

Other Services

Referral Services

These organizations can put you in touch with other agencies that help with specific needs.

PA Help Line 2-1-1 or 888-829-1341
NY First Call for Help 2-1-1 or 800-901-2180

Welfare Offices

For those who qualify, these organizations provide a variety of supports.

PA—Bradford County Assistance Office (BCAO) in
Towanda 800-542-3938 or 570-265-9186

NY—Tioga County Dept. of Social Services (DSS) in
Owego 877-882-8113 or 607-687-8300

Heating Assistance

These federally funded programs help eligible low income persons with gas, oil, and electric costs.

PA: LIHEAP, Towanda BCAA 570-265-9186
NY: HEAP, Tioga County DSS, Owego 607-687-8300

Food Assistance

Mobile Food Pantry 570-867-2628
3rd Wed. of month, 10a-11a, North Waverly Chapel
Registration 8:30a the Tues before 800-901-2180

Valley Food Pantry 607-565-8718
M, Tu, Th, & F 10a-12n; Tu & W 2p-4p, 3rd Sat 10a-12n

Catholic Charities Food Pantry 607-414-1023
Tuesday thru Friday, 9a-11:45 and 1p-2:45p Nichols

WIC (Women, Infants, Children) 570-888-5058, ext. 221

The Salvation Army Food Pantry 570-888-2153
Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday 9a-11:30a;
1st Monday 4p-6p and last Saturday 10a-12n;

Helping Hands Food Pantry 570-596-2648
First Thursday of month, 10a-12n, Bentley Creek
Wesleyan, Ridgebury Township

Feed My Sheep (Athens & Sayre SD) 570-888-2241
2nd & 5th Wednesdays, Athens UMC 9a-11a, 4p-5:30p

Free Fellowship Meals every Thursday evening

1st Thursday, Waverly Com. Methodist 4:30-6:00p

2nd Thursday, Athens UMC 4:00-5:30p

3rd Thursday, Blessed Trinity, St. James ... 4:30-5:30p

Last Thursday, Church of the Redeemer .. 4:00-6:00p

If there are 5 Thursdays in the month, the 4th Thurs.

Is at the Valley United Presbyterian 4:30-6:00p

2nd Tuesday, Epiphany 4:00-5:30p

1st & 3rd Monday, Salvation Army 4:00-5:00p

Tues. & Fri., Breakfast, Salvation Army 8:45a-10a

Churches of *The Bridge*

Athens United Methodist 570-888-2241
Athens Wesleyan 570-888-6734

Bentley Creek Wesleyan 570-596-2115
Blessed Trinity at St. James 607-565-2014

Chemung Christian Fellowship 607-877-4033
Christian & Missionary Alliance 607-565-2492
Christian Life 607-565-9777
Church of the Redeemer 570-888-2270
Crossroads Family Ministries 570-888-2347

Encounter Church 570-731-4499
Epiphany Parish 570-888-9641

Federated, East Smithfield 570-596-3605
First Baptist, Sayre 570-888-2237
First Baptist, Waverly 607-565-9593
First Church of God, Sayre 570-888-9671

Greater Valley Assembly of God 570-888-3202

Litchfield United Methodist 570-888-8837

North Waverly Chapel 607-565-9342

St. John Lutheran 570-888-2412
Sayre Christian 570-888-2683
Seventh Day Adventist 570-888-1448

Trinity Episcopal 570-888-5715

Waverly Community Methodist 607-565-8650

Valley United Presbyterian 607-565-5683

Ministry Associates

Catholic Charities, Tioga Outreach 607-414-1023
Robert Packer Hospital Chaplain 570-887-4309
The Salvation Army 570-888-2153
Tioga County Rural Ministry 607-687-3021

The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches

PO Box 202
Sayre, PA 18840
thevalleybridge.org

Revised 1/8/2025



Bridging the gaps of life
in the name of Jesus Christ

The Bridge is a non-profit organization of churches in the Penn-York Valley that serves residents in the Waverly, Sayre, and Athens school districts. The aim of **The Bridge** is to bridge the gaps of life in the name of Jesus Christ, and to provide help when and where other agencies are not available.

The Bridge is comprised of lay and clergy representing Protestant, Roman Catholic, and independent churches having mainline and evangelical persuasions.

The Board of Directors generally meets monthly and consists of one clergy and two lay people from each member church. Other non-voting members, designated by the churches, may also participate in the activities of **The Bridge**.

The purpose of **The Bridge** is to minister to those in our community in need of assistance regardless of background, race, color, or persuasion. Our intent is not to duplicate assistance provided by other agencies but to provide financial and spiritual support in times of crisis and emergency.

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

Matthew 11:28



The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches

Services of *The Bridge*...

The Clearinghouse 570-888-8826:

The Clearinghouse is our main number to call for general information about the Bridge, volunteering, donating, and how to receive assistance. Hours vary based on volunteer availability. Callers are encouraged to leave a message if there is no answer at the time of their call and our Clearinghouse Representative will get back to them.

Assistance provided by *The Bridge* is determined by a screening process which includes geographic residence, emergency need, and household income eligibility:

Vouchers

- **Shelter** for people with eviction notice or needing a security deposit.
- **Utilities** for those who have a gas, electric or water shut-off notice.
- **Food** for transients needing a meal after Food Bank hours.
- **Transportation** for those stranded and unable to get transportation out of the community
- **Emergency Situations**—other monetary crises may be considered once the proper eligibility has been established.

There is a limit up to \$500 every six months or 100 gallons of fuel oil or propane or \$500 whichever is higher every 12 months, and 24 months between security deposits. There is a maximum assistance of three times in seven years. Each case is decided on an individual basis.

Interim Assistance

A special program for select households who have experienced a significant event causing a short-term need that requires more than our regular assistance provides. Assistance is given over a 3-6 month period.

Catastrophic Assistance is provided for those who find themselves in catastrophic situations, such as a natural disaster, house fire, chemical emergency, severe medical event causing significant disability, or abusive situation resulting in having to leave a residence without belongs.

Helping Hands provides furniture for those in need with a voucher. Donations of good, used furniture are needed. Located at 406 Loder Street, Waverly NY by appointment only. Call **570-886-1057** for more information.



The **Clothes Closet** is located at the North Waverly Chapel, 40 State Route 34, Waverly, NY, in a free standing building behind the church. Clothing, small household items, books, and toys are available without a voucher and free of charge. Donations are appreciated. Call 570-867-2628 for an emergency need. Open:

- Tuesday, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
- Wednesday, Noon - 2:00 pm.

The **Valley Food Pantry** is located at 418 Waverly Street, Waverly, NY and provides 5-day supplemental food assistance to people in need including fresh vegetables, fruits, dairy products, meats, as well as shelf stable foods with client choice. Open:

- Mon, Tues, Thurs, & Fri 10 am - Noon
- Tues & Wed 2 pm - 4 pm
- Third Saturdays 10 am - Noon

For more information, call **607-565-8718**.



The **Kids at Risk** ministry operates anonymously through the Valley school district teachers, nurses, social workers, and instructional support teams who identify needs for clothing, school supplies, hygiene kits, and/or services. Contact for assistance is made to the **Kids at Risk** coordinator.

The **Eldercare** ministry provides assistance to elders in need most often anonymously through long-term care facilities and in homes and other independent living situations identifying and meeting unmet needs mostly for personal items and occasionally services.

Support of *The Bridge*...

Many churches and individuals, as well as various businesses and community organizations such as The United Way and the Waverly Community Chest are supporters of *The Bridge*.

The ministry of *The Bridge* gave over \$98,000 in grants in 2024 which does not include the thousands of dollars worth of furniture, clothing, and other items that were also distributed. Donations to *The Bridge* ministry are appreciated, tax-deductible and may be sent to:

The Bridge

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

2025 Officers

President	Kim Paul 570-867-2628
Treasurer	Rick Felt 607-221-5880
Secretary	Joan Schoonover 607-857-0710

Helping those in need in the communities of Athens, Sayre, and Waverly since 1987.