

The Herald

April 2024



THE SEASON OF EASTER In-Person & Facebook LIVE Worship Schedule

.....
Saturday Service
5:00 PM

Sunday Services
8:30 & 10:30 AM

Holy Communion
is celebrated at
all services.

..... Music Rehearsal

Rehearsals meet on
Sunday mornings @
9:40 am. Choir sings
at the 10:30 service
monthly/seasonally.
New singers are
always welcome!

PASTOR'S PAGE

Alleluia, Christ is Risen! **Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we soak in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. The month of April provides us with the first 4 weeks when we will hear once again how Jesus makes faith happen by breathing the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and blessing them with peace. We will see and hear again how Jesus shows Thomas and all God's people that the life-changing resurrection embraces the wounds we all carry. God the Creator's peace, Jesus' wounds, and the breath of the Holy Spirit bring Thomas and us to believe that Jesus was raised from the dead. With Thomas we trust God to care for our bodies and our lives. We are encouraged as Jesus' relationship with Thomas reminds us how Jesus reaches for the outsiders like Thomas and us and restores us to our place in community.

The gospel for the 2nd Sunday in April is one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. Jesus shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures; the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

On the 3rd Sunday of April we consider the image of the good shepherd that shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, which gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. John will illustrate what it means for us to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

The final Sunday in April provides us with an image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us—he is the vine we are the branches. “Apart from me you can do nothing” Jesus says. This is a difficult word for a self-reliant, individualistic culture such as our own, focused on personal achievement and success. We are reminded that God is the vine grower, Jesus is the vine, and we are the branches, that, if separated from the life-giving vine, can do nothing. Connected to Christ, we can do exceedingly abundantly beyond what we can ask or even think!

Yet, these are gracious, gospel words from Jesus. He's been preparing his disciples for years to take this step. These are words that point not toward individualistic, self-reliant independence but toward dependence on the one whose life defies death and whose perfect love casts out all fear. Connected to the vine, these branches are given a death-defying life free from fear. These gracious, gospel words from Jesus point to a community nourished by this life-giving vine and bearing fruit for the sake of the world.

We are alive in Christ and in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. We are reminded that Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. As always, fully nourished, we are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

Alleluia, Christ is Risen! **Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Wishing you Easter Peace and Joy! *Pastor Andy*

CHURCH CALENDAR

April 2024

Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In word and feast, we celebrate God's unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 11:00 Bible Study 7:30 Flute Ensemble	5 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	6 5:00 Worship
7 8:30 Worship 9:00 Sunday School Coffee Hour 10:30 Worship	8 AA Meeting	9	10 6:30 Council Meeting	11 11:00 Bible Study 7:00 Nature Club	12 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	13 5:00 Worship
14 8:30 Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 1:00 Orchid Society	15 AA Meeting	16	17	18 11:00 Bible Study 7:30 Flute Ensemble	19 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	20 5:00 Worship
21 8:30 Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	22 AA Meeting	23	24	25 11:00 Bible Study	26 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	27 5:00 Worship
28 8:30 Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	29 AA Meeting	30 5:30-7:00 Meatball and Hoagie Dinner				

Church Email: hnlc.secretary@hotmail.com

Church Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/HNLWCWenonah/>

Pastor Andy Gordon Cell Phone: 609-206-7839

Church Office: 856-468-5760

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

April 2024

PRAYER LIST

John Austino, The family of Bill Bartleson as they mourn his death, Nicholas Baud, John Brecht, The family of 3 year-old Cameron Bruder as they mourn his death, Max Belko, The family of Kaz Bielecki's son-in-law as they mourn his death, Cathy Buccarelli, Sal Castelli, Sherwood Cotton, The friends and family of Gladys Crooker as they mourn her death, Milton Cuevas, Jr., Barbara Facchine, The family of Anne Fatum as they mourn her death, Scott Fey, Francis, John Forsman, Alma Garcia, The family of Michael Gilletti as they mourn his death, Mark Gismondi, the family of Doris Gordon as they mourn her death, Randi Gordon, The family of Don Halterman as they mourn his death, The family of Jennifer Jeffers as they mourn her death, Marilyn Kaiser, The family of Robert Keen as they mourn his passing, The family of Joseph Kelleher as they mourn his passing, The family of George Lofmark as they mourn his death, Joseph Lonia, Jessie MacGregor, Joseph Mansfield, The McCall family in their time of grief and loss, Michael McKee, The family of Robert O'Connor, The O'Donald family as they mourn the passing of their young adult female family member, Lazslo Orosze, Janet Ostrowski, The family of Joseph Ostrowski as they mourn his death, Otis, Danielle Peters, Harry Rees, Carole Rund and family on the death of her sister Joan, Billy Shea, Ken Silver, Brian Solt, Joy Stagliano, Samantha Sumner, Richard Sylvester, Eileen Simpson, Dot Stagg, Julia Stanz, Nathan Storhoff, Corey Temean, Sue Willard, The family of Madeline Williams as they mourn her death, Jerry, Pat, who are battling cancer, and Jerry, Pat and Kelly who are battling cancer.

(If you have someone that you would like on the prayer list, please fill out a form in the narthex and place it in the offering plate or contact the church office email: hnlc.secretary@hotmail.com.)

He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Year-to-date received--\$35623.30 Year-to-Date needed to meet spending plan--\$35425.00.00.

SOCIAL AND EVANGELISTIC OUTREACH EVENTS:

- **Tuesday, April 30—5:30-7 pm Meatball Hoagie Dinner**
- **Saturday, May 11—8 am to noon Wenonah Clean Community Day of Service**
- **Saturday, May 18--Wenonah Porchfest—2-10:30 pm.**
- **Tuesday July 30—5:30-7:00 pm Church Picnic; Burgers, hot dogs, sides, etc.**
- **Sunday, September 8—God's Work, Our Hands Sunday—Fall clean-up at church**

COFFEE HOUR

The 8:30 service is hosting a coffee hour between services Sunday April 7th and the first Sunday of the month moving forward. Please join us for coffee and fellowship. We will also have a cleanup session that weekend. Please bring your own tools and we will spend some time beautifying the grounds and the interior of the church.

FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Kristen Brecht, Lorraine Brecht, Lorrie Forsman, Pastor Gordon, Eileen Harris, Corinne LaGrange, Kelly Sena

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Mario & Meghan DelMonte, Tony & Denise DiRienzo

FOOD PANTRY

At this time, the food pantry is in need of boxed cereal, pancake mix, syrup, grape jelly and loaves of bread. Other items needed include: canned goods, non-perishable items, toiletries, laundry soap, etc.

PLANET AID CLOTHING DONATIONS

The church now has two Planet Aid clothing bins in the parking lot. The following clean items may be placed in the yellow bins: clothing, shoes, bedding, towels, curtains, sleeping bags, socks, underwear, bras. They cannot accept items that are tattered beyond repair, dirty, wet or moldy. They do not accept yarn, thread-bare items, spools of thread or similar cast-offs. They also do not accept toys, stuffed animals, furniture or electronics.

ST. PETER'S COMMUNITY PANTRY

This is one of our ministry partners in the Gloucester County Faith in Prevention initiative. They are here to help serve those facing food insecurity in Gloucester County. If you (or someone you know) are having a difficult time buying food for yourself, or your family, please let St. Peter's try to make a small difference for you. The Pantry is located behind St. Peter's Episcopal Church at 304 Kings Highway in Clarksboro. They are open every 4th Saturday of the Month from 9 AM to 1 PM.



**Holy Nativity
Lutheran Church
3 Lenape Trail
Wenonah, NJ 08090**

Please Deliver This Copy of THE HERALD To:

**In-Person and Facebook Live
WORSHIP TIMES:
SATURDAY — 5:00 PM
SUNDAY — 8:30 & 10:30 AM**

**CHURCH OFFICE:
PHONE: 856-468-5760
hnlc.secretary@hotmail.com**