

# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 Co. Rd. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

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Rev. Gary Bender, TIM Pastor  
Miss Tracy Germann, Principal

Cell: 989-770-0005; Church: 419-598-8961  
School: 419-598-8702  
Church Website: www.sjl.org

### TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: "The Beauty of Marriage" *Mark 10:2-16*

Order of Service: Divine Service, Setting Four (pg. 203)

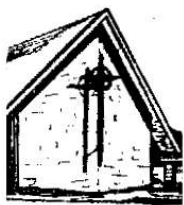
Hymns: 908 ~ 860 ~ [Communion: 861, 619] ~ 803

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### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

*Welcome to the services of God's House and the fellowship of our congregation. Enter in stillness...know that the Lord is God. Listen in reverence...it is God who has made us. Sing with delight...it is God who hears us. Speak with conviction...there is no other God. Depart in peace...it is God's gift for you. Serve with joy...it is your gift to God. Please fill out the Rite of Fellowship attendance card from the pew rack in front of you and drop it into the baskets at the doors as you leave today.*

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

- ✠ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✠ Anika Rosebrock, Anna Sausser ✠
- ✠ Scott Van Valkenburg, Ian Rosebrook, Mike Maassel, Carey Damman, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Mary Kossow, Karen Germann, Diana Kruse, *Altar Guild* ✠

**ONE-ON-ONE continuing:** We hope many of you received the mailing this past week detailing the one-on-one meeting format. Pastor Gary would like to hear from many of you. Please call the office to set up your appointment and set up a means of getting the form needed to be completed. There are still dates available from today thru Sunday, Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>. As mentioned in the mailing, your meeting will take about 45 minutes. This is part of the information gathering for the Transition Interim Ministry, Sign-up sheets and questionnaires are also in the side hallway. Please sign-up, pick up a questionnaire (one per person), and plan to share your thoughts and ideas with Pastor Gary.

**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.



## In God's House This Week

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

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	<b>Communion Service</b> Adult Bible Class; Sunday School; "The Lamp" begins
Mon.	5:15 PM	School Board Meeting
Tues.	8:35 AM 7:00 PM	<b>School Chapel</b> Church Council Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM 7:00 PM	Midweek Confirmation Class ( <i>until 7:30 PM</i> ) Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	7:00 PM	<b>Thursday Evening Worship</b>
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	<b>Worship Service</b> with Communion following <i>Java Joy</i> ; Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "The Lamp"

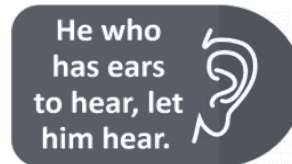
**PASTORAL EMERGENCIES** – In the event you require emergency pastoral care, please call Pastor Gary at 989-770-0005.

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

- ❖ *Melba Elling, Norma Damman, and Rozella Gruenhagen* 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, and Cody Hoffman*
- ❖ *Lowell Petzoldt*, for health concerns related to cancer
- ❖ *Marietta Damman and Willie Joost*, dealing with health related concerns
- ❖ *Cheryl Yaw*, recently diagnosed with cancer and will undergo surgery in the future

**PREPARING OUR EARS TO HEAR** – In today's Scripture readings we hear that *Marriage Is a Sign that Manifests the Gospel of Christ and His Church*

Humanity is created in the image and likeness of God. "It is not good that the man should be alone" (Gen. 2:18). For the Lord Himself is a perfect communion of three Persons — the Father, Son and Holy Spirit — in one God. Therefore, "the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs," which "he made into a woman" and brought "to the man" (Gen. 2:21–22). It is for this reason that "a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh" (Gen. 2:24; Mark 10:7). This great mystery of holy marriage signifies Christ Jesus, the incarnate Son of God, and His Bride, the Church. Divorce and all manner of adultery contradict and undermine this sign, and in doing so, they confess a false Christ and a false gospel. "What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate" (Mark 10:9). In truth, Christ Jesus has atoned for all such sins, and He has perfected marriage in Himself "through suffering," that He might bring "many sons to glory" in His resurrection (Heb. 2:8–10).



**PORTALS OF PRAYER BOOKLETS** for the quarter of October, November, and December are on the desk in the narthex. There are also large print copies available.

**THE LAMP (Youth Bible Study)** We want to welcome all youth and young adults to join us this morning at the Youth Center for Bible Study, discussions, and fellowship!! The Lamp is always good food for the soul and body! Staying in God's Word is so important in this crucial time in life!



As things are changed a bit, the Lamp will not be in session on the Sundays that the LYF meetings are being held. The devotion and topic will be done at the LYF meeting.

**GRIEF SHARE** is a grief and loss support ministry to help those dealing with grief by giving them valuable, Christian-based guidance and tips leading to healing, comfort, and peace of mind. The weekly *GriefShare* classes will be starting on January 5, 2025. These classes will run for 13 weeks. The group is led by our member, *Nancy Nemoyer*, a commissioned Deaconess of the LCMS. This ministry at St. John will be an excellent way for us to reach out in the community to invite people through our doors to share with them the hope we have in Christ. Please relay this information to anyone you know who may be interested in receiving this support at the beginning of the new year.



**SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS (add'l GriefShare opportunity):** Volunteers are invited to support the in-reach and outreach of our *GriefShare* ministry, in particular, Surviving the Holidays on Nov. 21, at St. John. Please let Nancy Nemoyer ([nnemoyer@gmail.com](mailto:nnemoyer@gmail.com)) know if you can help by - providing snacks, helping to design and print or distribute flyers, referring a grieving friend, other ideas you might have, or by joining the *GriefShare* planning committee for our winter 13-week session. Thanks!

<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 09/29/24	\$6,902.00	\$245.00	\$370.00

**ATTENDANCE:** Thursday (9/26/24) – 22; Sunday (9/29/24) – 132

**ADD'L MEMORIAL for Elaine Hesterman:** St. John Endowment Fund – Youth Account - \$85.00

**TRUNK OR TREAT – Three weeks from today**

We had such a good time last year that we're offering it again. **On Sunday, October 27 from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. we will turn our parking lot into a Halloween Trunk-or-Treat** for all the children of our church, school and community.



**Our first order of business is to sign up 'Trunkers'** – all of you who will decorate your car trunks or hatch backs, and maybe costume up for this event, to supply candy and treats for all the Trunk-or-Treaters who may come our way. This is also a mission event that introduces families and children to this body of Christ at St. John, and elevates our presence in the community. Would you consider doing this as a service to the children? **Sign up at the narthex table or in the school/church office to be a Trunker!**



**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!

**GRANDPARENTS' DAY:** On Thursday, November 7, we will celebrate our grandparents. Grandparents of the 4-year-old preschool class, as well as grandparents of students in grades K-5 are invited to come to school from 9:30-12. From 9:30-11:30 there will be a variety of activities available as well as time to visit the book fair. From 11:30-12 we will head to the church for some songs and prayers. Students will be dismissed early that day. If your child's grandparents will be taking them home at noon after Grandparents' Day, please make sure to inform your child's teacher.

Grandparents' Day for the 3-year-old preschool class will be held the day before on Wednesday, November 6 from 10-11:20.

**POSITION OPENINGS:**

- **Custodian:** Miss Jady Fenstermaker has stepped down from her role as the school janitor. We are in need of a custodian immediately. If you know of anyone who is interested please reach out to Miss Germann at [tgermann@sjl.org](mailto:tgermann@sjl.org). This is a 3 hour daily position in charge of keeping the school clean.
- **Music Teacher:** Mrs. Char Weber has decided that she will be stepping down at the end of October from her role as the music teacher. We will miss her as the music teacher, her presence at St. John brought joy and such a variety of music lessons to the children. If you know of anyone interested in taking on the role as music teacher, please let Miss Germann know. This is a one day a week position responsible for teaching children in grades K-5 music according to the state standards. If you know of anyone for this position, please contact Miss Germann at [tgermann@sjl.org](mailto:tgermann@sjl.org).

**PRESCHOOL FALL FESTIVAL:** This year's Fall Festival will be held on **Sat., Nov. 2, 2024 from 10:00 AM until Noon.** This will take place on the school playground area. It will be set up similar to last year. If you or anyone you know are interested in helping with this event, please call the school or email Miss Germann at [tgermann@sjl.org](mailto:tgermann@sjl.org).

**SCRIP:** Plan to start your Christmas shopping! The SCRIP Order Form can be found in the tract rack in the narthex. Thank you and happy shopping! Please turn those orders in on Wednesdays, with payment to *St. John School PTL Scrip Program*. 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 or email at [honemann@embarqmail.com](mailto:honemann@embarqmail.com).

**SIGNS, SIGNS, EVERYWHERE A SIGN!** Tell your friends and neighbors about St. John Lutheran School by picking up a corrugated plastic yard sign in the back of the church. Place it in your front lawn or other obvious place to promote the school. Thank you for telling others about our school!

**ATHLETIC BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP:** Membership is now being taken for the Athletic Booster Club. Prices are \$20.00 for a couple and \$10.00 for an individual. **Make checks payable to St. John Boosters** and send to school with your child. Forms are available on the narthex table or contact any of the Booster officers. Join today and help out the children's athletic program.

**ST. JOHN CHURCH LIBRARY** – Stop in and check out the number of books available in the church library. The books in this library have been screened to assure that they are true to the Word of God and can be trusted to be theologically sound. To borrow a book, just take it with you, and then return it to the basket. A complete list of the books in the church's library can be found by clicking on the "Book Inventory" link on the library page of our church's website. <http://www.sjl.org/library.html>

**LARGE PRINT & CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BULLETINS** are available today on the table in the narthex. The Children's Bulletins are coordinated with the Bible texts for each Sunday, and provide activities that tie in with the weekly themes. Pick one up today for your child.

**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!

**COLLECTING STAMPS:** The LWML is collecting stamps "For Missions." A box is on the table in the narthex. Here is what you do: Cut the stamps from the envelopes allowing ¼ inch margin or more around the stamp. The stamp may not be damaged and the perforations around the stamp must be perfect. You need not trim the stamp; we have someone who trims and sorts the stamps. Do not remove stamps from envelopes, albums, and older postcards. An "old" postcard is usually from 1930 or before. The most valuable stamps are commemorative, foreign, and stamp denominations larger than 46 cents. Collecting stamps is an easy way to participate in a mission project sponsored by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

**AREA EVENT:** **St. Paul – Napoleon's Annual Vendor Market** on **Sat., Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>** from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM in the gymnasium. **There are still open slots for vendors.** If interested in being a vendor, contact Faith Wiechers at [fwiechers@stpaulnapoleon.org](mailto:fwiechers@stpaulnapoleon.org).

**VENMO IS HERE!** Exciting News...St. John now accepts donations via Venmo! We are thrilled to announce that you can now make your offering donations using Venmo! Simply scan the QR code beside this announcement with your Venmo app to go directly to our donation page.



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*Thought for the Week...*

**Faith is the postage stamp on our prayers!**

COLORING PAGE

ADAM AND EVE WERE  
HAPPY IN THE  
GARDEN WITH ALL OF  
THE ANIMALS.

- GENESIS 2:4-25

