



THE TIMOTHIAN

ST. TIMOTHY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

May 2010

“Called, gathered, enlightened and made holy by God, we strive to live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Through worship, education, prayer, study, outreach and our Child Care Center, we share the love of Jesus Christ with all people.”

Address

1453 Staley Road
Grand Island, NY 14072

Phone

716-773-4400

Fax

716-773-4413

Website

www.StTimothygrandisland.org

E-mail

StTimLC@verizon.net

Pastor

Rev. Dean M. Hunneshagen
Home phone No. 662-6037
Cell phone No. 440-7739

Director of Music

Peter Gates

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9am-1pm

Office Secretary

Adrienne Neutz

Sunday Worship

Holy Communion
8:00 am
10:30 am

St. Timothy Child Care Center

Phone 716-773-9249

Director

Lydia Shiposki

The Timothian is sponsored this month by Mike and Terri Endres in celebration of their 25th Wedding Anniversary.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

The Gifts We Bring

The image of a suitor bringing a bouquet of flowers to his new found love is for me an apt metaphor of the gifts we offer to God. As an act of love we are invited to bring to God a “bouquet.” Such is the gift of the offering we bring to a Sunday worship service.

We give gifts to God in other ways as well. The gift I am thinking of at the moment is the gift of ourselves. Recently I was teaching my eight year old grandson about the stewardship of our dollars. I explained that as Christians we are responsible for the stewardship of all of our dollars, not just the ones we give to God. But when I got to the last point...about what we might give to God for His work...I paused and asked him “How can we give to God?” (I expected him to name the Sunday offering.) He thought for a moment. Then we looked up at me and said “Give Him ourselves?”

At that point I melted. He had said something much more profound than I was thinking. It reminded me of what the Apostle Paul had said of the Macedonian Christians: “they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us. (II Corinthians 8:5)”

The first gift we bring to God needs to be ourselves. When I speak of “ourselves,” I am thinking our hearts, our character, our personality, our passions, our interests, our talents...our very being. Specific gifts flow out of these.

So often in the Church we get it backward. We ask people to gift specific things...usually things that someone else needs to get done...without consideration of what is inside that person that might shape the most satisfying and effective gifting of all.

That is why in the immediate future, I am asking you first to give yourselves to the Lord and then to consider for what “area of ministry” you might have a heart. I am not asking what tasks are you willing to perform, but what area of ministry might be where your heart, character, personality, passion, interest, talent might lie?

The Lord’s ministry through St. Timothy needs to be re-thought and approached in a fresh way. His work needs faithful individuals who have a heart for Him and a willingness to explore how God may utilize you. As a first step, you can review the following “Time and Talents Survey” and be in touch with me.

Thank you for your thoughtful and prayerful consideration.

Pastor Dean

2010 Time and Talents Survey

As stewards of God's ministry through St. Timothy Lutheran Church,

I would consider taking a role in the:

Hospitality ministry

Worship & music ministry

Board governance ministry

Office administration ministry

Finance ministry

Children's ministry

Youth ministry

(Please check which ones interest you.)

Adult ministry

Prayer ministry

Evangelical outreach ministry

Child care center ministry

Stewardship ministry

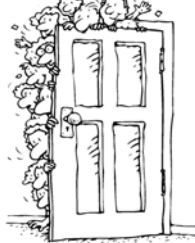
Property ministry

Name: _____ Date: _____

Please return to Adrienne in the church office.

“Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” -Jesus

BIRTHDAY PARTY!



FOR THE CHURCH

Pentecost Renewal Service and Congregational Meeting

There will be a **congregational meeting following the 10:30 service on May 23.** We will have a **potluck lunch** and ask that you sign up on the bulletin board and bring your favorite dish. The church will supply the meat. If you want to bring a **birthday gift** for the church a suggestion is a **red geranium** to plant around the church grounds. **WEAR RED !**

Volunteers for grass cutting

Please consider volunteering to help with grass cutting at St. Timothy this year. The church office is preparing schedules and teams for summer 2010. If you can help, please contact Adrienne in the office, or Ron Kraft at 773-6115.

We Welcome Baby Cummings!

Rhys Severus Cummings son to Alison and Ryan and big brother to Ronan. Rhys was born Sunday, April 25th at 4:34. He weighed 7lbs. 8 oz. and was 19 inches in length. All are doing well!



May 8th
3-7pm

Your help is needed to buy tickets and to help at the event. Krolick's will be doing all the cooking. Church will be providing the desserts. Please sign up in the Narthex for what you can do to help make this a successful event.



Thank you to all who contributed to the Health Kits. Fifteen kits were sent to Lutheran World Relief. The extra soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste were given to Passage House in Niagara Falls.

Last month I explained the mission, purpose and principles of Women of the ELCA. This month I'd like to explain some of the terms I use. Our conference, Niagara Frontier, consists of ELCA congregations in Erie and Niagara counties. There are approximately 50 congregations in the Conference. The Conference has three gatherings each year organized to meet the needs of women. They are Spring and Fall Assemblies and Day Apart in June. The Niagara Frontier Conference is one of seven Conferences that make up the Upstate New York Synod. These Conferences meet each Fall at the Synodical Convention where we share ways we are promoting the mission of Women of the ELCA.

Through the Synodical Organization, we have ties with the Churchwide organization.

Coming Events - Day Apart, Saturday June 12 at Christ the King Seminary in East Aurora. This will be a day when you can take time for yourself and grow in faith that you might nurture the faith of others. The cost for the day is \$15.00. Please send check, payable to Women of the ELCA, to Nancy Neff, 222 Willow Green, W. Amherst, NY 14228 by June 1. See the Flyer at church for directions to Christ the King Seminary. Contact Nancy Morth for car pooling & more information. Carolyn Doebert will be hosting our Annual Picnic in late June. Please watch the bulletin and June Timothian for more information.



Summer worship hours will begin on June 6th. Worship times are 8:00 am and 9:30 am.



Summer Experience for Sunday school Age Children

During the summer month's when Sunday school does not meet, children are invited and encouraged to join in the worship experience with their families. A **TOTE PROJECT** has been developed for the children. Children can pick up a tote bag on their way in to church that has projects to keep them occupied, happy and still be able to participate in worship. Totes are on the bench outside the church office.

Pastor Dean will also continue with the Children's Message during both services throughout the summer months.



The Stewardship Committee held three “Parlor Presentations” with over 35 members attending. For members who were unable to attend, commitment cards have been sent to your home.

You are asked after prayerful consideration to return your Commitment Card and Time and Talent Survey on Commitment Sunday, May 2.

The outcome of the financial commitments will influence the direction St. Timothy will take in the coming years.



Our Jr./Sr. LYO have been busy this month! Thank you to those that volunteered their time and talents and attended the Holy week services. It was wonderful to experience all of the services during Holy week with many of these kids! Mid-April, the Jr. LYO spent an evening of fun, food and fellowship at the Rose house while watching the first DVD of Jesus of Nazareth. We will connect again soon to finish the movie. Also, keep an eye out in the courtyard. Our youth are getting ready to do more out there as the weather gets warmer.

Any youth interested in volunteering for the Krolick's Chicken BBQ on 5/8, please add your name to the sign up sheet in the Narthex. I will have a signed letter ready for those that need community service hours and volunteer.

21 DAYS OF RENEWAL

The “**21 Days of Renewal**” initiative came to an upbeat close at the end of April. The initiative aimed to trigger the “**Four Turnings**” – turning to Christ, turning to Christ’s ethic, turning to the Christian congregation, turning to the world in Christian love and mission. This turning was encouraged through introduction and practice of the “**Six Disciplines**” – worship, prayer, scripture, giving, serving, witnessing – and the developing of a biblical worldview. Following the model of the **Acts 2 church** which “devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread and the prayers,” St. Timothy gathered three evenings a month over a period of **seven months**. An average of forty people participated September to November and an average of thirty attended January to April. The 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. **format** included food and fellowship, singing and worship, teaching and sharing.

Some of the written feedback from the 21 Days included:

Regarding the meal portion: “The food was good and it was a time to talk informally with other members of the congregation, especially those that go to the 8:00 a.m. service. Was able to put known names with faces.”

Regarding the opening singing and closing worship: “Awesome. Some of my favorite hymns brought tears to my eyes. In my heart, I felt individual differences turned into a sense of oneness. This for me was a peaceful time and gave me hope for our future.”

In response to the question “what has been for you the ‘take away’ from each of the units?” there was:

- a. Think like a Christian: “Bad News/Good News...dead dead/alive alive” “Never been exposed to thinking of it in this way.”
- b. Witness like a Christian: “I feel like I fall short in this area as I’m spiritually a work in progress. My ‘take away’ was that ‘For it is by God’s grace that you have been saved through faith. It is not the result of your own efforts but God’s gift.’”
- c. Serve like a Christian: “To ask the question ‘What do you need?’ and to listen to what is said and respond by giving what is needed – not what I think is needed.”
- d. Give like a Christian: “Giving is an act of worship.” “Really understanding what Jesus was saying in Matthew 6:21.” “To trust God.”
- e. Study like a Christian: “To look at scripture more methodically. What does it say? (Really read the words.) What does it mean? What does it mean to me?”
- f. Pray like a Christian: “The prayer formula ACTS.”
- g. Worship like a Christian: “God is the center of our worship. We should not be self-centered.” “The importance of being Christ-centered.”

Asked the question “What evidence can you sight that “repent and turn” and “times of refreshment” (Acts 3) has occurred either in your personal life or in the life of St. Timothy over the past twelve months?” there was

:

- a. “I believe the number of people participating in the 21 Days and staying with it to be very refreshing and good for St. Timothy.”
- b. “...for those feelings I ask forgiveness and pray we have reached a turning point. I have seen people return to St. Timothy not knowing their reason for leaving but hoping that a shared renewal has begun.”
- c. “Has made me stop and think more about what I do and is it ‘busyness’ or Christ-centered?”