

The Herald

July 2025



SEASON OF PENTECOST 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

The choir is on hiatus
for the summer, but
rehearsals will
resume in
September. We
rehearse on Sunday
mornings at 9:30. All
are welcome.

PASTOR'S PAGE

The first Sunday in July we are Sent with the Seventy

Close your eyes and picture Jesus and his followers together. Most likely people either picture Jesus sitting around with the twelve disciples or standing in the midst of thousands preaching and teaching. Yet in today's gospel Jesus has seventy followers close enough that he trusts them to be sent out in pairs to heal the sick and announce that God has come near. Seventy trusted preachers. Thirty-five pairs of preachers telling the good news of God. So telling the story is clearly not to be limited to the twelve disciples. The good news is meant to be shared far and wide by those who trust Jesus and follow him.

Sharing the good news is not just the responsibility of "professionals" like clergy. Sharing the good news is the calling of everyone who follows Jesus. God's people are sent out into the world to serve in the name of Jesus each time they gather for worship. In this week's gospel text we are again reminded that the gospel message is to be shared in more than just words. We share the message by welcoming others, sharing bread with the hungry, and offering compassion to the afflicted

The 2nd Sunday we ask, "Who Is my Neighbor" ... The Parable of the Good Samaritan ...

Who do you identify with in the parable? This is part of what makes parables so powerful. Some days we read the story through the eyes of the priest or the Levite. Some days we feel like the Samaritan. And then there are those days when we are the man in the ditch. Some days you are the windshield and some days you are the bug, as the saying goes.

It is easy to miss the shocking nature of this parable if we start to think that this story only teaches us to imitate the Samaritan. The parable says so much more about God, our relationship to God, and the lengths to which God will go to reach out to us.

The 3rd Sunday we distinguish between Unexpected and Intentional Distraction

As digital tablets and smart phones keep us busy and on the go, this week's gospel reminds us of a struggle: when are we to set aside our busy calendars, duties, and to-do lists and simply rest in God's presence, listening to what God has to say to us? This tension mounts in our gospel as Jesus addresses Martha's busyness, worry, and distraction, juxtaposed with Mary's contemplation, focus, and desire to sit at the feet of the great teacher. But is "quietly sitting" even possible in our age of distractions?

The 4th Sunday we explore Our Persistent, Negotiating Prayer Life

The readings this week incorporate several themes: negotiation, commands, persistence, and expectation. And surrounding all these themes is a bigger theme: boldness. Abraham is bold in speaking with God, so bold in fact that he not only negotiates with the Almighty, the Almighty willingly grants his request. Abraham had no fear in speaking in such a way to God, because he knew that God was listening and appreciating his concern. The disciples, too, speak with boldness. Strengthened by the Lord's supper, we are filled with God's Spirit to speak boldly and to be persistent in our prayers, and to be ready to receive the things for which we ask. The question becomes, then, what is it we want and need?

Have a safe and blessed 4th of July!

Pastor Andy

CHURCH CALENDAR

July 2025

God is the source of our nourishment. Jesus' invitation to "take and eat . . . take and drink" is a repeated one. In holy communion, in the word read and proclaimed, in the assembly of the people of God, the dominion of God has come near. Rejoice! Your name is written in heaven.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		¹	²	³ 11:00 Bible Study	⁴ Independence Day AA Meeting Evening Prayer	⁵ 5:00 Worship
⁶ 8:30 Worship 9:00 Coffee Hour 10:30 Worship	⁷ AA Meeting	⁸	⁹ 6:30 Council Meeting	¹⁰ 11:00 Bible Study 7:00 Nature Club	¹¹ AA Meeting Evening Prayer	¹² 5:00 Worship
¹³ 8:30 Worship 10:30 Worship	¹⁴ AA Meeting	¹⁵	¹⁶	¹⁷ 11:00 Bible Study	¹⁸ AA Meeting Evening Prayer	¹⁹ 5:00 Worship 9-3 (EGA Event)
²⁰ 8:30 Worship 10:30 Worship 1:00 Orchid Society	²¹ AA Meeting	²²	²³	²⁴ 11:00 Bible Study	²⁵ AA Meeting Evening Prayer	²⁶ 5:00 Worship
²⁷ 8:30 Worship 10:30 Worship	²⁸ AA Meeting	²⁹	³⁰	³¹ 11:00 Bible Study		

Church Email: hnlc.secretary@hotmail.com

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

Pastor Andy Gordon Cell Phone: 609-206-7839

Church Office: 856-468-5760

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

July 2025

PRAYER LIST

Holly & Duane, Dawn Allen, The friends and family of John Austino as they mourn his passing, Hal Battindorf, Nicholas Baud, Wanda Brown, Madelene Budd, Carol Carty, Sal Castelli, Jenn Causey and family, Tracey Causey, Lisa Clark, Baby Landyn and Kristen Compagoni, Sherwood Cotton, Bob Counbs, Craig (diagnosed with cancer), Rocco Cristinzio, Leslie Criston, Milton Cuevas, Sr., Milton Cuevas, Jr., Nicholas Damiani, The family of Tony DelMonte as they mourn his passing, Alicia DiRienzo, Kathy Drew, Barbara Esposito, Barbara Facchine, Scott Fey, Bill Flynn, Francis, Bobby G., Alma Garcia, The friends and family of Susan Gavin as they mourn her passing, Gavin Gigliotti, The family of Michael Gilletti as they mourn his death, Marie Giliberti, Mark Gismondi, Terry Gismondi, Wilma Gismondi, Jay Goheen and family, Randi Gordon, the Hatcher family, Ron Herrmann, the Hogan family, The family of Ken Jakubiak as they mourn his passing, Marilyn Kaiser, The family of Robert Keen as they mourn his passing, Elise Kelm and the Kelm family, Corinne Klotz, The family and friends of Doris Lail as they mourn her passing, Grace Laphan, Pat Larkin, Joseph Lonia, The Lyons family in the loss of their brother, The friends and family of Jessie MacGregor as they mourn her passing, The family of Doris Manogue as they mourn her passing, Joseph Mansfield, The McCall family in their time of grief and loss, Rob and Nona McDonough & family, Caroline Miles, Jim Montisano, The friends and family of Mary Alice Morrison as they mourn her passing, George Muth, The family and friends of Carol Nardi as they mourn her death, Bob and Sue Nevins (suffering with a brain tumor), The family of Robert O'Connor, Janet Ostrowski, The family of Joseph Ostrowski as they mourn his death, Lucas Otey, Otis, Danielle Peters, The Pressley family in the loss of their cousin, Jan Pressley (and all victims of the recent hurricanes), The family of Harry Rees as they mourn his death, The family of Lewis Richards as they mourn his passing, The family of Charles Rust as they mourn his passing, Noreen Ruyuh, Dylan Sauer, Meleta Seher, Billy Shea, The family and friends of Glenn Shirley as they mourn his passing, Helen Simkunas & Family, Joyce and Arvin Skramsdad, Samantha Sumner, Richard Sylvester, Eileen Simpson, Julia Stanz, Nathan Storhoff, Donna Testa, Corey Temean, Ed Tutka, Sharon Walker, The family and friends of Larry Wall as they mourn his passing, Rosie Ward, Winfield Watson, Wayne Weaver, Dolores Whilleson, The family of Michelle Whiting as they mourn her passing, the Wilke family including Tim & Catherine, Sue Willard, Jill Wilt, 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.)

Filled with the Spirit to tell God's deeds!

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Total received year-to-date--\$60273.06. Amount needed to meet the spending plan--\$64948.00. (We are currently about \$4600 behind what is needed to meet our spending plan. Please don't forget the church if you plan to be away!)

SUNDAY SCHOOL SESSIONS

Sunday School is on hiatus until September. However, lesson materials are still available on the church website throughout the summer months.

SAVE THE DATE:

- **Sunday, September 7th—God's Work, Our Hands (this is also Wenonah's Fall cleanup event)**

FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry is requesting school supplies for children. They are collecting in July and August and will distribute at the end of August.

JULY CELEBRATIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Oliver Bardales, Joyce Bradbury, Dot Kelleher, Maggie Leddy, April Montana, Mark Yandach

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Lorraine & John Brecht, Cindee & Art Kollmeier

COFFEE HOUR

The 8:30 service is hosting a coffee hour between services Sunday, July 6th and the first Sunday of each month moving forward. Please join us for coffee and fellowship.

2025 STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM—Go and Do the Same—Break Free

What we do with our money, our time, and our other resources in relationship to the church is important. What we do with these things represents our deepest values and commitments. We are not just pledging support for a budget. We are symbolizing what we hope for this congregation and for our community and even for the world.

To help us think about these things we are looking at a passage of scripture with two parts. The first part tells the story of a young woman who was a slave and who had a spirit that allowed her to tell fortunes. Her owners

made a bundle on her. And when God liberated her through Paul and Silas, her owners were not happy.

The second story picks up where that one leaves off. The owners hauled Paul and Silas to civil court on the charge of damages. The magistrate put Paul and Silas in jail—in fact, in an “innermost cell”—and fastened their feet in stocks. God sent an earthquake and opened the doors, so that Paul and Silas could leave. On their way out they found the jailer about to commit suicide, but they offered him the chance to join the movement to the Realm of God. Not only did he accept, but he had them over for dinner.

Now you might ask, “What do these stories have to do with stewardship?” Both stories picture people who are imprisoned because of the misuse of money and other material resources. Some of us are in similar prisons. And both stories show how God releases people from such prisons. They break free into fuller, deeper, lives. The same possibility exists for us, when we break free from our anxiety about our possessions into the freedom of generosity.

ST. PETER’S COMMUNITY PANTRY is here to help serve those facing food insecurity in Gloucester County. If you are having a difficult time buying food for yourself, or your family, please let us try to make a small difference for you. The Pantry is located behind St. Peter’s Episcopal Church at 304 Kings Highway in Clarksboro. We are open every 3rd Saturday of the Month from 9 AM to 1 PM. Next distribution date: Saturday, July 19, 2025.



**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