



# The Lutheran

A Publication of St. John Lutheran Church  
and

Church of the Redeemer (Episcopal).

Sayre, PA 18840

August 14, 2025

## Combined Summer Worship

Our combined worship continues at 10 a.m. at Redeemer.

No Saturday 5:15 p.m. service on the 16th.

This Sunday we welcome Bishop Kevin Nichols (*Episcopal*). There will be a reception with refreshments downstairs in the Parish Hall after the service in honor of Bishop Kevin's visit with us, and in celebration of the receiving of Diane Siebecker, Heather, and Paul Romano, and Jack Wheeler into our church family. The **loose offerings collected on the**

**17th will be directed to the Bishop's discretionary Fund.** Can't attend worship but you CAN watch it? Go here: <https://www.redeemersayre.org> (copy and paste into your browser.)



## Seniors Fellowship

The Valley Senior Fellowship Group meets at the Athens United Methodist Church Mondays and Fridays from 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. On Mondays they play cards (usually Phase 10). On Fridays we enjoy other games and activities. On the last Friday of the month birthdays are celebrated and there is a dish to pass meal. On the third Thursday of the month a pancake breakfast is served (except in July and August) with a cost of \$5.00. Everyone is welcome to attend. Any Senior that would like to share a cup of coffee or tea and some lively conversation is welcome to the table. For any questions call Cathy, church secretary at 570-888-2241, or Sue at 570-888-4224.

## FYI

We are now accepting items for our upcoming rummage sale. Watch your future eBlast's for more details.



This week I attended a conference at Wartburg Theological Seminary (WTS) in Dubuque IA. CaSTLE is an acronym for “**C**ountry and **S**mall **T**own **L**ived **E**ccl*e*siology.” Ecclesiology is the technical term for “being the church.” Both NEPA Synod and the Diocese of Bethlehem sent me to this conference. Wartburg has received a substantial grant from the Lily Foundation for the purpose of supporting and renewing small town and rural congregations. From this larger grant, NEPA Synod has received a \$20,000 grant to foster ecumenical partnerships for its 6-2-6-1 program. (You may recall that 6-2-6-1 refers to Six congregations, two pastors, six trained lay worship leaders and one deacon.) Here’s the summary of our grant: “6261 ministry communities stand as witness to the power of church together ...for the benefit of the community in which it is embedded: for the benefit of the hungry, struggling parents, those in recovery, those underhoused, those pushed further and further to the fringe of society.” NEPA Synod is hopeful that at least three ecumenical 6261 partnerships can be established in the northern part of our territory—here in the twin tiers, in Scranton and in Wilkes-Barre.

In subsequent eBlasts, I will be sharing what I learned at this conference and how it might benefit us locally and how it will benefit the northern parts of the Synod and Diocese.

In some respects I was dreading this trip, anxious about whether I would learn anything useful, and wondering what I could contribute. More, I dreaded back to back travel and inevitable flight delays. I am pleased to say that whatever inconvenience occurred, this conference was worth it: I’m eager to implement what I learned both locally and regionally, and am very hopeful for our continued mutual thriving.

And ... I am so glad to be home!

Blessings, Pastor Melinda



## **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.



### **Construction Update**

A new set of doors have been installed in the North Wing entryway. Garrity Glass will be back next week to continue working on the project. This is pictured from the outside. The handles will be installed as soon as they arrive.



### **Craft Day**

The next Craft Day will be on Saturday, September 6, from 10-2 p.m. in the South Wing. We hope to see you there.





## Redeemer Corner

### Weekly Video Spotlight

In this week's video, Bishop Nichols gives thanks for community members who come together to speak out against injustice, protect the vulnerable, and honor the dignity of every human being — particularly the new Lehigh Valley Rapid Response Network, which has launched a 24-hour hotline to report concerns about ICE activity and other immigration emergencies. Staffed by bi-lingual (Spanish/English) dispatchers, LVRRN provides legal documentation, de-escalation, and community support during and after ICE raids and immigration-related arrests. The hotline number is 610-850-9930. [Weekly Video Spotlight: Bishop Nichols](#)



### Outreach at Redeemer

For the month of **August** we are collecting canned fruit for our local food pantries. (St. John members are welcome to contribute as well).

### Craft Day

The next Craft Day will be on Saturday, September 6, from 10-2 p.m. in the South Wing at St. John. We hope to see you there.



## ***The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches***

*Bridging the gaps of life in the name of Jesus Christ.*



**The Bridge**  
of the Penn-York Valley Churches

P.O. Box 202  
Sayre, PA 18840  
570-888-8826

[thevalleybridge.org](http://thevalleybridge.org)

President:  
Kim Paul

Vice President:

Secretary:  
Joan Schoonover

Treasurer:  
Rick Felt

Assistant  
Treasurer:  
Marion Dabroski

Financial  
Secretary:  
Kim Paul

Corresponding  
Secretary:  
Michelle Burger

*"Come to me,  
all you who are  
weary and  
burdened, and I  
will give you  
rest."  
Matthew 11:28*

July 29, 2025

Dear Church of The Redeemer,

Thank you for your recent donation of \$975.00 to ***The Bridge*** and for partnering with ***The Bridge*** to serve those in need in our local community of the school districts of Waverly, Sayre, and Athens. It is because of your commitment, along with almost 30 churches in the Valley, that we are able to provide emergency assistance for those in immediate need of shelter, heat, electricity, food, transportation, and other emergency situations.

May God continue to bless you for your support of this important ministry.

Sincerely,

*Michelle M. Burger*

***The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches***

*Proverbs 19:11 Thank you for this gracious  
gift to those in need of assistance. God Bless!*

## **August 16&17 Lessons**

**First Lesson:** Isaiah 5:1-7

**Psalm:** 80:1-2, 8-18

**Second Lesson:** Hebrews 11:29- -12:2

**Gospel:** Luke 12:49-56

## **Serving in Worship at Redeemer at 10**

**Reading the lessons & Prayers**

**Usher**

**Greeter**

**August 17:** Margaret Cole

Bruce Carpenter

Rose Carpenter

**Acolyte:** Kayla Marshall

## **Birthdays & Anniversaries**

### **Birthdays @ St. John**

Rod Linda Noldy 8/14

Jennifer Joyce 8/17

Yvonne Mizener 8/19

Nanette Lowery 8/21

### **Birthdays @ Redeemer**

Sofia Storelli 8/17

Elaine Ferris 8/28

Beverley Clare 8/30

### **Anniversaries @ St. John**

Jennifer & Joe Joyce 8/17

### **Anniversaries @ Redeemer**

Sid & Marylou Ranck 8/24

Melinda Artman & Nina Seebeck

8/28

# 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.

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## **AUGUST 6<sup>TH</sup> – SIGHT**

**Speaker:** Stephanie Mullen

**Location:** Valley United Fellowship Hall

## **AUGUST 13<sup>TH</sup> – TOUCH**

**Speaker:** Rev. Alicia Dixon-Garrard

**Location:** Valley United Fellowship Hall

## **AUGUST 20<sup>TH</sup> – HEARING**

**Speaker:** Rev. Rachel Helgeson

**Location:** Epiphany Parish Hall

## **AUGUST 27<sup>TH</sup> – TASTE / SMELL**

**Speaker:** Alice Fedorka Bennett

**Location:** Epiphany Parish Hall

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**Dinner and fellowship start at 5:45pm.**

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





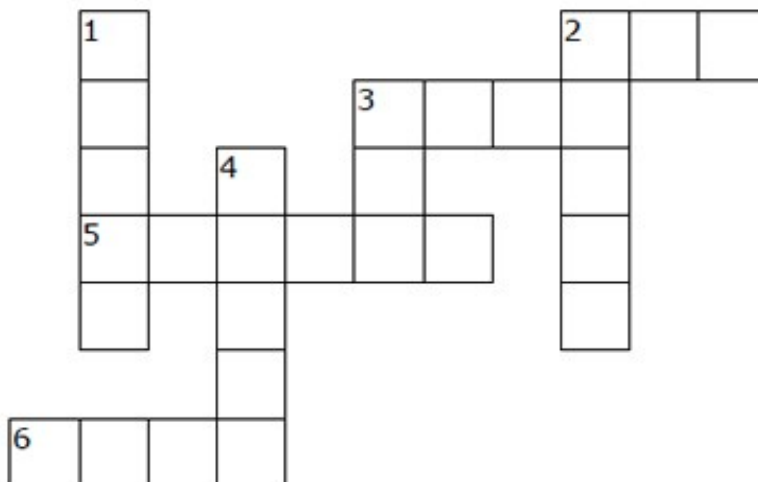
Let us run with endurance the race that God has set before us.  
Hebrews 12:1b (NLT)



# Run the Race

Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Hebrews 12:1b (NIV)

Based on Hebrews 12:1-2



## ACROSS

2. A feeling of great happiness
3. A contest of speed
5. The place where a king or queen is seated
6. The organs which are used to see

## DOWN

1. A strong belief in God
2. The Son of God
3. To traveling on foot at a fast pace
4. The wooden structure on which Jesus was crucified;

CROSS	JESUS	RUN	THRONE
FAITH	JOY	EYES	RACE

# Run the Race

Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Hebrews 12:1b (NIV)

Based on Hebrews 12:1-2



G	Y	B	R	H	X	E	A	E	N	G	E	T	Z	Q
B	H	W	T	N	U	E	L	J	W	E	Q	H	U	S
S	F	I	P	A	T	E	G	H	F	V	V	A	E	B
D	A	I	P	Z	H	O	T	S	I	A	I	S	X	H
F	M	U	X	H	R	A	S	D	L	N	S	H	C	L
D	K	I	C	K	O	D	T	I	D	E	D	S	O	K
C	R	U	N	F	W	M	I	U	N	M	E	E	S	F
M	T	H	R	O	N	E	O	T	P	Y	O	F	R	V
U	A	A	Y	M	I	L	I	F	E	E	S	G	K	S
F	A	R	A	E	C	W	X	B	U	L	J	R	N	X
R	F	J	K	J	C	V	H	Q	G	U	E	E	I	T
A	K	B	Q	E	U	S	E	H	C	I	S	A	U	F
C	J	O	C	O	D	U	F	U	D	M	U	T	E	A
E	F	F	N	V	M	H	S	I	N	K	S	R	M	Z
R	G	W	R	I	P	K	J	O	Y	T	L	K	U	N

GREAT  
WITNESSES  
MARKED

RACE  
THROW  
FIX

JESUS  
THRONE  
HINDERS

JOY  
EYES  
CLOUD

FAITH  
RUN  
SIN