

THE TIMOTHIAN

NEWSLETTER for ST. TIMOTHY EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH of GRAND ISLAND

1453 Staley Road, Grand Island, NY 14072

Our Pastor: The Rev. Richard Neal

Our website: www.sttimothygrandisland.com

Our emails: communications@sttimothygrandisland.com

and pastor@sttimothygrandisland.com

Our phone number: 716-773-4400

Our fax number: 716-773-4413

Our Why:

***To serve God by inspiring
faith and passion through
connections, so that we can
nurture and fulfill our
community and the world.***



November, 2022

Here's what's inside:

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Message from the Pastor

Not to rush the seasons, but November in the church calendar seems a lot like January, a hinge between past and future. In the ancient Roman religion, Janus was the god of doorways and archways. Some scholars regard Janus as the god of all beginnings and believe that his association with doorways derives from that. Janus is depicted as having two faces, one looking back, toward the past, and the other looking forward, toward the future.

November is a good time to remember Janus. We begin the month with All Saints Sunday, celebrating the saints who have preceded us in this life. The month ends, depending on how the calendar works out, with either Christ the King (or Reign of Christ) Sunday, the last Sunday of the church year, or with the first Sunday of Advent, the first Sunday of the new church year. We spend the month looking both ways, to the past and to the future, like Janus.

In the history of St. Timothy Lutheran Church, we're once again in a season of transition, having said farewell to a departing pastor and preparing to call the next pastor. It's a season for looking back to identify and reaffirm the distinguishing marks of faith that make the congregation unique, a task you completed formally in preparing your Ministry Site Profile. It's also a season for looking ahead, something you also did in preparing the MSP as you described where you believe God is leading you, a description of critical importance for candidates who would be considering a call to serve the congregation as pastor.

So we move in this month from old to new, from past to future, from who we have been to who by God's grace we are becoming, from the end of one liturgical year into Advent and the beginning of a new year. Not all of that movement will be captured or evoked in our worship experiences during the month, but we will suggest it, and we will try to point toward ways in which God's grace is unfolding in our midst.

Times of significant change such as this can seem dark and daunting to those whose lives are built on sand. But to those of us who have established our foundation upon the rock of faith, we are assured, in the closing words of Max Ehrmann's "Desiderata," that "whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should. Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be. And whatever your labors and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life, keep peace in your soul. With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be cheerful. Strive to be happy."

May the blessing of graceful transition continue to be yours,

Pastor Rich

...keep peace in your soul...

Notes from the Altar Guild: November 2022

Saints. They are not just for calendar holidays! They are created by water and Word at baptism. They are Us! The first Sunday of November is All Saints Sunday. We will call to mind the saints that have gone before us to the church triumphant. Those parishioners and loved ones that have passed on this year are named. The Holy Spirit will bring light and joy on this Sunday as well. A baptism today welcomes a new saint to our community of faith! How perfect!

White paraments and accents will set apart this festival as we come to the end of the long season of green, Time after Pentecost. Please notice the frontals on the altar, pulpit and lectern. They are some of the oldest paraments made by the ladies of this church. The symbols are a visual of the life of Jesus. Start with Jesus' birth. See the manger with the halo above, the divine in human form. Look to the other side. There is the cross and a butterfly. So moving to see the means of our saving redemption, death yet resurrection. Straight ahead is the *Angus Dei* we sing every Sunday. The Lamb of God! A holy (see the halo), triumphant (see the waving banner) Lamb of

God standing over a city (where we live now and the city of God that's ready for us). John 1:29—Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.



The second Sunday continues Time after Pentecost. The white paraments remain, but we will add some panels of green as a reminder.

The third Sunday is the last Sunday of this season. It ends with another festival, Christ the King Sunday. It is important that we still see Jesus' life before us in these symbols. A gold draped pillar standing in front of the altar holds powerful reminders, a crown of thorns with a golden crown. Jesus, our king and savior reigns eternal for all. This same evening there is an ecumenical Thanksgiving service here. It's a wonderful opportunity to give thanks as we gather with our neighbor churches.

The last Sunday brings us to the beginning. Yes, the beginning. Advent! Advent is the first season of our liturgical year. Sure looks different. Blue is the color of this four-Sunday season. Blue paraments are in place. The Advent wreath has five candles to be lit sequentially for the four Sundays of Advent, the white center one on Christmas!

November is a full and busy month. Look, listen for the call; from the manger, cross, lamb, crown. Keep Jesus in your heart.

Your sister in Christ,
Deborah

Childcare Center News

Hello, Everyone!

We had a great turn out at Trunk-or-Treat—thank you to all who participated! We loved seeing all the trunk decorations and smiling faces, and families from both the community and our center had a great time.

This month brings picture day for our kids so that one day, they can look back and remember fondly their days at St. Tim's. We are also holding a football square fundraiser for the Thanksgiving Day Bills game and would appreciate your support! Squares are \$25 each and can be purchased through both the church and childcare offices.

Our Breakfast with Santa planning has begun as we look ahead on the calendar. Save the date for this fun event on December 17th—volunteers are needed and appreciated, and so are those looking for a delicious stack of pancakes!

As always, remember to visit us on Facebook and spread the word about our Center! Enrollment is up so availability is limited, but we are always ready to welcome more kids and families into our ministry.

Thank you for your support!

Amanda Weir
Center Director



Worship Information

Our services will continue to be held on Sundays at 9:30 AM. Please consider joining us in the parlor after the service each Sunday for an open discussion of the sermon.

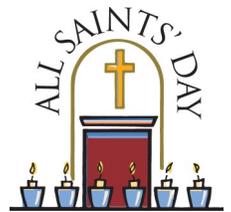
News and Upcoming Events

Baptism

Wyatt Pulvino, son of parents Josh and Sheri Pulvino, will be baptized at St. Timothy on November 6th. Join us in welcoming him to the family!

All Saints Day

On November 6th, we'll be honoring the saints in our lives who have passed away between November 1, 2021 and November 1, 2022. Please pass along the name of the loved one who has died, the date of death, and who they are remembered by no later than Thursday, November 3rd. If you haven't already, please call the office or send an email to communications@sttimothygrandisland.com with this information.



Daylight Savings

Daylight Savings ends at 2 AM on Sunday, November 6th. Remember to turn your clocks back the night before.

Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service and Dessert Smorgasbord

All are invited to come join us and the Grand Island Community Chorus at the Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service on Sunday, November 20th at 7 PM. The Dessert Smorgasbord will be on again this year! Please sign up in the Narthex to bring a dessert to pass. We are also looking for someone to take this over next year. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the office or Esther Westfall. Thank you!



MAY GRACE AND PEACE
BE YOURS IN ABUNDANCE.

I P E T E R I : 2 , N R S V

Past Missions

Thank you to everyone who helped restock the Grand Island Neighbor's Foundation's shelves! They are so appreciative of your support which helps them continue to serve the ongoing need of those in our community.

This month, some of our youth and parishioners partnered with Kenmore Alliance for their shelterless outreach ministry, folding and sorting adult and children's clothing, completing 300 personal care packages, loading trucks to take downtown, and helping distribute some of the clothing and personal care items to the shelterless there. If anyone is interested in serving with them again on December 17th after our Breakfast with Santa, please let Karen Rose or the office know.



Missions Opportunities

Our childcare center is looking for help with the front desk early in the morning as well as assistance rocking babies and playing with toddlers. No regular availability is necessary and they are grateful for any extra hands and hearts! Thank you for your continued support of this ministry!

Thankofferings: Giving Thanks to God, All Day, Every Day

The daily practice of giving thanks to God for blessings received is at the heart of our lives as people of faith. Even the ordinary blessings of daily life call us to gratitude. One way we do this is through our Thankoffering collection, which will take place on Sunday, **November 13th**. At St. Timothy, all are encouraged **“to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ”** by participating in this special collection.

Thankoffering was started by women in Lutheran churches more than one hundred years ago. Through the organization they established, they were able to do collectively what they could not do alone. By adding all their pennies and nickels together that they had gathered in thanks throughout the year, they were able to support a missionary or maybe build an orphanage.



Today, Thankofferings support the ministries of the Women of the ELCA such as justice and advocacy work, training and development for elected leaders, grants and scholarships that help women **“to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ,”** and the many communications channels that support, encourage, and inform people to help them grow in their discipleship, among others. Through our Thankofferings, we show gratitude for God’s blessings and support our partnership with God in making Christ known to all the world. We are called to offer with joy and gratitude what God has first given us.

On Sunday, November 13th, please use the blue envelope given to you by one of the women of St. Timothy or write **“Thankoffering”** on your check or envelope and place it in the basket provided. Thank you for acting boldly on your faith.

Missions Collection

As is traditional, the collection from our Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service will go to a local ministry announced on the day of, such as the Grand Island Neighbor’s Foundation or Community Missions of Niagara Frontier. Offerings can also be given at the service that morning.

Childcare Center Football Square Fundraiser



Our Childcare Center is excited to have their first ever football square fundraiser for the Buffalo Bills at Detroit Lions Thanksgiving Day game. Each square is \$25 and new numbers are given each quarter. 1st and 3rd quarter payout is \$150, and halftime and final payout is \$500. Thanks for supporting our biggest ministry in a fun way! Go Bills!

Breakfast with Santa

Our Childcare’s most enjoyable and festive fundraiser isn’t too far away! Save the date for our Breakfast with Santa on December 17th and come help if you’re able!

Missions Spotlight

THANKSGIVING

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me. – Matthew 25:35

God richly provides for daily bread — the earth can produce enough food for everyone. Yet, many of our sisters and brothers still go hungry. 820 million, or 11%, in the world go hungry; in the US there are 40 million hungry.

By providing immediate relief to those who are hungry, we meet basic needs and recognize the universal human right to food. But ending hunger is about more than food. By connecting people with the resources they need to produce food and gain access to clean water, education, health care and sources of income, long-term, sustainable change can be accomplished.

We start with relationships marked by conversation and listening. We believe people know their own communities best. It is our congregations and our global companion churches that first identify the local needs and related solutions to help make a difference. Then, we partner with communities to help make those solutions a reality.

Working through ELCA congregations, global companion churches, The Lutheran World Federation, Church World Service, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, Lutheran World Relief, and partners like Bread for the World, the ELCA reaches more places more effectively than we could ever do alone. In addition to funding relief and development projects that assist our sisters and brothers in need, we engage members of the ELCA in education and advocacy to help change the systems that perpetuate poverty.

ELCA World Hunger is active in 34 states and territories of the US and in 63 countries around the world. As you sit down to a Thanksgiving table laden with food, think how your gift to synod mission support, or directly to ELCA World Hunger, feeds others. *Thank you!*

For more info, go to ELCA.org, click on “Our Work,” then World Hunger.

We are church together for the sake of the world. God’s Work. Our Hands.

Marcia Brown

ELCA Missions Interpreter



Prayer Chain

Here at St. Timothy, we believe that prayer is powerful and can be incredibly helpful in our lives and in the lives of others. Our prayer chain allows you to ask those in our church community to pray for your friends and loved ones in their times of need.

If you would like to add someone to the prayer chain, you can call us at 773-4400, email us at communications@sttimothygrandisland.com, or contact Pastor Rich. Please also include an address where we can send cards.

We hold the following people in our prayers: Logan Black; Marge and Jack Skinner; Cheng-tin Luo; Lana Breiner; Tracy Melisz; Doug and Elaine Hardman; Nancy Gorrell; Brenda; Margaret Miller; Marion Passerelli; Marlene; Yosenia; Robert Domagala; Timmy Book; Kurt Yaeger; Randy; Betty; Riley; Ted; Joe Morley; Richard E; Isla and Eleanor; Edna; Gloria; Brian Volo; Marianne Carroll; Danny Penque; Robin Bengaglio Richard; Joanne M.; Dottie Roehrig; Sylvia and Joe Smith; Lorraine Pfohl; and Cheryl Rosati.



Birthdays and Anniversaries

This month, we'll be celebrating Paul Yaeger's birthday on November 10th and Kathy Freer's birthday on November 20th. Please let us know if you'd like to add your birthday and anniversary to our celebration list!

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care is an important resource available at St. Timothy's. Pastor Rich can be contacted at pastor@sttimothygrandisland.com, or for pastoral emergencies, at 716-984-3541. The following are some situations in which you should call:

- ◇ In the event of a hospitalization or placement in another health care facility.
- ◇ In emergency situations of injury or illness, even if there is no hospital admission. People are often sent home under difficult circumstances.
- ◇ In times of personal crisis or struggle in which you may benefit from direct pastoral care.
- ◇ When in need of pastoral services such as baptisms, weddings, home communion, funeral, or memorial services.
- ◇ In any other circumstance where pastoral care may benefit you. When in doubt, call.

November 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Worship & Music Meeting, 7 PM	4	5
6 Worship, 9:30 AM All Saints Sunday	7 	8	9	10	11	12
13 Worship, 9:30 AM Thank- offering Service	14	15 Finance Meeting, 6:30 PM	16 	17	18	19
20 Worship, 9:30 AM, Christ the King Thanksgiv- ing Service	21 Council Meeting, 5:30 PM	22	23	24 Thanks- giving Day	25	26
27 Worship, 9:30 AM	28	29	30			



WHOEVER IS **KIND**
TO THE **POOR**
LEADS TO THE
LORD,
AND WILL BE
REPAID
IN FULL.

PROVERBS 19:17, NRSV