aisle during the offering this morning.*

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### **SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING**

- ✘ Bethann Gerken, *Pianist* ✘ Cayden Ruffer, Zeek Kramer, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Derek Damman, Dave Myles, Tim Badenhop, Denny Bockelman, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Lou Ann Rosebrock, Diane Von Deylen, *Altar Guild* ✘

**INSTALLATION and WELCOME RECEPTION FOR PASTOR BENDER:** St. John is excited to have the installation of our Transitional Interim Minister (TIM), Pastor Gary Bender, next Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup> in the 9 AM church service. Ohio District President Kevin Wilson will be with us at that time to preside over the installation of Pastor Bender. There will then be a welcome reception for Pastor Bender in the fellowship hall following the service. We look forward to getting to know Pastor Bender and welcoming him to St. John, as well as to the Henry County community. There will be light refreshments served as we enjoy a time of fellowship with Pastor Bender and each other. Hope to see you there!

**SUMMER ADULT BIBLE CLASS** - This morning we will 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.**



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

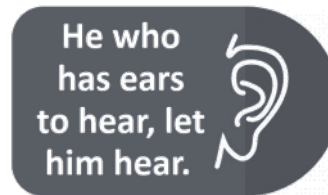
<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	<b>Worship Service</b> Adult Bible Study
Thurs.	7:00 PM	<b>Thursday Evening Worship</b>
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:15AM 1:30 PM	<b>Communion Service and Installation of TIM Pastor Gary Bender</b> Welcome Reception for Pastor Bender in fellowship hall 4-H Meetings: Gerald Busy Fingers and 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*
- ❖ *Marietta Damman, recuperating at Fulton Manor following hip surgery*

**PREPARING OUR EARS TO HEAR** – In today's Scripture readings we hear that **Creation Is Redeemed and Sanctified by the Word of Christ Jesus**. Having spared faithful Noah and his family from the flood, the Lord established His covenant with them, "and with every living creature," that never again would there be "a flood to destroy the earth" (Gen. 9:9–11). He signed and sealed this everlasting covenant with His rainbow in the clouds, by which He sees and remembers His promise that "the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh" (Gen. 9:13–16). Although creation suffers under the curse of sin, the Lord preserves and orders creation for the benefit of His Church. In particular, all of creation is redeemed and sanctified by the incarnate Son of God. "Take heart," and "do not be afraid," for He is with you on the sea. He is not a ghost, but He has come in the flesh to save you. He has gotten "into the boat" with you, and the wind that was against you has ceased (Mark 6:45–51). For He is the Word and promise of the Father, and His own flesh and blood are the covenant by which you are "strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being" (Eph. 3:16–17). ***"He who has ears to hear, let him hear" (Matt 11:15).***



<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 07/21/24	\$6,900.00	\$225.00	\$500.00

**ATTENDANCE:** Thursday (7/18/24) – 33; Sunday (7/21/24) – 102

**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.

**ANOTHER TRY!!!**- The Women of Freedom are going to try their summer outing to Special Grounds Coffee in Wauseon again, on **Tues., Aug. 20th at 10 AM**, beginning with a tour of the facility, followed by social time and brunch/lunch at Special Grounds. Please call Sharon Damman or Linda Riefers if you need a ride there and also you make bring a guest. **All ladies of St John are invited!**

**MISSION IN-GATHERING:** The Women of Freedom are beginning a mission in-gathering for sewing fabric to be given to Care and Share in Archbold, and Orphan Grain Train in Napoleon. We will be collecting through Tues., September 17th. Please place material in marked box in the Narthex. Thank you for helping supply these hard working organizations who help so many in need!!

**SHARE THE BOUNTY** – Has your garden produced a bounty of beans? A crush of cucumbers? An excess of eggplants? If you’ve got more than you can use, consider sharing the bounty with your friends at church. A table is located outside under the carport where you can drop off the garden produce you *can’t* use, and where you can also pick up what you *can* use. It’s a wonderful way to share the blessing!



**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](mailto:tgermann@sjl.org).

**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.



**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.

**WORSHIP ANEW:** Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc. produces a weekly, 30-minute Lutheran broadcast worship service called *Worship Anew* (*formerly Worship For Shut-Ins*). Each service includes music, scripture readings, prayers, and a pastor delivering a message that is designed to feel one-on-one to the viewer. They look forward to the continuation and expansion of this ministry in the years to come. Lutheran Ministries Media would like to thank you for your prayers and support of God’s work through *Worship Anew*. Broadcasts can be viewed every Sunday on: *Toledo’s WTVG (CW) Channel 13.2 at 10:30 AM*.

**‘BREAD FROM HEAVEN’** – A note to St. John members needing food assistance – If you could use food assistance from our food pantry, please speak with *Pastor Niermann*. We are required by the *Northwestern Ohio Food Bank* to keep a record with your name, but pastor will keep your record separate and absolutely confidential.

Contributions can be made at any time. Monetary gifts can be given to the *Good Neighbor Fund* (note it on your offering envelope). Food donations for our pantry can be dropped off in the box by the Archives display cases. **Food items especially needed at this time are: spaghetti sauce, noodles, soup, saltines and any crackers.** Any and all contributions are always greatly appreciated.

**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!

**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.

**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!

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*Thought for the Week...*

**Are you a boat rider or a water walker?**