



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 Co. Rd. U ♦ NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

January 25, 2026

VOL. 92

NO. 04

Pastoral Vacancy

Miss Tracy Germann, Principal

Church Office: 419-598-8961

School Office: 419-598-8702

Church Website: www.sjl.org

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Guest Seminarian, Nash Ringquist

Order of Service: Matins (LSB pg. 219)

Hymns: **849 ~ 839 ~ Te Deum** ~ “Jesus, Name Above All Names”

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 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* ✠ Piper Speiser, Jovi Sonnenberg, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Dennis Showman, Dean Badenhop, Richard Elling, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Diane VonDeylen, Nicole Stier, LouAnn Rosebrock, *Altar Guild* ✠

ALTAR FLOWERS are provided today by the Joost Family in honor of Irene’s, 90th birthday which is today. We wish Irene the best on this milestone birthday. Being with family is so important on days like this. Happy Birthday Irene! Enjoy the beautiful flowers!

2025 CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT – It’s time to start getting your reports ready for the 2025 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, *Ryan Bostelman*, at 419-770-2029. **Please turn your reports in to Leah Saylor (e-mail churchsecretary@sjl.org or drop it in her office mailbox) at your earliest convenience.**

DIRECTORY UPDATES – There are addresses and phone numbers in the Annual Report directory that need updated. If you (and/or your adult children) have address changes; or **if you have eliminated your land line telephone and only have cell phone numbers**, please call the church office at 419-598-8961 or email churchsecretary@sjl.org with updated information. Thank you!

In God's House This Week

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

Date	Time	Activities
TODAY	9:00 AM 10:15 AM	Worship Service Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "The Lamp" Confirmation class meets until 11:15
Mon.	5:30 PM	National Lutheran Schools Week (runs thru Sun., Feb. 1 st) Bread from Heaven Food Pantry Distribution
Tues.	8:35 AM 4:30 PM	School Chapel B-ball: Gr 4-6 Girls; 5:30 PM Gr. 4-6 Boys @ St. Paul - Napoleon
Wed.	7:00 PM	Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	5:00 PM	B-ball: Gr 4-6 Boys vs. St. Pat's – Bryan (H)
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:15 AM	Communion Service Sunday School; Adult Bible Study; "The Lamp" Confirmation class after church until 11:15

PASTORAL EMERGENCIES – Please contact **Pastor Kramer** at 567-277-1339 with any emergency pastoral care requests.

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

- ❖ *Melba Elling and Norma Damman* at Genacross
- ❖ *Rozella Gruenhagen and Bob Nemoyer* at Vancrest
- ❖ Our Shut-Ins: *Irene Joost, Leona Durham, and Marlene Showman*
- ❖ *Brenda Elling, Anne Rausch, and Julie (Kern) Patterson* for health concerns related to cancer
- ❖ *Nancy Nemoyer, Stan Gerken and Rev. Ken Schroeder* for health concerns
- ❖ Military: *Eric Maassel, Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Jordan Lange, Joshua, and Kyle*

STEWARDSHIP BOARD is looking for 2 individuals to apply for a Thrivent Action Team (card) for the supplies needed for the Easter bags that are prepared on Easter morning. If you are able to help with this, please contact Board President *Jackie Rosebrock* at 419-966-0148. Thank you!

ARCHIVES DISPLAY: The St. John Archive Display has been transformed recently. Please stop by and check out the section of pictures of students from the current school year. Then, you can a trip down "memory lane" with the remaining sections of the display. This will surely stir up many memories as you look at the pictures and read the various articles. Thank you to the Archives Committee for sharing these with us.

LYF SUPER BOWL SUB SALE – It's that time of year again for the LYF Super Bowl Sub Sale (pre-order only); order forms located in the back of the church). On Sunday, Feb. 8th, the subs will be available for pick up after the church service. **Orders are due February 1st**. Payment is due when you pick up your subs. Checks can be made payable to St. John LYF. Proceeds from the Super Bowl Sub Sale help support the youth group's activities and expenses. Thank you for supporting our LYF group!



A HEARTFELT THANKS: “We would like to express our gratitude for all the support we received at the passing of our mom, Irma Rohrs. Thank you to Pastor Niermann for his encouraging message, for the organ music, printing of the service folder, livestreaming the entire funeral service, tolling the bell, the ladies for preparing the wonderful luncheon, and the preparation of the gravesite. There were so many involved in mom’s farewell! The Lord knows your service and we are comforted by your thoughtfulness and will remember it forever.” Signed, *Karen and family, David and family*

NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK – January 26– Feb. 1, 2026

This coming week, we will be joining sister schools and congregations across the nation to celebrate National Lutheran Schools Week, Jan. 26-Feb. 1. “Let’s Make a Joyful Noise!” is the theme for this year’s celebration. The associated scripture verse is found in Psalm 98:4, which says, “Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!”

In celebration of National Lutheran Schools Week, St. John will be holding various activities at school, some of which are *live broadcasts on WNDH 103.1, dress up days, and a virtual mission trip to Mongolia. We also have a Bible Scavenger Hunt planned and will attend a Christian concert with St. Paul – Napoleon and Trinity – Toledo, all to celebrate our faith and the love of God. Next Sunday, Feb. 1, the students will be singing a song they learned from their virtual mission trip to Mongolia.*

Lutheran Schools are driven by a commitment to the Gospel. They meet or exceed state and national academic standards, and have educators who model visionary, servant, and spiritual leadership. The LCMS has 1,800 preschools, elementary schools, and high schools with the public opportunity to proclaim and celebrate God’s work among us in Lutheran schools. We thank God for the opportunity to share Jesus’ amazing love with children and their families. NLSW gives us the chance to proclaim these blessings out in the community. Lutheran schools are an amazing incubator for faithful witnessing of God’s love for us through Christ by teachers and students alike. Thank you for your continuous support of St. John.

A SPECIAL NLSW ACTIVITY TODAY! To help spread JOY throughout our school, **we invite congregation members to visit the table in the narthex today** and write a joyful note (or two...or three!) to a student, teacher, or even an entire class. Don’t know the name of a student??? Simply write a message and your note will still be delivered. Notes could be a prayer, a word of encouragement, or simply a joyful greeting to brighten someone’s day. Thank you for helping us celebrate our Lutheran school and for sharing the wonderful JOY of Jesus with our students!

WORSHIP ANEW is a weekly, 30-minute Lutheran broadcast worship service. Each service includes music, scripture readings, prayers, and a pastor delivering a message that is designed to feel one-on-one to the viewer. Broadcasts can be viewed every Sunday on: *Toledo’s WTVG (CW) Channel 13 at 9:30 a.m.* or online at worshipanew.org.



LARGE PRINT & CHILDREN’S ACTIVITY BULLETINS are always available 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.

'BREAD FROM HEAVEN' will have its monthly food distribution on Monday at 5:30 p.m. If you are a member of St. John and could use food assistance from our food pantry, please contact the church office. We are required by the Northwestern Ohio Food Bank to keep a record with your name, but your record will be kept separate and absolutely confidential.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$11,710.59	\$500.00	\$961.54
<u>Rec'd 01/18/2026</u>	\$7,039.00	\$125.00	\$265.00

ATTENDANCE: 164

MEMORIALS for *Irma Rohrs*: St. John Lutheran Church - \$2,825.00

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 office at 419-598-8961 or churchsecretary@sjl.org**. In addition to calling the office, you may want to check availability on the online church calendar at www.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.

LIONS RECYCLE FOR SIGHT – How You Can Help? If you have used prescription or nonprescription glasses or sunglasses in your drawers, desk, or closet, you can donate them now! Children’s glasses are especially needed. Both plastic and metal frames are accepted. There is a box under the narthex table for the collection of these used glasses.

CHURCH COUNCIL NOTICE: In the event that church services need to be cancelled due to weather related (or other) circumstances, please refer to the 3 different ways below to be notified:

1. Go to the church Facebook page at **St. John Lutheran Church**
2. Go to the church website at www.sjl.org
3. Tune in to **WTVG Channel 13 - Toledo**

VENMO IS HERE! Exciting News...St. John now accepts donations via Venmo! If you need internet access, use our guest Wi-Fi **SJL Open** with the password **sjleagles##** Then scan the QR code to visit our donation page.



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Thought for the Week...

Children are good imitators, so give them something good to imitate.