

The Herald

October 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 rehearses
on Sunday mornings
@ 9:40 am. All are
welcome.

PASTOR'S PAGE

It's Fall! Perfect time to remember ... The Righteous Live by Faith

Faith is the theme for the readings on Sunday, October 5. But not just any faith. It is a life-transforming faith, one that demonstrates the very presence of God moving, alive, and active in God's people. In response to Habakkuk's oracle, the Lord answered him that "the righteous live by their faith" (Hab. 2:4b). But just what does it mean to be righteous?

- It's a righteousness imparted by God,
 - who creates and claims each of us as God's own sons and daughters,
 - God brings us into this family through baptism and gives us faith that makes us God's holy children.
- Being part of this divine family gives us our worth, even at those times we may not think of ourselves as worthy. In 2 Timothy, the author shares the history of the faith in Timothy's family, beginning with his grandmother and then passed on to his mother and to himself.
- This is how many of us were first brought into the family of God:
 - we had faithful parents who knew of their own God-given righteousness
 - and then passed this gift on to their children.
 - But again, it's all God's doing!
- Finally, Jesus' disciples boldly ask their teacher to "Increase [their] faith" (Luke 17:5).
 - They knew that faith was something they needed, and Jesus explains that even a small amount of faith can do great wonders.
 - What does it mean to have this sort of faith, a faith that can serve God's purposes here to truly be God's work and yet it's done with our hands?
 - On this first Sunday in October, we re-experience this faith that God has freely given us.
 - It's a gift and it's our connection to our God.

In October Blessings and Miracles Abound

We will see signs of how God is active and alive and present in our world and in our lives when we are open and receptive to the possibilities.

- We hear, read about, and experience healing.
- Fragile relationships are restored.
- Hope is experienced in profound ways.

Kyrie eleison: We are reminded to be Persistent in Prayer

Many have known persistent prayer as a kind of wrestling with God. Many have pleaded with God for justice and mercy. We are reminded this month that God's grace and mercy is known in the blessing of baptismal remembrance and our identity as beloved children of God.

We Hear The Good News All Over Again on Reformation Sunday

We need to hear the good news constantly since we so easily lose sight of our bondage to systems of oppression and the unjust hierarchies they create. We so often fall prey to thinking we are better or less than others because of the arbitrary dynamics that create a false sense of status. Reformation Day reminds us that our impulse to contain God's grace in structures of our own making cannot hold back God's determination to claim the whole world in a love as encompassing and intimate as words written on our hearts. That was good news for the Israelites in exile, for the early church in Rome, for those living during the Reformation, and for us today.

Have a Blessed October! Enjoy this Fall Season!

Pastor Andy

CHURCH CALENDAR

October 2025

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 GCFE 7:30	3 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	4 5:00 Worship
5 8:30 Worship 9:00 Coffee Hour/ Sunday School 9:40 Choir 10:30 Worship	6 AA Meeting	7	8 6:30 Council Meeting	9 11:00 Bible Study 7:00 Nature Club	10 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	11 5:00 Worship
12 8:30 Worship 9:00 Sunday School 9:40 Choir 10:30 Worship	13 COLUMBUS DAY  AA Meeting	14	15	16 11:00 Bible Study GCFE 7:30	17 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	18 5:00 Worship
19 8:30 Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 1:00 Orchid Society	20 AA Meeting	21	22 Chili Night (5:00-7:00 pm)	23 10:00 Worship & Music 11:00 Bible Study	24 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	25 5:00 Worship
26 8:30 Worship 9:00 Sunday School 9:40 Choir 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

October 2025

PRAYER LIST

For the family of Charlie Kirk and praying for an end to all forms of political violence, The Community of Annunciation Parish in Minneapolis, MN, in the wake of the recent shooting, The victims, families and first responders of the Texas floods, Holly & Duane, Dawn Allen, The friends and family of John Austino as they mourn his passing, Hal Battindorf, Nicholas Baud, 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., The family of John Cusack as they grieve his passing, The family of Rosemarie Daffin as they mourn her passing, 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, Gavin Gigliotti, Lauren Stott Gilbert, The family of Michael Gilletti as they mourn his death, Marie Gilberti, Mark Gismondi, Terry Gismondi, Wilma Gismondi, Jay Goheen and family, Randi Gordon, the Hatcher family, The family and friends of Ron Herrmann as they mourn his passing, the Hogan family, The family of Ken Jakubiak as they mourn his passing, The friends and family of Tom Jones 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, Clara Kuter, The family and friends of Doris Lail as they mourn her passing, Grace Laphan, Pat Larkin, Joseph Lonia, 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, Bill Morris, The friends and family of Mary Alice Morrison as they mourn her passing, The family of Linsey Mullin as they mourn her death, George Muth, The family and friends of Carol Nardi as they mourn her death, Bob and Sue Nevins (suffering with a brain tumor), Janet Ostrowski, The family of Joseph Ostrowski as they mourn his death, Lucas Otey, Otis, Donna Paone, Danielle Peters, The family of Lewis Richards as they mourn his 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, Meleta Seher, Billy Shea, The family and friends of Glenn Shirley as they mourn his passing, Helen Simkunas & Family, Joyce and Arvin Skramstad, Richard Sylvester, Eileen Simpson, Julia Stanz, Sarah Stanz, Nathan Storhoff, Donna Testa, Corey Temean, Frank 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, Shirley Yancer, 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 to date—\$87570.95. Amount needed to date--\$97422.00. (We are currently about \$9800.00 behind our spending plan goal. Please don't forget the church if you will be away.)

FEED THE NORTHEAST 2025

For the month of October, we are collecting non-perishable food items to donate to the Food Pantry. You should bring your items this month to the church and they will be placed in front of the altar.

HYGIENE KITS

We will again be assembling hygiene kits this year. If you have a THRIVENT account, please consider setting up an Action Team Grant to help with this project. This will enable us to have the funds to purchase items to fill the kits. If you have questions, please reach out to Pastor Andy.

COUNTING TEAMS

We are looking to add some members to our offering counting team. We would like to set up a rotating schedule to make it convenient for everyone. We typically count the offering on Sundays after the 10:30 service, but we could also count on Mondays if needed. If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact Caryl Carthew (856-905-2830 or carthew99@comcast.net).

SAVE THE DATE:

- **Wednesday, October 22—Chili Night (5:00-7:00 pm)—Look for a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.**

OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Caryl Carthew, Colin Crawford, Meghan DelMonte, Mileana & Dawkins Galbraith, Christine Regan.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Kelly & Nick Sena

COFFEE HOUR

The 8:30 service is hosting a coffee hour between services Sunday, October 5th and the first Sunday of each month moving forward. Please join us for coffee and fellowship.

2025 STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM—Go and Do the Same—Feed the Hungry

In households, we sometimes have to have talks that have a little edge. Sometimes we have to be honest in ways that make us uncomfortable. Such is the case today. But it turns out to be a good discomfort. As you know, we are being guided in our stewardship campaign this year by readings from Luke in the Revised Common Lectionary. As we approach the second Sunday in our stewardship campaign, we come to the parable of a person who had wealth and an impoverished, hungry person named Lazarus.

If we hear this story on only one level, it could make us uncomfortable in the negative. Here we have a person who has material resources. That person wears the finest clothes, drives the biggest car, and eats sumptuously every day. Every day that person passes Lazarus, a beggar at the gate, hungering after a scrap from the rich person's table, covered with sores, and the dogs come and lick the sores. They both die. In the afterlife, Abraham gathers Lazarus to his bosom. That's a way of saying that Abraham takes care of Lazarus in the next world. But the person who had been wealthy is in torment. Flames. Agony. This person calls out to Abraham to send Lazarus with just a touch of water on Lazarus's finger to touch the tongue of the rich person. Can you imagine how good that would feel? Just a touch of water on a parched, cracked tongue. But no. Now you may not like this, but it is the storyteller's prerogative to say that a great chasm had been fixed between them that could not be crossed. The person who had had the big bucks pleaded for Abraham to send Lazarus to the family home to warn the brothers, so they can avoid the torment. But Abraham refuses, saying they have Moses and the prophets who already provide the guidance they need. Pressing again, the person who once had wealth says, "But if someone goes to them from the dead, then they will repent," to which Abraham replies, "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone rises from the dead."

Now, from one point of view, that's a pretty encouraging text. If you are like Lazarus, it is a word of promise that God will make up in the next life for what you lose in this life. But if you are a person who has some material resources, the text can come across like a threat. If you do not do your part in caring for the Lazaruses of the world, torment awaits. From this point of view, the text is a warning. That makes me a little uncomfortable, especially on a Stewardship Sunday.

So we should look at the parable not as a threat but as an invitation. Luke invites us to use our material resources for the well-being of all in the community. When we do that, we discover that Abraham's bosom reaches from the future into the present, at least a little bit. Of course, there is an honest edge here that we need to face. When we have resources, and we do not share them, then we put in motion processes that limit security and blessing to others and that eventually limit security and blessing for ourselves. But, the emphasis this morning is on the invitation. God invites you to consider how you will share your material resources through this stewardship campaign in the interest of building a better community in the congregation and beyond.

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, October 18, 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

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