



The Lutheran Palian

A Publication of St. John Lutheran Church
and

Church of the Redeemer (Episcopal).

Sayre, PA 18840

August 28, 2025

Combined Summer Worship

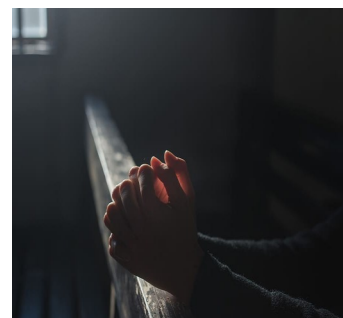
This Sunday, August 31 at 10 a.m. is our last combined worship service for the summer. We'll worship together next at St. John on November 9. On September 7th we will return to our normal service times of 9:00 a.m. at St. John Lutheran Church and 11:00 a.m. at the Church of the Redeemer.

Memorial Service

A memorial service for Doug Stearns will be held Friday at 4 p.m. at St John Lutheran Church . A time of calling will begin at 3:30 p.m. in the church. A reception with light repast will follow the service in the South Wing.

Prayer Lists

Beginning September 7th you will see we have updated our prayer lists to the best of our ability. If we have removed someone that you feel still needs our prayers please let the church offices know and we will make the adjustments.



Labor Day

In observance of Labor Day on Monday, September 1st the church offices will be closed. We will reopen on Tuesday, September 2nd at our usual times.





In the last two eBlasts I have shared a summary of the CaSTLE project, the emphasis of living into a baptismal ecclesiology, and an emerging paradigm (template) of how the church will function in the 21st Century (and maybe for the next 300-400 years?) What might this all mean for us? You'll see elsewhere in this eBlast that I am having a birthday this month. This means that I am within four years of mandatory retirement in the Episcopal Church. This is NOT an announcement of my retirement—with the bishop's permission I can serve longer, but the four year horizon may be a useful benchmark for our ministry together.

My hope for this time is that we use the opportunity for grants to position BOTH congregations to continue to thrive in the best manner possible. This means seeking out ministry partnerships with our neighbors such as the Lutheran and Episcopal churches in Towanda and possibly Athens, and even our denominational partners on the Southern Tier of New York. It means seeking out lay leaders who want to dig deep into our faith and who are also willing to guide others in taking this journey as well. It means continuing to find common ways to serve our neighbors here in the Valley. It means making sure that the needs of our current congregants are met to the best of our ability. We already do so much of this. We continue to be a model for a thriving partnership ... now, we expand our wings and perhaps we, two small churches that resemble much of the church everywhere in the US, continue to be an example for others. This is what our discipleship, our baptismal ecclesiology, is all about.

Blessings,

Pastor Melinda

August 30 & 31 Lessons

First Lesson: Jeremiah 2:4-13

Psalm: 81:1, 10-16

Second Lesson: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14

Serving in Worship at Redeemer at 10

Reading the Lessons & Prayers

August 31: Amy Murrelle

Usher

Rick Rhodes

Greeter

Mary Rhodes

Serving in Worship at Redeemer at 11 on September 7th

September 7: Diane Siebecker

Walter Chaykosky

Linda Murrelle

Serving in Worship at St. John at 9 on September 7th.

September 7: Jeri Mullen

Bob Cornell

Bev Cornell

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays @ St. John

Samuel McConnell 8/29

Birthdays @ Redeemer

Elaine Ferris 8/28

Beverley Clare 8/30

Anniversaries @ Redeemer

Melinda Artman & Nina Seebeck 8/28

Scripture Reflection



How does our experience of our culture prevent us from fully embracing the call to serve with humility? How can we seek out the stranger in our community? When have you realized that we were doing God's work, only after the fact?

St. John Corner

Can you help with our Sunday School?

Do you enjoy working with children? If so, we can use your time and talent with our Sunday school. You do not need to know your bible, just have a love for working with children. If you are interested please let Pastor-

Melinda+ know, or reach out to the office and we will give you more details.



September Birthdays

Chelsea Webster	9/2	Melinda Artman	9/16
Amanda Klovekorn-Kendall	9/3	Christopher Christenson	9/16
Brelín Smith	9/7	Mary Divers	9/17
Skip Roupp III	9/7	Colin Repko	9/21
Amanda Butters	9/11	Tom Brandt	9/23
Stephanie Klovekorn	9/11	Marion Campbell	9/30
Bev Cornell	9/11		
Martha Bailey-Bean	9/13		

September Anniversaries

Jake & Amanda Kendall	9/4
Bob & Bev Cornell	9/6
John & Jean Neiley	9/8
Brad & Kristin Vasey	9/15
Tim & Abby Ryan	9/30

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, Canon Micalagh Moritz and Cathy Bailey, Co-Chair of the Social Justice Ministries Working Group, share how both dioceses are coming together to plan 11 ministries including Creation Care, LGBTQ+, Comunidades Latinas, Feeding and Housing, Racial Justice, Migration, and more. You can learn about these at the Ministry Fair at Annual Convention, as well as the Social Justice Summit planned for next spring. [Weekly Video Spotlight: Social Justice Ministries Working Group](#)

Can You Help With Our Sunday School?

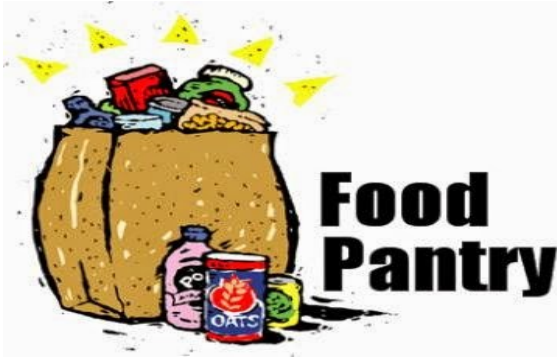
Do you enjoy working with children? If so, we can use your time and talent with our Sunday School. You do not need to be a Biblical scholar or know everything about the Christian faith. All that is needed is a love for working with children. You will be equipped with lesson plans! If you are interested please let Canon Melinda+ know, or reach out to the office and we will give you more details.



St. Mary's Picnic

St. Mary's Guild annual picnic will take place on Tuesday, September 16th at 6 p.m. at Betsy Schumacher's home. All ladies of the Parish and St. John are welcome to attend. Please bring a dish to pass and your own tableware.

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. Looking ahead, we'll collect Applesauce for October 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.



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 7 is WELCOME SUNDAY.



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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 share 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. For the last two Sundays 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 send the parish office a

"selfie" or head shot by September 3. 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.

It isn't too early to start thinking about ... ADVENT?!

As summer winds down it's time to start planning for a fall Bible Study. Pastor Melinda's calendar starts opening up the week of October 27. This is a perfect time to prepare for the Season of Preparation, (that's Advent!) before the rush of the secular Christmas season is upon us. 90-minute sessions are planned for Monday at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. beginning October 27. Both sessions will be offered at St. John's South Wing.

The following studies caught Pastor Melinda's eye. Please let her know which session appeals to you most by September 19 to give us plenty of time to order. Thank YOU!

			
Title	Voices of Advent: The Bible's Insights for a Season of Hope	On the way to Bethlehem: An Advent Study	Heaven and Earth: Advent and the Incarnation
Author	Matthew L. Skinner	Rob Fuquay	Will Willimon
Description	The author leads readers through biblical texts and explores how they shape our lives and Christmas celebrations. We listen as Jesus promises to return to us in the future, to John the Baptist as he prepares the way for the Messiah, to the faithful people and poets who anticipate the magnificence of Jesus' birth, and to the angels and visionaries who praise God when Christmas dawns.	Provides insight into the geographical and historical significant of Rome, Jerusalem, Nazareth, and Bethlehem, along with the important characters through whom the Christmas dram unfolds. You will be drawn into those places in a way that helps you experience spiritual truths each location holds.	Heaven seems so close as we remember that a tiny baby in a manger is God in human form coming to show us the Way. God's choice of incarnation allows us to reflection on the mystery that Christ is the full revelation of God instead of being one who talks about God or one who speaks for or acts as God. This book explores the idea of Jesus as both fully human and fully divine.
# Sessions	4	4	4
Cost	\$12.79	\$11.79	\$11.49

We Found the Yeti!!!

Have you been searching for the illusive Yeti? Well, if you have , look no further, we found it in the church. If this is your Yeti, we will keep it in the church office until September 28th. If it is not claimed after this date we will donate it to the up coming rummage sale in October.



Unfortunately, we could not find the actual Yeti to share with you!





Happy are those people who are fair, who do what is right at all times.
Psalms 106:3

A Lesson in Humility

Complete the paragraph by filling in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank at the bottom of the story.



"When someone invites you to a _____ feast, do not take the place of _____, for a person more distinguished than you may have been _____. If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, 'Give this man your _____.' Then, humiliated, you will have to take the _____ important place. But when you are invited, take the _____ place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, '_____, move up to a better place.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all your fellow _____. For everyone who _____ himself will be humbled, and he who _____ himself will be exalted."

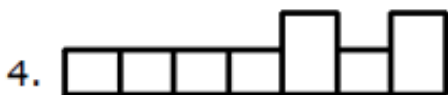
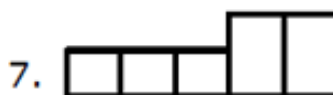
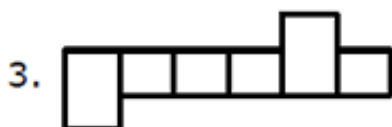
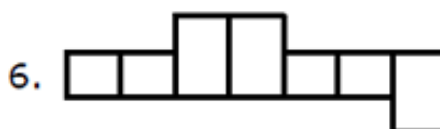
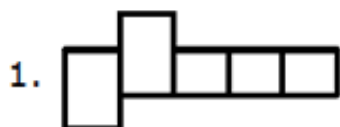
Luke 14:8-11 (NIV)

Friend	guests	humbles	least	seat
exalts	honor	invited	lowest	wedding

A Lesson in Humility

"For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." Luke 14:11 (NIV)

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



invited
feast

honor
place

humble
guests

wedding
exalt