



THE TIMOTHIAN

ST. TIMOTHY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

April 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.”

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Pastor

Rev. Dean M. Hunneshagen
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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

A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Welcome Home

Jesus was challenged one day regarding the company he was keeping. In response, he told them a parable. We know it most commonly as the Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32). Arguably, it might be more accurately entitled the Parable of the Waiting Father.

The point Jesus wanted to make was that the attitude and behavior of this earthly father toward his “prodigal son” exemplified the attitude and behavior of his own heavenly father.

God longs for, looks for, and reaches out to those who need to come home. God offers his hand of friendship to all. God welcomes home all who have been away. Furthermore, God provides the ultimate “welcome home” through the life, death and resurrection of His son.

The invitation, however, is just that...an invitation. Coming home is not something that can be forced. The prodigal son had to “come to his senses” and turn his face toward home. The older brother mentioned in the parable also had to make a turnaround in his attitude before he could welcome his brother home. The same applies to any of us.

God is out there longing for, looking for, and reaching out to His loved ones. He is inviting us home.

The church, God’s arm in the world, needs to emulate the Father. St. Timothy, God’s arm in the world, needs to emulate the Father and be His welcoming committee to those who have been away, who have been missing.

In turn, the missing need to be open to the Father’s invitation, to turn toward home and to be received home.

In fact, all who have been enfolded into His “home” through faith in Christ Jesus need daily to come their senses, to turn toward home and to be embraced anew. In that embrace, we await His ultimate “Welcome Home!”

Pastor Dean

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1. Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
Calling for you and for me.
See, on the portals he's waiting and watching,
Watching for you and for me.

Refrain

"Come home, come home!
You who are weary, come home."
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
Calling, "O sinner, come home!"

2. Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,
mercies for you and for me? *Refrain*



Worship
Schedule
For Lent

& Holy Week

Passion Sunday - March 28th, services at 8:00 & 10:30 am

Maundy Thursday - April 1st, service at 7:00 pm

Good Friday - April 2nd, service at 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday - April 4th, services 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Confirmation Ministry

Makes Progress

In partnership with 7 youth, their parents, youth workers Karen Rose and Carol Kraft and Pastor Hunneshagen, the new program is being implemented. Four ninth graders, Emily Ardalan, Megan Hoople, Mary Kneer and Kimberly Yaeger, are committed to completing their preparation, qualifying them to participate in the Rite of Confirmation yet this year. Three in Junior High School, Keegan Belstadt, Shawn Fermoile and Kaitlyn Rose are working on their preparation.

The basis for their study is material from the "21 Days of Renewal" handouts, the movies "Moses" and "Jesus of Nazareth," and the Lutheran Handbook which contains "Luther's Small Catechism." In addition they are expected to be regular in worship attendance, give evidence of service to others and to participate in a review panel consisting of their parent/mentor, youth worker and Pastor.



Thank you to all of the Jr./Sr. LYO and parents who were able to join us for the Young Life presentation by Kevin Kulikowski this past month. I'm hoping to get our middle and high school youth to participate in either Wyldlife Club (middle school) or Young Life Club (high school) as it sounds like a blast! Young Life for high school will be at Mike Paasch's house @ 1701 Bush Road on 4/6 & 4/13. It's from 7:20pm - 8:20pm then to John's Pizza afterwards. Let me know if you're interested and we'll go as a group. Feel free to bring friends!!! Wyldlife Club meets every other Saturday, so I'll let you know when the April meetings are as I get more information.

After the presentation, the Jr./Sr. LYO enjoyed lunch while watching the movie Moses. Discussions with Pastor Dean were intermittent throughout the movie.

Also, thank you to those who have donated items for eBay recently. We've made over \$100 this month! All proceeds benefit our youth's mission work, so thank you for your continued support. Please see Karen Rose if you have items to donate.



.....Still Strong

Having completed the fall nine weeks and the winter nine weeks, the attendance has remained strong. We average 40 per week the first cycle and 30 during the second.

Most recently the subjects of stewardship, the scriptures and prayer have been our focus. Previously the focus was on a biblical worldview, witnessing and serving. The final three sessions beginning April 7 will be on Worship as adoration and worship as liturgy. Finally, there will be reprise of all 21 sessions and an evaluation.

The evening of fellowship around food, singing, study and worship is open to first time attendees still.



Stewardship Update

Commitment Sunday on May 2 is fast approaching. The Stewardship Committee has been diligently planning a fresh approach to the traditional way we have handled our financial commitment at St. Timothy. We decided to change our stewardship drive from the fall of 2009 to the spring of 2010. We will not have “temple talks” by certain members of the congregation as in the past. Instead, we will have “Parlor Presentations” in our church parlor by our Stewardship Committee between the two services from 9:15-10:15 on April 11, 18, and 25. All members and friends of St. Timothy are invited to one of these presentations. You will be getting a phone call inviting you to one of these sessions. We hope you will respond in a positive way to attend. There will be time for questions and answers at these presentations. You will also receive your commitment cards at these sessions which you will fill out and bring with you on Commitment Sunday, May 2. We ask you to reflect thoughtfully on Christ’s words which is our stewardship theme – “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also”.



Pastor Hunneshagen will be delivering a post-Easter series of sermons on “**Giving.**”

April 11 **Giving as an Act of Worship**
April 18 **Giving as an Act of Trust**
April 25 **Giving as an Act of Stewardship**

St. Timothy worships at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. weekly.

“Parlor Presentations” Set

On Sundays April 11, 18, 25 from 9:15-10:15 a.m the Stewardship Committee will be hosting “**Parlor Presentations**” at St. Timothy covering:

Raising Up Givers
Current Needs of St. Timothy
Vision for Next Generation St. Timothy
Reasons We Can

All members and friends of St. Timothy are urged to attend one.

(2010 Pledge Cards and 2010 Time and Talents Survey will be distributed.)



Recent Actions by Church Council

Welcomed new Council members Cheryl Wasson and Carl Remmes.

Thanked Bonnie Savory for completing 6 years on Council.

Re-elected Paul Glassman, president; Carol Kraft, vice-president; Scott Webb, secretary.

Authorized Pastor Hunneshagen to proceed with implementing “the sense” of Amato, Fox & Co. Management Letter recommendations. Initial steps include posting of Mission Statement, determination to retain current corporate structure, establishing line of accountability of CCC Director to the Pastor, securing the necessary server-based computer network to handle double-entry accounting system and related software, the creation of a finance work station in the church office, re-locating of all church finances onsite, the hiring of a part-time Special Assistant for Finance, increased liability insurance to cover full replacement cost of facilities.

Authorized Interior Committee of Carolyn Doebert and Esther Westfall to engage Karen Fick Design, Inc. for consulting.

Continued to process thoughts about future directions for St. Timothy. In particular the perceived and anticipated needs for pastoral services. Began to “imagine” where we might want to be in 2013.

Encouraged positive interactions between Church members and families being served by our Child Care ministry.

Invited Dan and Renee Goetz to present their Haiti ministry story and to solicit donations for the building of an orphanage.

Offered their assistance in contacting all St. Timothy households to invite and encourage participation in the Stewardship Committee’s “Parlor Presentations” in April. Approved the new pledge year to be June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2011.



Thank you to all who contributed to the Health Kits. The kits will be sent to Lutheran World Relief.

What is this group of women know as Women of the ELCA all about? An article in the March, 2010, *Interchange*, the churchwide newsletter of Women of the ELCA, explains why there is a place in the church for Women of the ELCA. It states, "This community of women is a living organism and is always moving to be God's hands and feet in the world. This organization is not simply a quilting society. Nor are we something separate from the church. No, we are a place in the church for women to discover and to receive the resources they need so that they can refine their gifts and equip themselves to do effective ministry in the world." The article goes on to state that the principles the guide this community of women are that we are committed to discipleship, affirm the gifts and worth of each woman, strive to be inclusive, function interdependently, are flexible, seek a range of voices in decision making, work toward wholeness in the church, and claim an anti-racist identity. Oh, yes, we also collect items for health kits, serve luncheons, fix up the parlor and have Bible study. We appreciate your support of our activities and we ask you to join us at our meetings.

Niagara Frontier Conference coming events include:

Spring Assembly - Tuesday evening April 13th at Holy Trinity, Buffalo. Those interested in a tour of Holy Trinity should come at 6 PM. Registration for the evening will begin at 6:45 PM. The program "**A Celebration of Music and Movement**" includes an explanation and demonstration of Liturgical Dancing.

Day Apart - Saturday, June 12th, from 9 AM - 3 PM at Christ the King Seminary in East Aurora. "Lessons for Today's Disciples" is the theme for the day. This is a time to join others on a faith journey as we learn how to be the disciples Jesus needs us to be.

Nancy Morth