

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Eblast

October 2, 2025



UPCOMING JOINT WORSHIP & POTLUCK: OCTOBER 12

St. John Congregation Council invites us to a joint worship service at 10:00 AM on October 12 followed by a potluck brunch and conversation. Why? Some of our congregants have asked Council and Vestry to discuss whether and how the two congregations can continue to worship together beyond the summer months. Both Council and Vestry want to have input from all of our worshippers before any

action is taken in this regard. It is anticipated that this will be the first of many conversations and opportunities to offer input. For this particular Sunday, this will be the only worship service Canon Melinda.

Please join SJLC as they celebrate both their 135th Anniversary and “Harvest Home,” an ingathering of non-perishable food to share with those without. As we celebrate the bounty that God has given to us, we remember those in the community that are not as fortunate. For this day, the nave is decorated and worshippers bring non-perishable food as part of the offering. All food collected will be donated to area food pantries.

Please plan on attending this service on October 12 at 10, bring a dish to pass to the South Wing, (a main course is provided) and a food item for the collection.

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

This being the first Sunday of the month, all open plate donations will be directed to the Bridge to help better serve those less fortunate in the Valley.

FOOD PANTRY ITEM FOR OCTOBER

This month’s item is applesauce. Please make them 24 oz or smaller plastic jars or 6 packs of individual cups. Thank you for your continued support.

WE NEED YOU!

In his first letter to the Corinthians, the Apostle Paul writes:

²¹ The eye can't say to the hand, "I don't need you!" The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you!" ²² In fact, it is just the opposite. The parts of the body that seem to be weaker are the ones we can't do without. ²³ The parts that we think are less important we treat with special honor. The private parts aren't shown. But they are treated with special care. ²⁴ The parts that can be shown don't need special care. But God has put together all the parts of the body. And he has given more honor to the parts that didn't have any. ²⁵ In that way, the parts of the body will not take sides. All of them will take care of one another. ²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it. If one part is honored, every part shares in its joy.

*²⁷ **You are the body of Christ. Each one of you is a part of it. (12:21-27)***

As part of the body of Christ, our leadership needs your voice, your ideas, and your concerns about whether our partnership with the St. John should change. Being responsive to some who would like us to worship together year round, Vestry and Council need to be aware of the opportunities such a change would offer as well as have as much awareness as possible what pitfalls lie before us. Both Vestry and Council want to listen carefully and prayerfully to the thoughts of our members before any type of decision is made. Both bodies can come up with reasons why we shouldn't do this while acknowledging how wonderful the church feels when it is full.

For these reasons, Vestry and Council want to have a series of conversations with our congregants on the pros and cons of taking the step of worshipping together beyond the summer months. During our **potluck** gathering on **Sunday October 12**, we hope to identify what some of the pros and cons might be. From there my hope is that there will be congregants willing to form small working groups in order to tackle the points raised and brain storm ideas to address those points. The results from each working group would be shared with the congregations, allowing the opportunity for further refinement. We anticipate that there would be several opportunities for the two parishes to gather outside of worship to share opinions, insights, gratitude, and concerns before we would have two separate congregational meetings (one for each congregation) for a final vote. **Please make every effort to attend our joint worship service on October 12th at 10 am at St. John and participate in our potluck fellowship.** We are aware it is a holiday weekend and you may be out-of-town. In that case, rest assured there will be other opportunities to make your thoughts known.

On a personal note, my goal for my two congregations is to see us thrive and grow in our relationship with each other and in Christ. Together or apart, we are called to share the Good News of the Gospel. Do I love presiding at worship with a larger congregation—yes. At the same time, my call is to serve you and whatever the decision is, I know that we will thoughtfully and prayerfully engage the question, allowing the Holy Spirit to lead us.

~ Canon Melinda

October 4&5 Lessons

First Lesson: Lamentations 1:1-6, 6-15, **Psalm:** Lamentations 3:19-26

Second Lesson: 2 Timothy 1:1-14, **Gospel:** Luke 17:5-10

Serving in Worship at Redeemer at 11

Worship Assistant & Reader

October 5: Rose Carpenter

Usher

Bruce Carpenter

Greeter

Rose Carpenter



Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays

Rose Carpenter 10/2

Diane Siebecker 10/8

Thomas Shay 10/8

Alex Murrelle 10/8

Loyd & Daye Moreno 10/3

Bob & Margaret Cole 10/4

Scripture Reflection

In Luke's Gospel, the disciples ask Jesus to increase their faith. By asking this, they acknowledge that faith does not grow by our own works and hard efforts but is a gift from God's grace. How has the gift of faith in your own life changed over time? Was there a particular time when your faith weakened? Can you recall a time when the strength of your faith helped you endure? God often uses special people in our lives to help us grow in faith and understanding. Who has helped you grow in faith?

The votes are in! Our next book group is:

Voices of Advent by Matthew L. Skinner. Please contact the parish office if you'd like us to order the book for you by October 14. The cost is approximately \$12.50. Two times will be offered on Mondays: 10:30 am and 6:30 pm both in the South Wing.





Valley United Presbyterian Church presents

A BLESSING OF THE PETS

Sunday, October 5th at 2pm

Muldoon Park in Waverly

(We'll gather across the street in the event of rain.)

Bring pet food, treats, or other pet-related items
for donation to local animal shelters.

**ALL FRIENDLY, WELL-BEHAVED PETS (IN A
CRATE OR ON A LEASH) ARE WELCOME!**

(YOU CAN ALSO BRING A PHOTO IF YOUR PET DIDN'T TRAVEL WELL
OR HAS PASSED AWAY.)

For more info, call Valley United Presbyterian Church at
607-565-5663,
or find us on Facebook!



God Hears My Prayers

A Mustard Seed Faith

He replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you." Luke 17:6 (NIV)

Choose the word that best matches the definition.

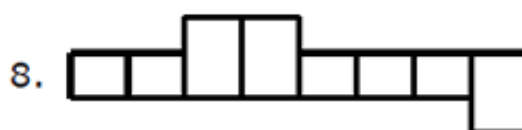
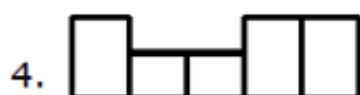
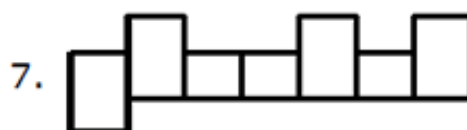
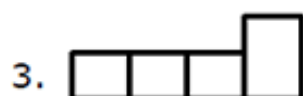
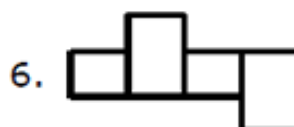
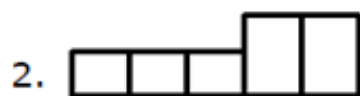


- ___ 1. Twelve disciples chosen by Jesus to preach the gospel
A. pharisees B. apostles C. angels D. troops
- ___ 2. To make greater or larger
A. obey B. shrink C. seed D. increase
- ___ 3. Belief in the truth, value, or trustworthiness of a person or idea
A. obey B. deny C. hope D. faith
- ___ 4. A small kernel that is buried in the ground to grow a new plant
A. leaf B. branch C. seed D. twig
- ___ 5. A thick, yellow liquid that tastes spicy and is eaten in small amounts on meat and sandwiches
A. honey B. pickles C. jam D. mustard
- ___ 6. A tall plant with a wooden trunk, branches, and leaves
A. tree B. flower C. bush D. ivy
- ___ 7. A large area of salt water partly or completely surrounded by land
A. river B. sea C. pond D. pool
- ___ 8. To do what you are told or expected to do
A. tattle B. gossip C. lie D. obey

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



seed	obey	planted	mustard
tree	small	mulberry	faith