

The Herald

September 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 resumes
rehearsals on
September 7th @
9:40 am. All are
welcome.

PASTOR'S PAGE

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen (Ephesians 3:20-21).

On Sunday, September 7, you are liable to hear a chant during and after worship ... *God's work! **Our hands!** ... God's work! **Our hands!***

This powerful proclamation is an inspirational reminder to the body of Christ that the baptismal waters call us beyond our pews, beyond the walls of the church, and out into the world that God created and loves.

What lies behind our chant is the expectation that our God will broaden what we know as ministry in ways we have never imagined. Through the waters of baptism, the Spirit has already filled us, making each one of us a useful part of the body of Christ!

God's transformative power calls us, through the Spirit, to do God's work with our hands. Transformation is exciting, reviving and, most importantly, necessary for steady personal spiritual growth and a sincere commitment to ministry. Deep, impactful transformation often comes through Spirit-led action. Spirit-led action regularly leads us beyond Sunday morning worship and into the "world." Our God is in the business of transforming lives, and transformed lives have the potential to transform the community around us and, ultimately, the world (!Khabeb).

Our Savior ministered in public places, eating with tax collectors and healing on the Sabbath. Jesus made house calls, met with people who were deemed "unclean" and even traveled the so-called pagan countryside.

Our church is a vehicle through which we can likewise do good all around our countryside.

Doing God's work with our hands is more than performing simple acts of kindness. It's a sign of Christ's real presence in the world, manifesting God's Beloved Community.

God's Work ... **OUR HANDS!** God's Work ... **OUR HANDS!**

Peace, *Pastor Andy*

CHURCH CALENDAR

September 2025

Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of Christ in holy communion and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own. to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 GCFE 7:30	5 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	6 5:00 Worship Pot Luck following service
7 GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS 8:30 Worship 9:00 Coffee Hour/ Sunday School 9:40 Choir 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 9:40 Choir 10:30 Worship	15 AA Meeting	16	17	18 11:00 Bible Study GCFE 7:30	19 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	20 5:00 Worship
21 8:30 Worship 9:00 Sunday School 9:40 Choir 10:30 Worship 1:00 Orchid Society	22 AA Meeting	23	24 Church BBQ (5:00-7:00 pm)	25 11:00 Bible Study	26 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	27 5:00 Worship
28 8:30 Worship 9:00 Sunday School 9:40 Choir 10:30 Worship	29 AA Meeting	30 RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE (2:00-7:00) 				

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

September 2025

PRAYER LIST

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, 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, Tom Jones, 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 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, 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—\$77022.95. Amount needed to date--\$84932.00. (We are currently about \$7900.00 behind our spending plan goal. Please don't forget the church if you will be away.)

SUNDAY SCHOOL SESSIONS

Sunday School sessions resume on September 7th between services. Lesson materials continue to be posted on the church website.

SAVE THE DATE:

- **Sunday, September 7th—God's Work, Our Hands (this is also Wenonah's Fall cleanup event)**
- **Wednesday, September 24th --Please join us for one last summer BBQ from 5pm-7pm. Please sign up in the Narthex if you are able to attend.**
- **Tuesday, September 30—Red Cross Blood Drive (2:00 to 7:00 pm)—Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: wenonah tp schedule an appointment. Thank you in advance for your generosity!**

SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Julia Bardales, Marianne Halterman, Lori Kershaw, Sharon Kleinstuber, John Lonia, Frank Newkirk, Jackie Ricketts, Trista Yandach.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Julia & Matthew Bardales, Lorrie Foresman, Sharon & John Kleinstuber, April & Vince Montana, Marge & Frank Newkirk.

COFFEE HOUR

The 8:30 service is hosting a coffee hour between services Sunday, September 7th and the first Sunday of each month moving forward. Please join us for coffee and fellowship.

2025 STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM—Go and Do the Same—Make Room

As you know, our congregation is taking an alternate approach to stewardship this year. Instead of the three-week concentrated campaign to raise the budget that we have had in late October and early November the last several years, we are making stewardship our focus once a month from May through November. Today is Stewardship Sunday (so to speak) for August.

Last year we ended the campaign by announcing the results at the big dinner on Thanksgiving Sunday. We will have a similar meal this year. It is particularly appropriate to recall the dinner motif today, because our text uses the figure of a banquet, a great meal, and how to behave at such an occasion.

In the ancient world, eating was a big deal. They did not have as much variety as we do. And they could not keep food as long or as reliably as we can. No refrigeration. No vacuum-seal plastic packages. No dehydrated or chemically-based foods that come with the instructions, "Just add water." No tin cans. (It has been so long since I opened a tin can, I am surprised I remember them). Drought could cut short food supplies. Floods would wash away harvests. Locusts and other critters that eat crops. An invading army would help itself to your food, sometimes leaving your cupboard bare.

Eating was a big deal. So you can imagine the importance they gave to big meals. A wedding celebration in a village, for instance, would go on for several days, and lots of food was a key element of such celebrations.

It was natural, then, for people in the ancient world to use the language of a banquet to describe the time when God would fulfill all of God's promises. Our text today, like some other texts in the ancient world, uses the language of a great feast, such as a wedding banquet, to describe the realm of God, that great time when the human community will live in love, peace, grace, freedom, dignity, justice, and abundance.

In the presence of such possibility, what do you do? A part of the answer is, "You participate with stewardship." From this point of view, stewardship is participating appropriately in the banquet. Yes, you give. You write your check. You commit your time to expressions of love, efforts for peace, support for actions in behalf of freedom, standing up for justice.

But here is the wonderful logic of God. In the act of giving, you receive. As you put your money, your time, your energy into the movement towards the realm, you experience the qualities of the realm more fully in your own life. I know people for whom life is a continuous wedding celebration.

It's like going to a great banquet. You take a shower. You get ready. You dress appropriately. You get yourself there. And in the process you receive. The expectation of going to the banquet reaches from the future into your present, and adds to your life as you anticipate going. And the banquet itself is its own reward with its food and drink and companionship, and the sense of community that fills your soul.

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, September 20, 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