

The Herald

July 2026



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
Choir is on hiatus
until September.

PASTOR'S PAGE

Happy 250th Birthday America!

The Rev. Yehiel Curry, Presiding Bishop of The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America reminds us this July 4th Weekend that as Lutheran Christians, we believe that God calls us to:

- Remember our connection to each other through baptism, as Scripture teaches us: "We, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another" (Romans 12:5).
- Name sin for what it really is and to repent of it, as the Augsburg Confession and the catechisms remind us.
- Serve the common good in society as "earthly measures toward God's intention" As we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, Bishop Curry calls us to hold fast to:
 - gratitude and humility, possibilities and shortcomings as The Spirit of God moves us through this complicated already and not-yet context of life.
 - God's promises for all:
 - o the presence of God with us,
 - o the power of the resurrection of Christ,
 - o the accompaniment of the Holy Spirit and
 - o the ever-unfolding grace of God.

We humbly and gratefully celebrate this occasion neither as a perfect nation nor as a perfect church but as a people held in God's grace and called into community in service to all neighbors and for the sake of the world God so loves. (Curry)

When a Yoke Means Freedom

The Gospel Lesson for July 4th weekend links humility to freedom. Listen to these ironic words from Jesus: "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matt. 11:28-30). Jesus is reframing the idea of a yoke, telling us that a yoke will help us grow as disciples.

Jesus offers a yoke to tired listeners and tells them that a yoke will give them rest. The yoke as a means to rest had to be a strange idea for the first disciples, and it ought to sound strange to us today as well.

The early hearers of this biblical passage knew that a yoke was a means of engaging the energy of oxen as heavy lifters in the enterprise of farming. Yokes are still employed in our world and they are still a burden and a way of harnessing animals' hard work.

The first ancient readers or hearers of Matthew also viewed a yoke as a metaphor for obedience to God's law and wisdom. Generally, our instinct is to resist yokes and laws, or at least to not immediately connect them with the idea of freedom. Yet, it is the image of strapping into a yoke that Jesus uses to invite us to think of God's law and wisdom as a means to surrender, give way, and accept something graceful and positive—rest, ease, lightness.

Have a safe and blessed July! Peace!

Pastor Andy

CHURCH CALENDAR

July 2026

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 11:00 Bible Study 4-7 pm Wenonah Farmer's Market	3 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	HAPPY 4th 5:00 Worship 
5 8:30 Worship 10:30 Worship	6 AA Meeting	7	8	9 11:00 Bible Study 7:00 Nature Club	10 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	11 5:00 Worship
12 8:30 Worship 10:30 Worship 1:00 Orchid Society	13 AA Meeting	14	15	16 11:00 Bible Study 4-7 pm Wenonah Farmer's Market	17 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	18 9:00-3:00 EGA event 5:00 Worship
19 8:30 Worship 10:30 Worship	20 AA Meeting	21	22	23 11:00 Bible Study	24 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	25 5:00 Worship
26 8:30 Worship 10:30 Worship	27 AA Meeting	28	29	30 11:00 Bible Study	31 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	

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 2026

PRAYER LIST

Prayers for Bishop Christa Compton and her family with the passing of her mother Nancy, Prayers for St. Ambrose in Pennsville as they begin their pastoral search, Prayers for our service men and women serving in the current military actions, especially for those we have lost, Prayers for the victims of the shooting at Brown University and in Australia, Prayers for the residents in Washington state who have been evacuated due to flooding, Prayers for the two National Guardsmen who were shot in Washington, DC and their families, Holly & Duane, The family of Norman Albinson as they mourn his passing, Dawn Allen, The family of Anthony Assante as they mourn his passing, The friends and family of James Barth as they mourn his passing, Nicholas Baud, Lorraine Brecht, Wanda Bryan, Madelene Budd, Mike Bundy, Justin Buzby and family, Carol Carty, Sal Castelli, Jenn Causey and family, Tracey Causey, Lisa Clark, Josh Clarke, Maverick Cleavenger, Sean Cleavenger, Baby Landyn and Kristen Compagioni, Sherwood Cotton, Bob Counbs, Craig (diagnosed with cancer), Rocco Cristinzio, Leslie Criston, Milton Cuevas, Sr., Milton Cuevas, Jr., The family of John Cusack as they grieve his passing, Nicholas Damiani, Lou Deaine, The family of Tony DelMonte as they mourn his passing, Dylan Dinh, Kathy Drew, the family of Harry Duckinfield as they mourn his passing, Kristen Dymond, Barbara Esposito, Barbara Facchine, Bill Flynn, Francis, Bobby G., Jeannie Gapinski, Alma Garcia, Maureen Garrett and family, Stephen and Juliet Genovese, Gavin Gigliotti, Lauren Stott Gilbert, Mark Gismondi, Terry Gismondi, Wilma Gismondi, Jay Goheen and family, Andrew Gordon, Randi Gordon, Collet Grasso, The family of Steve Harris as they mourn his passing, the Hatcher family, The friends and family of Jim Hynes as they mourn his passing, the Hogan family, Ed Jeffers, The friends and family of Tom Jones as they mourn his passing, Marilyn Kaiser, Chaley Klotz, Corinne Klotz, Clara Kuter, John Lafferty, William & Adrienne Lafleche, The family and friends of Doris Lail as they mourn her passing, Grace Laphan, Pat Larkin, Joe Lewandowski, Joseph Lonia, Bill Ludwig, The friends and family of Jessie MacGregor as they mourn her passing, Bill Mann, The family of Doris Manogue as they mourn her passing, Joseph Mansfield, John Markovski, Caroline Miles, Janaq Minzy and her family Jim Montisano, The friends and family of Mary Alice Morrison as they mourn her passing, George Muth, Bob and Sue Nevins, Janet Ostrowski, Lucas Otey, Otis, Donna Paone, Danielle Peters, Debbie Post, Lauren Rebstock, The family of Bill Reese as they mourn his passing, The family of Lewis Richards as they mourn his passing, Dan Richardson, Jen Rossi, The friends and family of Carole Rund as they mourn her passing, The family of Charles Rust as they mourn his passing, The family of Scott Rust as they mourn his passing, Noreen Ruyuh, Dylan Sauer, Ken Sauer, The Sauer family, Mark Sauer, Joseph Schiffer, Meleta Seher, Billy Shea, Helen Simkunas & Family, Joyce and Arvin Skramsdad, The family of Deb Solt as they mourn her passing, Julia Stanz, Claudia Storhoff, Nathan Storhoff, Samantha Sumner, Jane Tallman, Donna Testa, Ed Tutka, Lynne Rasmussen Walker, Sharon Walker, Wayne Weaver, The Wilke family including Tim & Catherine, Jill Wilt, Glenn Wrigley, The family of Kevin Yandach as they mourn his passing.

(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 to date—\$66768.06.00 Amount needed to date--\$67964.00. (Please don't forget the church if you will be away.)

SAVE THE FOLLOWING DATES:

- 1st and 3rd Thursdays through September—Wenonah Farmer's Market. Vendors, food trucks, etc. (Next dates—July 2nd and 16th.)
- Tuesday, September 29th—Red Cross Blood Drive (1-6pm.)

JULY CELEBRATIONS

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

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Cindee & Art Kollmeier

IT'S GLEANING TIME—The Greater Woodbury Cooperative Food Ministries is seeking volunteers to sort fresh vegetables for our food pantry. A schedule and complete information can be found at www.bushelsofblessings.org. Questions? Contact Lori Kershaw (609-221-3880) or Lenore Cronlund (609-220-4079).

BREAKFAST MINISTRY—Christ Episcopal Church in Woodbury has launched a new breakfast ministry. It offers free cold breakfast to the Woodbury community on the 3rd Saturday of the month from 8 am to 10 am in the Parish Hall at 62 Delaware Avenue. Please keep this ministry in your prayers. The next date is July 18, 2026.

COFFEE HOUR

The 8:30 service is hosting a coffee hour between services on the first Sunday of the month. Due to the holiday and vacation schedules, there will not be a coffee hour in July Please join us Sunday August 2nd and the first Sunday of each month moving forward. Please join us for coffee and fellowship.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE— Travel Lightly—Being Nimble for Mission



Matthew 9:35-10:23

One virtue of this passage for today's church, with respect to stewardship, is that it underlines the importance of making as clear a choice as possible in using resources in favor of the Realm of God. Individuals, households, and congregations become clearer and deeper in stewardship commitment when we make a deliberate "Yes."

By making a strong pledge of time, talent, money, and other resources, we reinforce others who have already done so, and we encourage those who have not done as much to do the same. Another virtue of the passage is that it underscores the fact that our choices have long-term consequences.

We may not believe that failure to give to the church is going to keep us out of heaven, but we certainly know that investing money in the work of ministry and mission on behalf of others improves the quality of life in our community. It also directly benefits us with a sense of purpose, over-all well-being, and being a part of something that is larger than ourselves. It is good for us!

To accept the command of Jesus to engage in bringing wholeness to a fragmented world is to be on a mission that matters. It is a mission that is not without risk, cannot be taken without deep personal commitment, and requires that we ultimately trust God to provide what we need. Then again, most things that matter in life are not necessarily easy or without effort.

HOLY NATIVITY MEMORIAL GARDEN ENGRAVED PAVERS--Our congregation created a memorial garden in our back yard years ago to honor or memorialize loved ones. We are offering the opportunity once again to purchase a paver to honor a loved one(s). The cost of each engraved paver is \$60. If you are interested in purchasing one please fill out the form found in the narthex and include it with payment in the offering plate or deliver to Pastor Andy or Kim Theriault. Each paver can have up to 5 lines/15-17 characters per line. There is a sample paver in the narthex for viewing. All pavers purchased by September 15th will be dedicated on All Saint's Day (Nov. 1st). Any questions, please see or contact Kim Theriault (609)420-8453.

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 18th.



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

Please Deliver This Copy of THE HERALD To:

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**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