

The header features a light gray background with a blue border. On the left side, there are several red hearts of various sizes, some solid and some outlined. The title 'February Beacon' is written in a large, blue, serif font on the right side, with a reflection effect below it.

February Beacon

Welcome to February!

We continue working our way through the Bible, looking at each book in order from Genesis to Revelation. We've made it through the five books of the Pentateuch: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. This month we begin the section of the Bible called the Historical Books, and enter the promised land at the lead of Joshua (who was led by God, of course) in the book named for him: Joshua.

The Israelites are finally at the end their forty-year journey through the wilderness, which began way back in Exodus. They've been through a lot: hunger, thirst, distractions, anxiety, death, struggles with faith...a lot of stuff. Now the next generation of people get to cross the Jordan and enter the land God promised them. Joshua is the story of how the people settled this promised land of Canaan. That's putting it mildly though: you'll notice as you read through Joshua that it's a violent book! But how? Sunday School tends to lessen the severity of these stories for young readers (like the battle of Jericho) but reading them as adults can raise some concerns. How could God lead these people into taking this land in such a violent way? Joshua doesn't offer easy answers.

There's a couple of things to keep in mind as we read through Joshua and the books that follow. These books were written centuries after the events they describe. They were written not just in the historical sense that we think of history today, but they were written to remind God's people of the promise that God holds for them for life and not suffering. So long as they followed and worshipped only God, and followed the ten commandments and the law, then God would bless them. Not doing so will bring consequences later, as we will see.

Joshua was written to demonstrate God's power at a time when that power was in doubt. When Joshua was written, Israel and Judah were threat. This was a reminder that their God was more powerful than other gods, and that no matter what was to come, their God was always with them. That's promise and hope. Joshua was also written as story: God's story, or what's called a theological story. It's a story of the conquest of the promised land (but not all of it), a story of tribes setting up their homes, and a story begging the people to turn back towards God and renew the promises they made with God, as God renewed God's promise with them.

Keep in mind that all histories are written through a lens. Joshua is written through the lens of God keeping God's promise, and through the lens of what happens when a people, especially their leaders, can get too full of themselves and do things that can bring on some bad things down the road. But no matter what, we know today that God's promise lives on despite the violence that we see in this story and that we see all around us today. And that's good news!

Blessings,

Pastor Rick

Office Hours:

Pastor Rick: Tuesdays 10:00-1:00 p.m. and by appointment

Tracy: Tuesdays: 9:30-2:30, Thursdays: remote. Call, text or email any time.

CHOIR is back – rehearsals are at
8:30am on Sundays

Please Hold in Prayer

To add someone to the prayer list in the bulletin/beacon, add them to the list in the back of the Sanctuary or contact the church office. If you would like your prayer concern to be shared through our One Call Prayer Chain, please contact Sue Kidder at 716-542-2095.

We pray for healing, strength and patience for those we love going through difficult times:

Donna Kumpf
Karen Kleparek
Cindy
Jane Firestone
Sharon Helwig

We pray for patience, strength and support for the families and friends of:

Jim Walter
Susan Grill
Diane Vogt
John Ernst



Sunday worship is weekly at 9:30am!

Sunday School is (mostly) weekly at 10:45-11:30

NO Sunday School on February 15th

Ash Wednesday Service is February 18th at **5:30pm** (*earlier than last year*)



Meeting: February 10th @ 7:00
(and then, next month is March 10th)

To our outgoing council members, THANK YOU for serving!

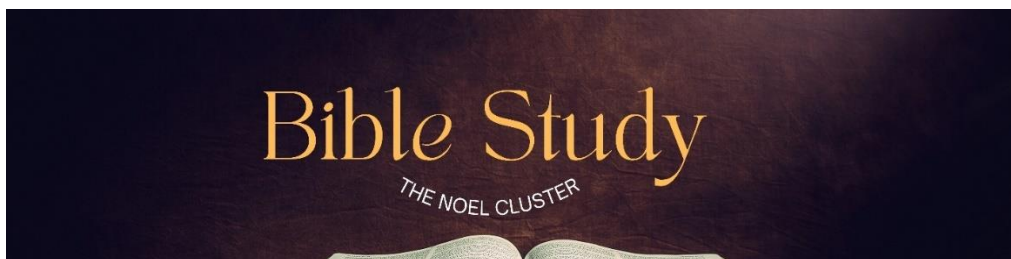
Jane Dorr
Ronda Lauridsen
Marilyn Plateau
Christine Johnson (*wait for it...*)

And THANK YOU to our newest council members:

Christine Johnson 😊
Tammy Johannes
Mike Kropelin
Brian Nehrboss
Ryan Dorr
Harold Finger



Women's Group is back on February 15th – right after church just come downstairs. There's no Sunday School so we'll be able to meet at 10:45!



Lent with the NOEL Cluster: As you may know, we're in partnership with Zion Lutheran Church in Gasport, and also informally between six of us Lutheran churches as the Niagara-Orleans-Erie Lutheran (NOEL) Cluster. We've been sharing a Bible Study on Thursday mornings, rotating around our churches (of which Trinity has been part of for a few months now), making new friends and learning a lot.

This coming Lent, we're excited to expand this collaboration and share several opportunities for food, worship, conversation and more. Stay tuned for details in our next Beacon: we're planning a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Feb. 17th, Wednesday evening Lenten Soup Supper and Devotion times on the five Wednesdays of Lent starting on Feb. 25th, and a Maudy Thursday Agape Feast on

Apr. 2nd. This is all in addition to Ash Wednesday (5:30 pm Feb. 18th) and Good Friday (7:30 pm Apr. 3rd) services here at Trinity. We hope you'll come to help host at Trinity and join us on the road as we are guests at our neighboring churches.

Upcoming dates and locations:

2/5/26 – Here at Trinity

2/12/26 – St. Peter – 1355 West Ave, Medina 14103

2/19/26 – Trinity Wolcottsville – 6369 Wolcottsville Rd. Akron

2/26/26 – Zion – 4447 Central Ave. Gasport, 14067

3/5/26 – St. John's – 10213 Rosevelt Hwy, Lyndonville 14098

3/12/26 – Here at Trinity

3/19/26 - St. Peter – 1355 West Ave, Medina 14103

3/26/26 - Trinity Wolcottsville – 6369 Wolcottsville Rd. Akron



February 15th: Women's Group will be meeting right after church at 10:45 – please come join us!

February 17th: Shove Tuesday **Pancake Supper**, St. Peter 1355 West Ave. Medina 14103 at 6:30

February 18th: Ash Wednesday at 5:30pm

Save the date: Our Spaghetti Supper will be April 25th

Save the date: Good Friday Worship is April 3 at 7:30

Easter Sunday is April 5th at 9:30am

Chiavetta Dinner

Akron Boy Scout Troop 559 is having a Chiavetta Chicken Dinner on **February 8th** (Superbowl Sunday). It will take place at the shelter in Russell Park from 11am until sold out. Tickets are \$14 presale and \$16 walk-up. Presale tickets must be picked up by 12:30pm. Dinners include chicken, homemade baked beans, noodle salad and a roll. To buy tickets, please see Frank, Elizabeth or Will. Thank you!



First Monday of the Month: Food Pantry setup @ 8am

First Tuesday of the month: Food Pantry distribution @ 8:30-10:30am

Schedule:

March 2nd setup, March 3rd Distribution

Easter setup is March 30th

Distribution is March 31st

(and then April 6 & 7th)

The Little Free Pantry is open for anyone in need and is supported by donations of items from the community.

WI-FI: Go to 'Trinity Guest' on your device, and then when prompted, enter the password:
BeABeacon

Birthdays

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

- 3rd - Caroline Kern
- 4th - Sue Campbell-Kidder
- 6th - Lisa Mazur
- 8th - Norm Waff
- 11th - Jessica Jones
- 12th - Jessica Brown
- 14th - Walter Greiner
Lisa Kaminski
- 16th - Carol Ferguson
- 24th - Tony Kaminski
- 27th - Jordan Kendziora
- 28th - Anthony Pingitore
- 29th - Harold Gardener

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 14th- Wally & Kathy Greiner
Paul & Becky Fix

Niagara Orleans Evangelical Lutherans

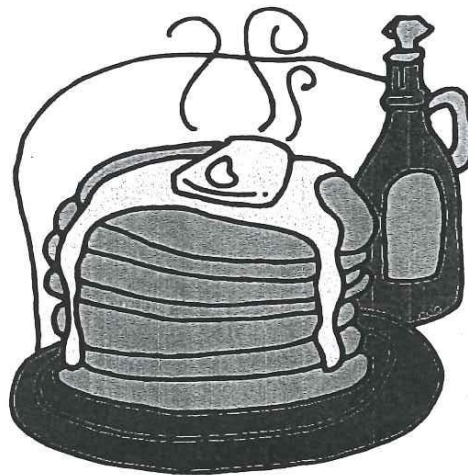
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

February 17th, 6:30 pm

St. Peter Lutheran Church
1355 West Ave, Medina,
NY 14103

Free will
offering

Questions?
Call Pastor
Craig
716 799-5548



Lent 2026 Loving Responses

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16

February 25th
1st Wednesday in Lent

**Lutheran Charities
of Western New York**



March 4th
2nd Wednesday in Lent

**Lake Chautauqua
Lutheran Center**

March 11th
3rd Wednesday in Lent

**Foodlink
and Pantries**



March 18th
4th Wednesday in Lent

**Upstate New York SYNOD
and ELCA**



March 25th
5th Wednesday in Lent

**South Asian
Worshiping Community**

Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.

1 Peter 4:8-10

February 25th
First Wednesday in Lent
Soup Supper
Presentation and Devotions
Zion Lutheran Church
4447 Central Ave, Gasport,
NY 14067
6:30-8:00 pm
Hosted by Zion

March 4th
Second Wednesday in Lent
Soup Supper
Presentation and Devotions
Trinity Lutheran Church (W)
6369 Wolcottsville Rd, Akron,
NY 14001
6:30-8:00 pm
Hosted by Trinity Wolcottsville

March 11th
Third Wednesday in Lent
Soup Supper
Presentation and Devotions
Trinity Lutheran Church (SN)
4809 S Newstead Road, Akron,
NY 14001
6:30-8:00 pm
Hosted by Trinity South Newstead

March 18th
Fourth Wednesday in Lent
Soup Supper
Presentation and Devotions
St. Peter Lutheran Church
1355 West Ave, Medina,
NY 14103
6:30-8:00 pm
Hosted by St. John's

March 25th
Fifth Wednesday in Lent
Soup Supper
Presentation and Devotions
First English Lutheran Church
185 Locust St. Lockport,
NY 14094
6:30-8:00 pm
Hosted by First English

April 2nd
Maunday Thursday
Agape Feast
Pot Luck Supper & Worship
Zion Lutheran Church
4447 Central Ave, Gasport,
NY 14067
6:30 - 8:00 pm