



THE TIMOTHIAN

ST. TIMOTHY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

July 2009

“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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Transition Pastor

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Director of Music

Peter Gates

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9am-1pm

Sunday Worship

Holy Communion
8:00 am
9:30 am

St. Timothy Child Care Center

Phone 716-773-9249

Director

Lydia Shiposki

If I Could Have My Way

By

Pastor Dean M. Hunneshagen

It is silly for me to say: “If I could have my way.” Of course I cannot have my way! There is always someone who will prevent it.

But I can dream.

And if I were to dream of having my way at St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church it would be this:

1. I would dream that every member worshipped every week...every week whether at St. Timothy's or not...every week interacting with fellow travelers in interaction with the Divine One...every week interacting with Jesus in the most intimate ways humanly possible.
2. I would dream that every member prayed every day...every day...whether coming or going...surrounding every thought ...every action with God...seeking to be in His will and doing His will.
3. I would dream that every member immersed himself or herself in scripture...the scripture of the Old Testament or New Testament...at least once per week...intellectually and emotionally delving into the scriptures with an eye for understanding and an ear to hear Him speak.
4. I would dream that every member viewed their life... in every aspect...as belonging to God and as such to be “stewarded” as a faithful caretaker would do...giving joyfully a proportionate share of their possessions to accomplish His work in the world.
5. I would dream that every member...at least once in their lifetime...engaged in a profound act of mercy like Jesus did...giving Christ-like service to those in need.
6. I would dream that every member, every week talked to someone about the love of God in Christ Jesus...that every member would be like one beggar giving to another beggar the bread of life.

If I could have my way, I would have us all doing these six practices of the Christian life. Then I would add a seventh (necessitated by the sixth):

7. I would dream that every member would gain at least the basics of a biblical world-view and a theological understanding so that the conversation with others about the love of God in Christ Jesus is sufficiently clear so as to be grasped.

If I could have my way.....Is it that unreasonable to think that it could happen?

Wondering,

Pastor Dean