



The Lutheran

A Publication of St. John Lutheran Church
and

Church of the Redeemer (Episcopal).

Sayre, PA 18840

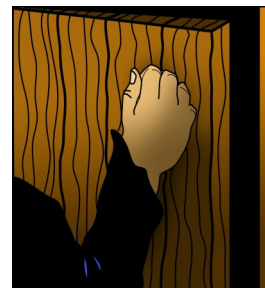
July 24, 2025

Combined Summer Worship

This Sunday, July 27, we continue our combined worship at REDEEMER at 10 a.m. Can't attend worship but you CAN watch it? Go here: <https://www.redeemersayre.org> (copy and paste into your browser.)

Reflection for July 27

In our first lesson this weekend, it is difficult in our day to consider the analogy of Hosea and Gomer. In the notes section of the Oxford Study Bible NRSV, it says that this book portrays God's agony over the betrayal of God's people. What was happening in Hosea's time? There was "a proliferation of sexualized fertility worship and an escalation of reckless political intriguing." God commands Hosea to marry a sexually promiscuous wife, Gomer, which in turn leads to a tumultuous marriage. Gomer serves as an archetype for unfaithful Israel. [See pages 1193-1195 of the Oxford Study Bible.] The figure of Gomer as adulterous prostitute offends our sensibilities, and Hosea evokes pity more than admiration. Yet theologian and Methodist Bishop Willimon points out, this scandalous story directs our attention to the God who went so far as to be crucified for us. "Only a passionate, unseemly God who is willing to risk scandal could possibly save a bunch of adulterers like us," Willimon noted. What does it mean to place ourselves in the role of Gomer? What does the person Hosea say about the character of God?



Entryway and Electrical improvements at SJLC Update

The progress of the doors/glass replacement in the entryways is taking longer than expected. Garrity Glass is awaiting the arrival of the parts needed to complete the job. Rest assured we have not been forgotten and the job will be completed as soon as possible. Additionally, the lights above the cross within the church have been restored. Now the sanctuary space (the area behind the rail) is bathed in adequate light. For that we thank both God and Mountain Lake Electric.

Can You Help?

Next Thursday, July 31st, St. John is sponsoring/hosting the free community supper at Redeemer from 4-5:30 pm. We need **volunteers** to provide **desserts** (cookies, cupcakes, etc.) We are also in need of volunteers to **help serve** etc. If you can help please let Jerry in the office know. You can reach her at either church:

Redeemer (570) 888-2270 Mon. & Wed. 8 am-12 pm

Tue. & Thur. 12:30-4:30 pm

SJLC (570) 888-2412 Mon. & Wed. 12:30-4:30 pm

Tue. & Thur. 8 am-12 pm

Thank You!!



Vacation Bible School Update

Our Vacation Bible School attendees donated \$299.43 for missional purposes. **WOW!!** This money will be given to assist the Newark Valley Flood victims through the Newark Valley Fire Department. We are grateful as well for the Church of the Redeemer volunteers, including two youth, who went to Newark Valley last Sunday to assist a family remove damaged goods from their home. Thank you as well to the Rev. Trula Hollywood of St. Paul's Owego who helped coordinate our efforts.

Coffee Time @ Redeemer

All parishioners are invited to a time of fellowship, coffee and a snack immediately after worship this Sunday in our *air conditioned* Parish Hall (lower level). Please join us!



The (Episcopal) Bishop is coming!



We are pleased to announce that the Rt. Rev. Kevin D. Nichols will be our celebrant and preacher on **Sunday August 17**, with Pastor Melinda assisting him. In the Episcopal Church a bishop must visit each parish in his/her diocese at least once every three years. It is typical on these visits that the Bishop conducts confirmation, receptions, and reaffirmation of baptismal vows. Canon Melinda is presenting at least three people for reception. Reception means not only officially transferring membership, it means that those being received officially become Episcopalian Christians. As

a visit from the Bishop is a big deal, after worship there will be a different kind of reception ... with food! Obviously, Bishop Kevin is visiting during our joint summer worship—it will be his delight to be with both Lutherans AND Episcopalians. He will be meeting with available members of Council and Vestry after the reception (with food!)

This occasion is a notable difference between an ELCA congregation and an Episcopal (TEC) parish. Priests are not allowed to perform confirmation in an Episcopal church—that is exclusively the responsibility and privilege of a bishop. Additionally, ELCA bishops typically visit congregations at the invitation of the congregation. Often, during an Episcopal visit, the Bishop will also review the Parish Register (marriages, deaths, baptisms, communications), the Annual Reports and the Record of Worship Services.

St. John Corner

Living into Our Mission @ St. John



For the month of **July & August** as part of living into our mission St. John members will continue to collect hygiene items for the Athens School District. (Redeemer members are welcome to participate as well!) As in the past, items such as tooth paste, body wash, deodorant etc. are much appreciated.



George Michael Snavley , 75, of Sayre, Pa., passed away July 8, 2025, at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, with his cousin Linda at his side. He was the only child of George Nicholas and Catherine Amelia Scott Snavley. Raised in Sayre, he graduated from Sayre High School and later attended the Williamsport Area Community College, now known as Pennsylvania College of Technology. Trains and cars were his passion, and model railroading was his favorite hobby. He was a longtime resident of Highlands Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center in Laporte. Surviving cousins include: Catherine Rein, New York, Ny, John Shultz, Lebanon, Pa, and Linda Childres, Plymouth Meeting, Pa. He will be interred next to his parents at Covenant United Methodist Cemetery in Lebanon. Memorial contributions may be directed to Highlands Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center, P.O. Box 10 Laporte, Pa 18626 or St. John Lutheran Church, 207 S. Hopkins St. Sayre, PA 18840. To send condolences or sign the e-guestbook, please visit www.homerfuneralhome.com



July 27 Lessons

First Lesson: Hosea 1:2-10

Psalm: 85

Second Lesson: Colossians 2:6-15

Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

Serving in Worship at Redeemer at 10

Reading the lessons & Prayers

July 27: Margaret Cole

August 3: Diane Siebecker

Usher

Walter Chaykosky

Bob Cornell

Greeter

Linda Murrelle

Bev Cornell



Birthdays @ St. John

Lucas Webster 7/26

Courtney Brown 7/27

Jerame Eltringham 7/29

Birthdays @ Redeemer

Walter Chaykosky 7/25

Ron Hunt 7/30

Marcella Chaykosky 7/30

Anniversaries @ Redeemer

Rick & Mary Rhodes 7/29

Let Us Know

If you have a birthday or anniversary that we have overlooked please let us know so that we can up date our database.



Redeemer Corner

Weekly Video Spotlight

In this week's video, Bishop Scanlan comes to us from Quebec, where she met with her colleague working group of five bishops to seek each other's support and counsel. Whom do you turn to for advice and wisdom in your work and in your life? The bishop reminds us of the value in seeking the diverse perspectives of others.

[Weekly Video Spotlight: Bishop Scanlan - YouTube](#)

Inquirer's Class

Canon Melinda is offering an Inquirer's Class TONIGHT Thursday evening, August 14. In these classes we will review the Book of Common Prayer, Episcopal Governance, and Episcopal expectations of the laity. Any interested person is invited to attend. We will meet in the Parlor from 6:30 pm until (no later than) 8:00 p.m. Those who desire to be received into the Episcopal Church or wish to make a mature affirmation of faith via confirmation are encouraged to attend this class. The Rt. Rev. Kevin Nichols will be visiting with us on August 17 at our joint worship service and will confirm or receive those who wish it.

Outreach at Redeemer

For the month of **August** we are collecting canned fruit for our local food pantries.



Finishing touches on the parking lot

Sometime today volunteers are spreading topsoil in the gap between the finished parking lot and the lawn. In doing so, they are preventing our lawn mowing volunteers and pedestrians who prefer a short cut across the grass, from tripping over the change in grade. A big THANK YOU to those who are keeping us safe.

My Brother's Keeper

Hello Churches!

We have been so busy! Using lots of materials ! Gently used is fine , just so all is clean.

- * We sure could use men's hankies or bandanas. Especially bandanas can be used as a hanky or in this hot weather, wet and put around neck or on head.
- * Travel size shampoo and or conditioner, travel size bar soap.
- * If retiring old shoes, please save adult size shoelaces for us.
- * Men's neckties, (they are the handles to carry the sleeping bags).
- * 0.16 oz up to 2.7 oz travel/hotel size toothpaste.
- * Disposable razors.



So very grateful for community support. We arrive on Tuesdays to work ,(at Athens Methodist church 118 S Main St, Athens, PA) and are thrilled to find someone has left fabric, mattress pad, wonderful comforters that we can just fold in half and sew up the side to make a sleeping bag so quickly. There may be a box of Band-Aids, a pair of socks or mittens, shoelaces....thoughtful gifts that a homeless person can use. We are so blessed by this generous community!

June marked our 33rd year. We couldn't have done it without all of the donated items. THANK YOU !

HOW TO EXPERIENCE LIFE THROUGH THE SENSES

Epiphany Roman Catholic Church and Valley United Presbyterian Church are working together again to feature local speakers as they teach us how we can engage with life through our senses.

A freewill offering will be collected to support local organizations.

AUGUST 6TH – SIGHT

Speaker: Stephanie Mullen

Location: Valley United Fellowship Hall

AUGUST 13TH – TOUCH

Speaker: Rev. Alicia Dixon-Garrard

Location: Valley United Fellowship Hall

AUGUST 20TH – HEARING

Speaker: Rev. Rachel Helgeson

Location: Epiphany Parish Hall

AUGUST 27TH – TASTE / SMELL

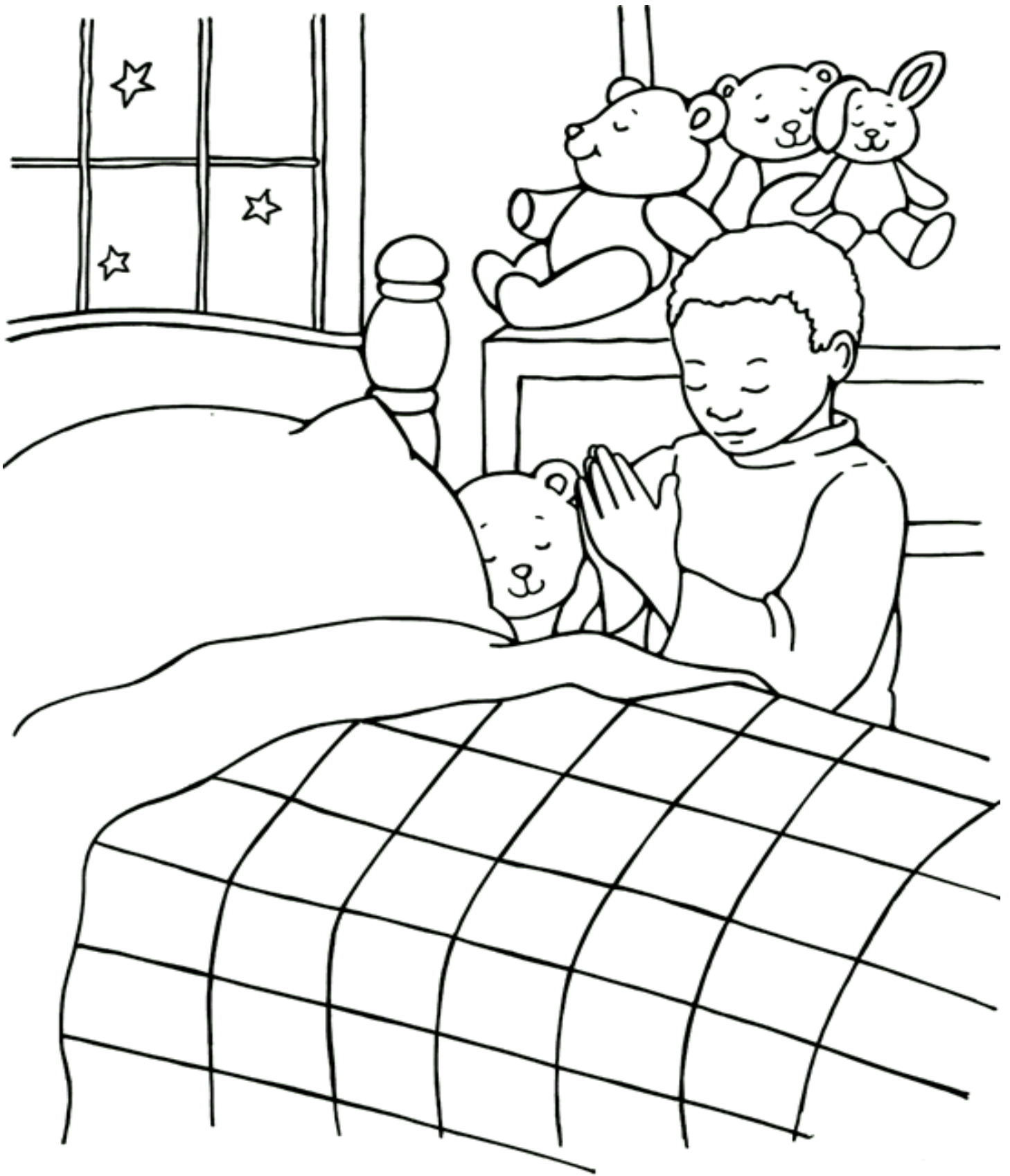
Speaker: Alice Fedorka Bennett

Location: Epiphany Parish Hall

Dinner and fellowship start at 5:45pm.

Join us as we learn how to use our senses to access and enjoy life.





God Hears My Prayers

Jesus Teaches About Prayer

For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened. Luke 11:10 (NIV)

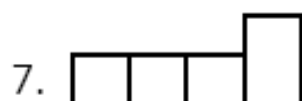
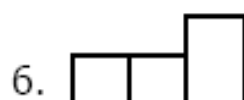
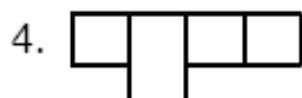
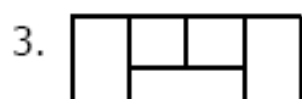
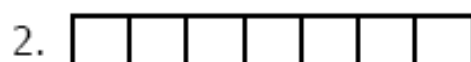
Enter the correct words in the boxes based on the shape of the letters.



Ask

Seek

Knock



receive
seek

ask
find

pray
knock

open
teach

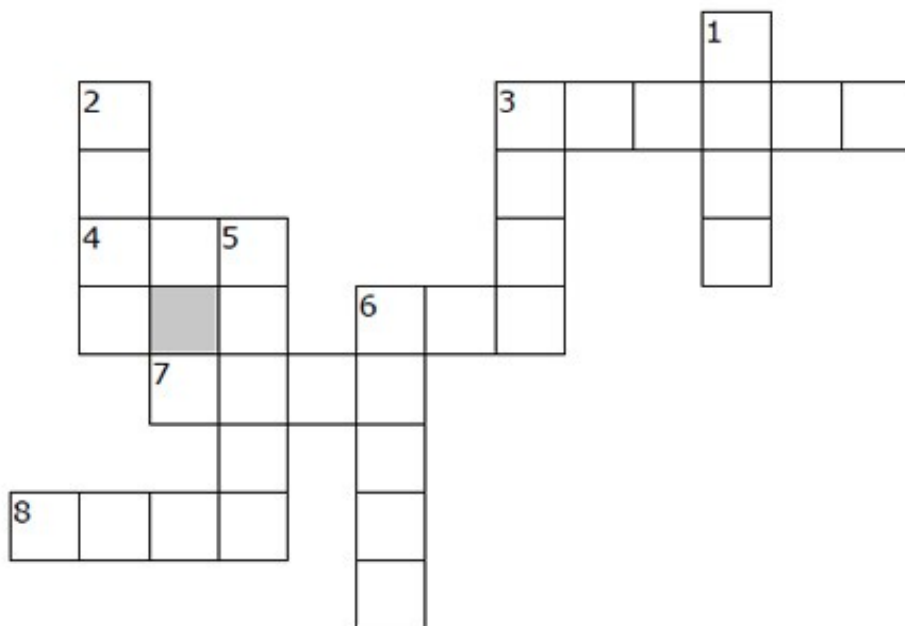
Jesus Teaches about Prayer

"So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Luke 11:9

Based on Luke 11:1-9



Ask
Seek
Knock



ACROSS

3. A person you know, like, and trust
4. To make a request for something
6. A piece of furniture for sleeping
7. A movable structure used to close off an entrance to a room
8. A device operated by a key and used to keep a door from being opened

DOWN

1. To look for something
2. To talk to God
3. To locate something by searching for it
5. To stike a series of blows with your fist, as on a door
6. A food made from flour mixed water and other ingredients, then baked in an oven

LOCK
BED

FIND
SEEK

FRIEND
KNOCK

PRAY
ASK

DOOR
BREAD