



The Lutheran Palian

A Publication of St. John Lutheran Church
and

Church of the Redeemer (Episcopal).

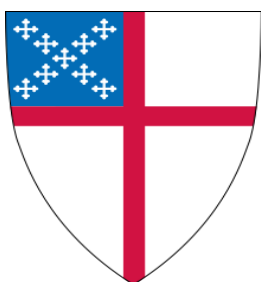
Sayre, PA 18840

August 21, 2025

Combined Summer Worship

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

Pastor Melinda is away this Sunday, visiting St. John Episcopal Church in Hamlin. As a result, our worship service on Sunday will NOT be live streamed. However, she will be present at the Church of the Redeemer's **Saturday** service at **5:15 PM** and that service will be live streamed. Our last summertime combined worship will be a week from Sunday on August 31st. The next time we worship together as a combined community will be in November. That service will be at St. John.



Welcome Pastor King

We welcome back Pastor Horace King and his wife Marie. This will be the first time Pastor King will be worshipping with us at the Church of the Redeemer. As you may recall, Pastor King is a retired United Methodist (UMC) pastor and the UMC is a full communion partner with the ELCA. The Episcopal Church (TEC) and the UMC are friendly and are negotiating steps to become full communion partners. [Full communion partner means in part, we can exchange clergy and liturgies.] To navigate our denominational differences with some integrity, and since the bridge between TEC and UMC is ELCA, we will be worshipping using Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) and TEC service music and hymns.



As I mentioned in last week's eBlast, the CaSTLE project (Country and Small Town Lived Ecclesiology) is a Lily Foundation Grant focusing on small town and rural church communities, administered through Wartburg Seminary. Scholars at the seminary (Wartburg) note that those of us in mainline denominations have understood being church as "one congregation, one building, one clergy person, with a variety of programs" They call this the Attraction Paradigm. They also observe that rural areas and small towns are aging and losing population. So are our congregations. However, there are portions of rural and small town America that have these characteristics and are also thriving because of the quality of life they offer. Quality of life is dependent upon strong, relational networks; communities that demonstrate concern about the future of the community, and exhibit a deep commitment to the well-being of our places. Congregations are already well equipped to provide quality of life. I believe ours are too.

Wartburg advocates that we move toward a "new" model, a model that will work with our reality. It turns out that this is a model embraced by the early church. Wartburg calls this a "Baptismal Ecclesiology" - in simpler terms: being equipped for and living into our baptismal vows and promises in every aspect of our lives. This might mean doing such things as helping our members identify their spiritual gifts and help them realize that these gifts are evident in their passions, work and volunteer activities. Clergy need to do a better job at explaining that formation does not stop at high school graduation (or confirmation) - it takes place all our lives! Wartburg believes that the future of the church is diaconal in nature - witnessing to the church the needs of the world and witnessing to the world the benefits of being church. This doesn't mean we all have to become clergy, it means being empowered to be Jesus' disciples, living and sharing the Good News. In the days ahead, expect my preaching and Bible studies to reflect this shift in models. More next week. ~Pastor Melinda+

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

August 24: Jennifer Joyce

August 31: Amy Murrelle

Usher

Gil Herbert

Rick Rhodes

Greeter

Jeri Mullen

Mary Rhodes

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays @ St. John

Nanette Lowery 8/21

Birthdays @ Redeemer

Elaine Ferris 8/28

Beverley Clare 8/30

Anniversaries @ Redeemer

Sid & Marylou Ranck 8/24

Melinda Artman & Nina Seebeck 8/28

BISHOP VISITATION

Last Sunday, Episcopal Bishop Kevin Nichols visited during our combined Worship service. While here he received four persons into the Episcopal Church. Pictured here: Paul and Heather Romano, Diane Siebecker, Bishop Kevin, Pastor Melinda and Jack Wheeler.



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.



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](#)



August 2025
Dear Church of the Redeemer,
Thank you for your recent
donation of various food items to
our Feed My Sheep Food Pantry.
We appreciate your faithful support
of our valley mission.
God bless you.
In His Service,
Athens United

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).

For September we will be collecting instant mashed potatoes. And for November the item will be canned veggies.

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.



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SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 7 is WELCOME SUNDAY.

Noone puts on a potluck like the church. After our 11:00 worship service, we'll gather in the parish hall for a time of fellowship, enjoy an opportunity to get to know one another better, and enjoy a dish to pass. Over the last year, we've been blessed with a number of folks who are new to the Church of the Redeemer. Last Sunday we asked all those present to have their pictures taken so we can display them for all to see "Who's Who." If you did not have your picture taken—even our Saturday worshippers—please either send the parish office a "selfie" or head shot by **September 3** OR look for **Margaret Cole** on **Sunday** and she will snap your picture. THANK YOU.

FYI

We are now accepting items for our upcoming rummage sale. If you have gently used items in good condition for which you no longer have any use, please consider donating them to the rummage sale. Watch your future eBlast's for more details.



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"For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." (Matthew 18:20)

Jesus Heals on the Sabbath

When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, "Woman, you are set free from your infirmity." Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God. Luke 13:12-13

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
T	X	E	Y	C	O	W	L	J	V	H	D	Q	P	U	G	S	R	K	M	N	I	B	A	F	Z

1. 25-18-3-3 _____
2. 23-3-21-1 _____
3. 17-1-18-24-22-16-11-1 _____
4. 11-4-14-6-5-18-22-1-3 _____
5. 17-24-23-23-24-1-11 _____
6. 5-18-22-14-14-8-3-12 _____
7. 7-6-20-24-21 _____
8. 11-3-24-8-3-12 _____

CRIPPLED	WOMAN	HYPOCRITE	BENT
SABBATH	STRAIGHT	HEALED	FREE

Jesus Heals on the Sabbath

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Based on Luke 13:10-17



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

SIX
CRIPPLED
TEACHING

WOMAN
HYPOCRITES
STRAIGHT

HANDS
SABBATH
FREE

BENT
SYNAGOGUE
GOD

DAYS
PRAISE
JESUS