

The Herald February 2026



LENT In-Person & Facebook LIVE Worship Schedule

Saturday Service
5:00 PM

Sunday Services
8:30 & 10:30 AM

Holy Communion
is celebrated at
all services.

Music Rehearsal
The choir rehearses
on Sunday mornings
@ 9:40 am. All are
welcome.

PASTOR'S PAGE

Dear Church,

It's February!

The month that begins with Candlemas, on Monday, February 2nd. This is a Christian Feast celebrating the presentation of Jesus in the Temple and the purification of Mary. It is also known for its blessing of candles representing Christ as the Light of the World, and marking the end of the Christmas season.

Then, on the 14th, it's Valentine's Day.

And yes ... this year ... on February 18th, it's Ash Wednesday!

As usual, we can expect to see plenty of funny memes on or around the 18th on social media regarding the ashen crosses. Arranged in different configurations—some more intelligible than others!—the different ways your pastor draws the cross on your forehead supposedly says something about them. While humorous it begs a set of deeper questions ... What does this mark on the forehead say about us? About God? About our church community and our faithful work in the world?

With ash and soot we begin this Lenten season with confession; we begin with Psalm 51; we begin on our knees. Today this ancient prayer placed on our lips becomes new again: "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions." We speak our truths from the shadow of our sin, the very shadow that marks our mortality. Like ash traced upon our foreheads, we are marked with the reality of our frailties and failings. It is stark reminder that sin and death are smeared all over us. From this inevitable reality, we cry out for mercy! For as bold as it is to name our sin and sinful ways that lead to death, it is all the more audacious to summon our God! To summon the one who actually has the power to do something about sin and the ways of death! On this day of penitence, through the work and witness of Christ Jesus, we brashly summon God to come, to hear our prayer, and to listen to our confession.

So, with our truths laid bare, we confess our unfaithfulness to God, our lackluster love for our neighbors, our neglect of suffering and injustice in the world. In the same breath, we ask God to wash us, to purge us, and to create in us clean hearts. *The smears of sin are washed clean through the love of Christ.* And yet, we will leave worship this day still carrying the cross-shaped trace of sin and death upon us. It is a reminder that, even amid our confession, we continue this Lenten season to listen for the perpetual call to return to the Lord our God who is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love (Joel 2:13).

A Blessed Lent to you all!

Pastor Andy

CHURCH CALENDAR

February 2026

On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that "now is the day of salvation." Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30 Worship 9:00 Coffee Hour/ Sunday School 9:40 Choir 10:30 Worship	2 AA Meeting	3	4	5 11:00 Bible Study 7:30 Flute Ensemble	6 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	7 5:00 Worship
8 8:30 Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 1:00 Orchid Society	9 AA Meeting	10	11 6:30 Council Meeting	12 11:00 Bible Study 7:00 Nature Club	13 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	14 5:00 Worship Happy Valentine's Day
15 8:30 Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	16 AA Meeting	17 5-7 pm Pancake Supper	18 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service	19 11:00 Bible Study 7:30 Flute Ensemble	20 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	21 5:00 Worship
22 8:30 Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	23 AA Meeting	24	25 Lenten Lunch and Learn @ Holy Nativity	26 11:00 Bible Study	27 AA Meeting Evening Prayer	28 5:00 Worship

Church Email: hnlc.secretary@hotmail.com

Church Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/HNLCWenonah/>

Pastor Andy Gordon Cell Phone: 609-206-7839

Church Office: 856-468-5760

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

February 2026

PRAYER LIST

Prayers for the victims of the shooting at Brown University and in Australia, Prayers for the residents in Washington state who have been evacuated due to flooding, Prayers for the two National Guardsmen who were shot in Washington, DC and their families, Holly & Duane, Dawn Allen, The family of Anthony Assante as they mourn his passing, The friends and family of James Barth as they mourn his passing, Hal Battindorf, Nicholas Baud, Lorraine Brecht, Wanda Bryan, Madelene Budd, Mike Bundy, Carol Carty, Sal Castelli, Jenn Causey and family, Tracey Causey, Lisa Clark, Josh Clarke, Sean Cleavenger, Baby Landyn and Kristen Compagoni, Sherwood Cotton, Bob Coubs, Craig (diagnosed with cancer), Rocco Cristinzio, Leslie Criston, Milton Cuevas, Sr., Milton Cuevas, Jr., The family of John Cusack as they grieve his passing, Nicholas Damiani, The family of Tony DelMonte as they mourn his passing, Alicia DiRienzo, Kathy Drew, Barbara Esposito, Barbara Facchione, Scott Fey, Bill Flynn, Francis, Bobby G., Jeannie Gapiński, Alma Garcia, Stephen Genovese, Gavin Gigliotti, Lauren Stott Gilbert, Marie Giliberti, Mark Gismondi, Terry Gismondi, Wilma Gismondi, Jay Goheen and family, Randi Gordon, Collet Grasso, Steve Harris, the Hatcher family, the Hogan family, Ed Jeffers, The friends and family of Tom Jones as they mourn his passing, Marilyn Kaiser, The family of Robert Keen as they mourn his passing, Corinne Klotz, Clara Kuter, The family and friends of Doris Lail as they mourn her passing, Grace Laphan, Pat Larkin, Joseph Lonia, The friends and family of Jessie MacGregor as they mourn her passing, The family of Doris Manogue as they mourn her passing, Joseph Mansfield, Rob and Nona McDonough & family, Caroline Miles, Jim Montisano, The friends and family of Mary Alice Morrison as they mourn her passing, George Muth, Bob and Sue Nevins, Janet Ostrowski, Lucas Otey, Otis, Donna Paone, Danielle Peters, The family of Lewis Richards as they mourn his passing, Dan Richardson, The friends and family of Carole Rund as they mourn her passing, The family of Charles Rust as they mourn his passing, The family of Scott Rust as they mourn his passing, Noreen Ruyuh, Dylan Sauer, Meleta Seher, Billy Shea, Helen Simkunas & Family, Joyce and Arvin Skramdad, The family of Deb Solt as they mourn her passing, Julia Stanz, Donna Testa, Frank Temean, Ed Tutka, Lynne Rasmussen Walker, Sharon Walker, Wayne Weaver, The family of Michelle Whiting as they mourn her passing, the Wilke family including Tim & Catherine, Jill Wilt, Glenn Wrigley.

(If you have someone that you would like on the prayer list, please fill out a form in the narthex and place it in the offering plate or contact the church office email: hnlc.secretary@hotmail.com.)

Filled with the Spirit to tell God's deeds!

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Total received to date—\$9235.00. Amount needed to date--\$10456.00. (We are currently about \$1221.00 behind our spending plan goal. Please don't forget the church if you will be away.)

"PAINT THE TOWER"

We are currently running a campaign to re-paint the church tower ("Paint the Tower" fund). The total cost of the project is \$4000 and we need to have half of this amount to schedule the work (\$2000). As of the end of January, we have exceeded our goal of \$4000 by \$140.. Council will be discussing how best to utilize the excess donation. Thank you for your generosity in helping us to maintain our church property!

SAVE THE FOLLOWING DATES:

- **Tuesday, February 17th**—Pancake Dinner (5-7 pm) See Lori Kershaw if you would like to help.
- **Tuesday, March 19, 2026-1-6 pm.** Red Cross Blood Drive
- **Wednesday, March 25**—Lenten Lunch and Learn session (more information to follow on locations, times and topics)
- **Sunday, March 29th**—Church Clean Up Day
- **Saturday, April 25th**—Wenonah Town Wide Yard Sale (8 am)
- **Saturday, May 9th**—Wenonah Clean Communities Day (8:30 am-10:30 am)
- **Wednesday, May 13th**—Church BBQ (5-7 pm)
- **Tuesday, September 29th**—Red Cross Blood Drive (1-6pm.)

FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Easton Galbraith, Marilyn Kaiser, Nick Sena, Ashley Stanz

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Dot & Ed Jeffers

COFFEE HOUR

The 8:30 service is hosting a coffee hour between services Sunday, February 1st and the first Sunday of each month moving forward. Please join us for coffee and fellowship.

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES and 2025 STATEMENTS

Envelopes for 2026 and financial statements for 2025 are available in the church Narthex.

HOLY NATIVITY MEMORIAL GARDEN ENGRAVED PAVERS--Our congregation created a memorial garden in our back yard years ago to honor or memorialize loved ones. We are offering the opportunity once again to purchase a paver to honor a loved one(s). The cost of each engraved paver is \$60. If you are interested in purchasing one please fill out the form found in the narthex and include it with payment in

the offering plate or deliver to Pastor Andy or Kim Theriault. Each paver can have up to 5 lines/15-17 characters per line. There is a sample paver in the narthex for viewing. All pavers purchased by September 15th will be dedicated on All Saint's Day (Nov. 1st). Any questions, please see or contact Kim Theriault (609)420-8453.

ST. PETER'S COMMUNITY PANTRY is here to help serve those facing food insecurity in Gloucester County. If you are having a difficult time buying food for yourself, or your family, please let us try to make a small difference for you. The Pantry is located behind St. Peter's Episcopal Church at 304 Kings Highway in Clarksboro. We are open every 3rd Saturday of the Month from 9 AM to 1 PM. Next distribution date: Saturday, February 21st.



**Holy Nativity
Lutheran Church
3 Lenape Trail
Wenonah, NJ 08090**

Please Deliver This Copy of THE HERALD To:

A large, empty rectangular box for a name or address.

**In-Person and Facebook Live
WORSHIP TIMES:
SATURDAY — 5:00 PM
SUNDAY — 8:30 & 10:30 AM**

**CHURCH OFFICE:
PHONE: 856-468-5760
hnlc.secretary@hotmail.com**