

THE BEACON

February 11, 2026

FRIDAY BREAKFAST SERIES

Our Friday Breakfast Series on the theme *The Bible With and Without Jesus: How Jews and Christians Read the Same Stories Differently* with Amy-Jill Levine continues. A light breakfast is served at 7:00 a.m., followed by the program from 7:15 - 7:45 a.m. February 13, the topic is "The Sign of Jonah, concluding with "My God, My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?" on February 20. Matins (Morning Prayer) follows at 8:00 a.m.

NEW FRIDAY BOOK DISCUSSION

Our Friday Morning Book Discussion Group will begin its exploration of *The Four Vision Quests of Jesus* by Steven Charleston on February 13, from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., in the Parlor. Books are available for purchase in the church office for \$20.00 each.



MARDI GRAS JAZZ BRUNCH

Sunday, February 15
11:30 a.m.

LIVE MUSIC and DELICIOUS CATERED BRUNCH

Join us as we feast before the fast of Lent begins.

Enjoy the great food, fellowship, and live music.

The suggested contribution is \$5 per adult and children are free.

Please make reservations in the narthex or Fellowship Hall or contact the church office.

THOMAS MASS

Our next *Thomas Mass* will be Sunday, February 15, at 5:00 p.m. This service of Holy Communion is in the context of a meditative liturgy which has its roots in the Finnish Lutheran tradition. Included in this worship experience is the opportunity for informal movement between various stations for meditation and prayer. Join us for this service, especially if work, sports, or travel schedules prevent your participation on Sunday morning.

THIRD SUNDAY PROGRAM

February 15, at 6:00 p.m.

Aspire to Inspire Before You Expire:

Now More Than Ever, Christianity Cannot Be A Spectator Sport

Guest Speaker: Tom Gerdy, Local Building Contractor and Community Volunteer

Join us for an inspirational message that is particularly needed in these troubled times in which we live. Not only does our faith call us to prayer and action, it challenges us to invite others to join in making the world a kinder and gentler place – something our speaker has lived out through decades of volunteer service through Habitat for Humanity.

A light supper will be served. Proceeds support our Holy Trinity Youth Summer Mission Trip.
Please make reservations in the narthex or Fellowship Hall or contact the church office.

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 18

We begin the forty-day penitential season of Lent with the centuries-old traditions of Ash Wednesday.

12:10 p.m.

Spoken Service of Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes

5:30 p.m.

Spoken Service of Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes

7:00 p.m.

Sung Service of Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes





TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

February 15, 2026

*The Lessons: Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9
The liturgical color for The Transfiguration of Our Lord is white.*

8:30 A.M. - SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

9:30 A.M. - SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

ADULT EDUCATION
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
(Parlor)

I've Got Questions

Your Unsoothed Heart Is Your Most Powerful Weapon
Foraging in the Wilderness

10:30 A.M. - SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION with LIVESTREAM

The Handbell Choir prelude will begin around 10:20 a.m.

11:30 A.M. - MARDI GRAS JAZZ BRUNCH

11:45 A.M. - INTERMEDIATE YOUTH (grades three - five)

4:00 P.M. - MISSION TRIP YOUTH

5:00 P.M. - THOMAS MASS

6:00 P.M. - THIRD SUNDAY PROGRAM

THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 15 - 21

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| <u>MONDAY,</u> | 9:00 A.M. - STRENGTH AND BALANCE EXERCISE CLASS |
| | 9:30 A.M. - CHAIR YOGA CLASS |
| | 7:00 P.M. - CONNECTING WITH GOD - <i>Know God - Know Self</i> (via Zoom) |
| <u>TUESDAY,</u> | 1:00 P.M. - BIBLE STUDY - <i>1 John</i> |
| | 5:40 P.M. - HANDBELL CHOIR REHEARSAL |
| | 7:00 P.M. - TABLE TALK - <i>The Nicene Creed at 1,700 Years</i> |
| <u>ASH WEDNESDAY,</u> | 12:10 P.M. - SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION with IMPOSITION OF ASHES |
| | 5:30 P.M. - SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION with IMPOSITION OF ASHES |
| | 7:00 P.M. - SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION with IMPOSITION OF ASHES |
| | 7:45 P.M. - ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL |
| <u>THURSDAY,</u> | 9:00 A.M. - PARISH NURSE in office (until 10:00 a.m.) |
| | 11:00 A.M. - DISCUSSION GROUP - <i>Living the Questions</i> |
| <u>FRIDAY,</u> | 7:00 A.M. - BREAKFAST SERIES - <i>The Bible With and Without Jesus</i> |
| | 8:00 A.M. - MATINS |
| | 9:00 A.M. - STRENGTH AND BALANCE EXERCISE CLASS |
| | 9:30 A.M. - CHAIR YOGA CLASS |
| | 11:00 A.M. - BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP - <i>The Four Vision Quests of Jesus</i> |

IN THE CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY

Hospitalized at Lynchburg General are **Paul Kluender** and **Sandra Miller**. . . . Congratulations to **Jessica** and **Kyle Polzin** on the birth of Arthur Orville. . . . The YouTube link for Bobbie Schuler's memorial service is <https://youtube.com/live/8yewLA9-c90>.

TABLE TALK

The next session of *Table Talk* will be held Tuesday, February 17, from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m., in the Parlor. In keeping with the tradition of Martin Luther when he would gather around the table for theological discussions, participants may bring their beverage of choice to enjoy during the class. *We Believe: The Nicene Creed at 1,700 Years* is our theme this year and the next class explores "With the Father and the Son."

SERVANT OUTREACH PROJECT

Our February outreach project is paper napkins, dish detergent, and laundry detergent for the food ministry to the homeless and poor at Daily Bread, located on Clay Street in downtown Lynchburg. Please place items in the outreach ministry basket in the narthex throughout the month.

WORLD HUNGER APPEAL

All are encouraged to make a contribution to the Lutheran World Hunger Appeal. The World Hunger Appeal responds to poverty in the United States and around the world by addressing root causes through relief, development work, education, and advocacy. Approximately 75% of funds are distributed internationally and 25% domestically. Please indicate *World Hunger Appeal* on your check or envelope.

SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR ANIMAL CLINIC

The Lynchburg Humane Society Spay/Neuter Clinic is in need of old newspapers and old top sheets and towels. Items may be placed in the "Animal Clinic" basket in the narthex. Please speak with Mary Beth Thompson (993-2596) for additional information.

CHILDREN'S and YOUTH MINISTRIES – THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 15 - 21

Sunday, February 15



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| 9:30 a.m. | - Sunday Church School (grades one - five) |
| 11:45 a.m. | - Intermediate Youth (grades three - five) |
| | Duct Tape Event Sticky challenges, big laughs, and stronger faith! We will meet at the Youth House. Lunch will be provided. |
| 4:00 p.m. | - Mission Trip Youth |
| | Join us in the kitchen as we prepare and serve the Third Sunday Program supper. |

HOLY TRINITY YOUTH: "SOUPER BOWL" THANK YOU & COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR

The "Souper Bowl" Soup Luncheon was a great success! Thank you to each of the "soup makers," the youth who worked to make the luncheon happen, the adults who helped with cleanup, and all who attended. A total of \$712 was received for the Lutheran World Hunger Appeal. Donations were made in support of the team the giver wished to win the Super Bowl. "I don't care" won the vote, with the Seahawks coming in a close second.

All are invited to join the Holy Trinity Youth for "The Coldest Night of the Year" Event on Saturday, February 28, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. This awareness and fundraising event benefits Miriam's House financially and gives us a knowledge of the great need the homeless face in our community. All ages are welcome to join the youth in this important event. Please register for the walk (2 km or 5 km) and/or donate at <https://www.cnay.com/location/lynchburg> under our team name, HTLC Youth.

ASH WEDNESDAY

The word "Lent" is from an Anglo-Saxon word meaning "springtime" and so is to be understood as the holy springtime of the soul, a time of preparation, planting, and growth. We enter the forty days of this penitential season on Ash Wednesday, on which the Imposition of Ashes is offered to all who desire to receive this sign of frailty, repentance, and renewal. The ashes are made from palms used in the previous year's Passion Sunday palm procession. A cross is drawn with the ashes on the forehead of each penitent, with the words of God to Adam, "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return."

Ashes are an extraordinarily rich symbol rooted in ancient custom and practice. Ashes, in a Jewish and Christian context, suggest judgment and God's condemnation of sin; frailty and our total dependence upon God for life; humiliation; and, repentance. We are reminded forcefully of the words of the committal in the burial liturgy, "... earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust," for one day those words will be said over us.

However, ashes also suggest cleansing and renewal. They were once used as a cleansing agent in the absence of soap; and, on Ash Wednesday, the ashes have sometimes been understood as a penitential substitute for water as a sign of Holy Baptism. Water both stifles and refreshes, drowns and makes alive; so, the ashes also tell of both death and renewal, as is indicated by the ancient custom of burning the fields in the spring to destroy the old and to prepare for the new.

LENTEN OFFERINGS

Our special Lenten offerings are used for the broader work of the Lutheran Church through the Virginia Synod. Among those served by these ministries are the sick, the aged, prisoners, families in trouble, college students, people with developmental challenges, inner-city youth, candidates for ministry, people in need of counseling, and many others. We, through our gifts, become the hands of the Christ through Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp and Retreat Center, GracelInside Virginia Prison Ministry, enCircle (formerly Lutheran Family Services), Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Virginia Lutheran Homes, Roanoke College, and National Lutheran Communities and Services. We are proud of the broad mission outreach of our Church and are challenged to give it our generous support. Offerings should be placed in Lenten envelopes, or marked clearly as special Lenten gifts, or made through the online giving portal available on our website by selecting the Seasonal Special Offerings fund.

PASTOR'S INFORMATION CLASS

Sunday, February 22
2:00 - 4:00 p.m., in the Parlor

This class is designed for those who would like to learn more about Martin Luther and the Lutheran Church. Join us for an overview of Lutheran Church history, theology, liturgy, the church year, ecclesiology, and life at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Please speak with Pastor Roberts for additional information.



WINTER SEMINAR

Wednesdays, 5:30 - 6:45 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall

THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO

What if the Bible doesn't need to be protected and defended, but understood – just as it is? What if the real problem isn't the Bible but the false expectations we sometimes bring to it? Perhaps, when we let the Bible be the Bible rather than what we expect it ought to be – or need it to be – we will find a deeper faith in the process. Biblical scholar Peter Enns stirs our imaginations in this video series, helping the Bible come alive in new ways to deepen our trust in God.

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| February 25 | - <i>Why Doesn't God Make Up His Mind?</i> |
| March 4 | - <i>Jesus Is Bigger Than The Bible</i> |
| March 11 | - <i>No One Saw This Coming</i> |
| March 18 | - <i>The Bible: Just As It Is</i> |

A light supper will be served. Please make reservations in the narthex or Fellowship Hall.

HOLY TRINITY T-SHIRTS & SWEATSHIRTS

A few remaining Holy Trinity sweatshirts and t-shirts are available for purchase. Please see the display at the Mardi Gras Jazz Brunch. Proceeds support the Holy Trinity Youth.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The 2026 Altar Flower Calendar is available on the hallway bulletin board next to the church office. Flowers are needed for **February 22, March 1, March 8, March 29, and April 26**. The cost of altar flowers is \$100 per week for two vases. Payment for altar flowers is requested before the selected date and should be made payable to *Holy Trinity*. There are no delivery fees or sales tax. Please contact the church office with any altar flower questions you may have.

JEWISH-CHRISTIAN TEXT STUDY

Sunday, March 1
from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall

Join Rabbi Michael Gillette and Pastor Roberts for an exploration of texts from the Hebrew and Christian scriptures. How do the two traditions interpret these texts? What are the similarities and differences?



THANK YOU

- Thanks to **Edie Leamon**, coordinator; **Susan Barney, Don Carter, Marjorie Huiner, Sheila Krull, Susan Manion, Ida Proco, Anna-Liisa Rosner, Anne Royer, Linda Sanders**, and **Tonda Ulmer** for assisting in the Food Pantry.
- Thanks to **Stacy and Sherman Cravens** and **Susan and Peter Manion** for making hygiene bags for the Food Pantry.
- Thanks to **Carol Barclay, Susan Barney, and Susan Manion** for assisting in the church office.

SERMON DISCUSSION GROUP

The next Sermon Discussion Group will meet Thursday, March 5, at 11:00 a.m., in the Parlor. We will discuss several recent sermons, copies of which will be provided in advance. Please make reservations in the narthex or contact the church office to receive the reading material.

CANDLE TRIBUTES

The 2026 Candle Calendar is available on the hallway bulletin board next to the church office. Candle sponsors are needed **March 8, March 15, March 22, March 29, April 19, and April 26**. The cost is \$20 per week, with checks made payable to *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church*. Please note "Candle Fund" on the memo line. Please contact the church office with any questions.

TIME AND TALENT FORMS ARE STILL BEING ACCEPTED

The church office is in the process of preparing rosters for the many ministry opportunities available in the life of the congregation. If you have not yet returned a 2026 Time & Talent form, or want to serve in additional ways, it is not too late! Specific areas in need of additional participants include: Adult Choir members, Altar Guild members, coffee hour servers, communion assistants, greeters and lectors, home communion ministers, newsletter folders, office assistants, and ushers. Please contact Parish Administrator Carol Dee Robertson if you would like to receive a Time & Talent form or pledge card by mail or email.

UPDATED YEARBOOK INFORMATION NEEDED

We are currently working on the 2026 Holy Trinity Yearbook which will be mailed later in the spring. All members are asked to review their household's information as listed in the 2025 Yearbook. In particular, let us know if you have discontinued your land line telephone, what cell phone number(s) you would like published, and what email address(es), if any, you would like published. You may email or call the church office with updated information. Thanks for your cooperation.

BRUNSWICK STEW FOR SALE

There is still Holy Trinity Brunswick Stew available. The cost is \$12.50 per quart. Proceeds support our Program Development Fund. Please pay in the church office.

NEW MEMBERS TO BE RECEIVED

We will welcome new members into Holy Trinity in the coming weeks. Please speak with Pastor Roberts if you are interested in joining our church family.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

We are reminded of the following information in the event of inclement winter weather.

- * Please call the church office for the latest schedule information. Any changes or cancellations will be available on the church voice mail system and at www.holytrinitylynchburg.org.
- * Weekday education activities at Holy Trinity are canceled any day that Lynchburg City Schools are closed because of the weather. Music rehearsals may be held if road conditions improve later in the day. Participants in music groups will be notified if a rehearsal will be held.
- * Sunday cancellations will be determined by 7:00 a.m. that morning. Wednesday cancellations will be determined by 9:00 a.m. that morning. The information will be shared by email, placed on the church voice mail system, at www.holytrinitylynchburg.org, and communicated to Lynchburg/Roanoke television stations. Please consult the "Closings" listings on the television station web sites.

Ministers: *The People of Holy Trinity*

Organist-Chairmaster: *J. William Greene*

Parish Nurse: *Gail Midkiff*

Parish Administrator: *Carol Dee Robertson*

Director of Youth and Campus Ministries: *Susan H. Williams*

Pastor: *Dennis S. Roberts*

Church Office: *434-384-8441*

email: office@holytrinitylynchburg.org

www.holytrinitylynchburg.org