

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

# BLESSINGS

FEBRUARY 2026



## *A message from Pastor Emmanuel*

Dear Sister and Brothers in Christ,

February is a month that reminds me of two important celebrations: Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday. On Valentine's Day, we express our love and appreciation for those close to us. In contrast, on Ash Wednesday, we receive God's love, marked by the cross of ashes on our foreheads. This act serves as a profound reminder that the Savior has taken away our fear of death and the guilt of sin.

During the Lenten season, many engage in spiritual discipline through fasting and prayer. I grew up in a culture where people typically fast once a week or every evening. The money or groceries saved during this time are often donated to

those in need or to the church. Communities gather together to pray throughout these forty days.

People practice their faith during Lent in various ways, including through acts of almsgiving or by giving up certain luxuries. Some choose to perform charitable acts and give to the poor, while others might forgo luxuries, chocolate, or wine. These acts of giving and sacrificing help to foster spiritual growth. It is also a period to turn away from bad habits and adopt positive ones on our faith journey.

There are many other ways to enhance our spiritual progress. Take the time to discover which spiritual discipline helps you grow in Christ this Lenten season.

Have a blessed Lenten season,  
Reverend Emmanuel Penumaka

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## Celebrations!

### Happy Birthday!

February 8 - Josh Penumaka  
February 23 - Kylie Ottinger  
February 27 - Andrew Thomas  
February 29 - Tammy Campbell



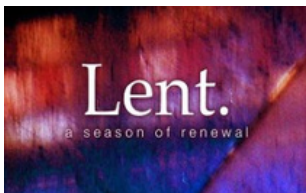
### Wednesday, February 18

#### Ashes to Go

7- 9 am  
11 am - 1 pm

#### Ash Wednesday Service

7 pm



### LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Join Pastor Emmanuel for an online  
Lenten bible study on Sundays at  
2 pm via Zoom.

Bible study will begin on Sunday,  
February 22.



### Wednesday, February 25

6 pm  
St. Joseph Catholic Church

## Upcoming Events

## JOIN US!

**Coffee & Fellowship**  
**Sundays @ 10 a.m.**

**Weekly Bible Study**  
Wednesday at 9:45 a.m.

**Ashes To Go**  
February 18 / 7-9a & 11a-1p

**Ash Wednesday Service**  
February 18 / 7 pm

**Monthly Breakfast**  
February 22 @ 9:45 a.m.

**Lenten Soup Supper &  
Ecumenical Service**  
February 25 / 6 pm  
St. Joseph Catholic Church

**Serve at Shalom**  
March 7 / 9a - 1:30p



### Serve at Shalom

**Volunteers are needed to  
prepare and serve a meal on  
Saturday, March 7.**

**Sign up to volunteer in the  
Narthex or click [HERE](#).**

**Sunday Worship**  
10:30 am—Traditional

\*Communion  
1st & 3rd  
Sundays of the month  
and on Festival Sundays

**Outreach**  
10 a.m. - Coffee & Fellowship  
Sunday's

9:45 am—Adult Bible Study  
Wednesday's

# Faithful Servants

|             | Feb 1        | Feb 8           | Feb 15         | Feb 22      |
|-------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Coffee Host | Anne T       | Sandy T         | Brenda P       | Carol J     |
| Greeter     | Ruth & Ken J | Frank & Carol J | Randy & Hope G | Tom & Jan C |
| Lector      | Tammy C      | Hope H          | Anne T         | Rick H      |
| Communion   | Kari O       | n/a             | Joyce W        | n/a         |
| Usher       | Ruth & Ken J | Frank & Carol J | Randy & Hope G | Tom & Jan C |
| Altar Guild | Kari O       | Joyce W         | Joyce W        | Laura W     |
| Music       | John R       | John R          | Charlie F      | Randy G     |

*If you are unable to do your Sunday Servant position, please make sure to find someone to switch with you! The schedule is posted a month in advance on the bulletin board outside the office. The church council appreciates all you do to help make worship a great experience!*

## February Flower Dedications



Thank you to all of you who donate flowers for the altar in celebration of life events and for the glory of God.

February 1 - Sandy Tegtman in celebration of son, Mike's Birthday

February 8 - Gina Lucas in celebration of Alex's birthday

February 15 - Amy & Rick Hammerle in memory of Megan

February 22 - Kari Ottinger in celebration of Kylie's 21st Birthday

*Please mail or drop off your check for flower dedications.*

***Please note that flower prices have increased to \$30 per week.***

Those who sponsor flowers may take home the bouquets following the worship service.

**To sponsor 2026 altar flowers, click [here](#).**

Flowers are \$30 per week.

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

Steve Thomas

Joyce Wallace

Kari Ottinger

Gina Lucas

Linda Fahrenbach

Dave Swartz

Anne Thomas

Pastor Emmanuel Penumaka

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# Giving Update

|                        | 01.04.26   | 01.11.26   | 01.18.26   | 01.25.26 |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|
| Current Expenses*      | \$4,647.00 | \$1,412.00 | \$1,557.00 | \$265.00 |
| ELCA/INKY Synod Grant* | \$1,500.00 |            |            |          |
| Building Fund          | \$5.00     |            | \$5.00     |          |
| Flowers*               | \$20.00    | \$20.00    |            |          |
| Special Projects       |            |            |            |          |
| <b>TOTAL GIVING</b>    | \$4,672.00 | \$1,432.00 | \$1,562.00 | \$265.00 |

**\*Average Monthly Current Expenses\*: \$9,000**  
**ESTIMATED MONTHLY DEFICIT - \$1,079**



## The Caring Center

The Caring Center in Lebanon, Indiana works to stabilize families in crisis and to move those caught in poverty towards self-sufficiency. They help families and individuals living in situational and generational poverty and those who are food insecure.

Services that are available at the Caring Center include food, clothing, personal care items, household items, furniture, food and educational classes, transitional housing and many more services to families and individuals in need.

**Help us to meet their monthly food needs by donating the following items. Donations should be place in the tub located under the bulletin board in the narthex.**

- apple juice
- mixed fruit cocktail
- flour
- oil
- tomato juice
- sugar
- crackers
- dish soap
- shampoo
- conditioner
- canned meat (spam, chicken)
- baked beans
- pasta sauce
- pork & beans
- mixed vegetables