

THE TIMOTHIAN

NEWSLETTER for ST. TIMOTHY EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH of GRAND ISLAND

1453 Staley Road, Grand Island, NY 14072

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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, 2021

Great things are happening at St. Timothy's! Here's what's inside:

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From the Pastor's Study

Grace and peace to you from our Lord, Jesus Christ.

I want to take this last opportunity to thank you for our partnership these last few months. I am grateful to have been your interim pastor and I absolutely pray and hope that the call process will yield a pastor that will be able to take the congregation to the next level in spirituality and mission.

I'm so amazed by how much ministry we did together in such a short time. In the time we were together, we broke bread, golfed, studied the Bible, fellowshiped with each other (both on ZOOM and in person) and even cried together over loved ones departing us.

We have had to deal with some really tough issues concerning the direction of the congregation and the dayschool. We have had to listen to angry parents at the school during the directorship transition and celebrated the leadership of the congregation Council. Through some of the tough moments, I have been amazed and grateful for the support and leadership of the Council, finance team, and congregation members.

The dedication of these individuals to secure a bright future for the congregation and the ministries within has been inspiration and nothing short of amazing. We had long meetings, listened to concerns and praises, and debated at length about our future as a congregation. I am confident in the future of St. Timothy's.

On a personal level, I thank you for accepting me as a stranger in your midst. I thank you for welcoming me into your fold and suffering me when I spoke eloquently of the Vikings. I thank you for the golfing outings, the lunches, and the visits in the office. I thank you for your prayers and concerns about me and my family.

On Monday, November 2, I will begin as a contracted interim associate pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church in Erie. Officially, I am an interim associate pastor but I will act as the de facto pastor at the congregation because the senior pastor will be on a one-year chaplaincy deployment with the Navy starting within a week of my starting at St. John's. This will allow me to stay close to home and be more available to assist my wife raising our two wonderful boys.

I am currently looking into starting a business that will serve the NWPA region while serving as pastor. When my business is a success (I'm being optimistic), I still intend to stay in ministry by taking a preaching gig at some small congregation within the area. So, if you are inclined, please include my dream of starting and owning a business in your prayers. I would really appreciate that.

I extended my deepest thank to you for our time together and I will always covet my time with you. I am grateful to have partnered with you for these months and I will carry with me the lessons learned and the fond memories we created together. I will keep you in my prayers for your continued discernment as you consider your future pastor and leadership. Lastly, please don't forget the gem that you have in the dayschool and always be available and support it completely.

Yours in Christ always,

Pastor Tom Glasoe

Altar Guild Notes: November, 2021

November. Four Sundays. Four different celebrations. Yet the primary purpose of every Sunday is always the same. It is the festival of our Lord Jesus Christ and the celebration of the day of His resurrection! Always!

This year November brings our current liturgical year to an end and starts the next one. Let's begin.

The first Sunday is All Saints Sunday. We remember the Saints that have gone before us to the Church Triumphant. We acknowledge our grief and loss. Yet...We celebrate the gain of their (& our!) eternal home in the Kingdom of God. The sanctuary is dressed in baptismal white.



The second Sunday returns us to Time after Pentecost, represented in green once more. Look for green panels added to the white altar frontal. Focus returns to Jesus' lessons on living



with one another in a righteous society. We will also hold our Women's Thankoffering service on this day.

The third Sunday is Christ the King Sunday. All green is gone. White is once again the color of the day. We celebrate Jesus, Lord and Savior, as our true Sovereign and King. Notice the crown in front of the altar. Look again, a crown of thorns hangs on that crown of gold. Our king suffered, died, and rose again for our redemption. He lives and reigns with God the Father and the Holy Spirit in the mystery of the triune God.



This is the last Sunday of our liturgical year. It is our tradition to celebrate the abundance of God's creation on this Sunday. Harvest decorations fill the chancel. We host the annual ecumenical Thanksgiving service this evening.



First Sunday of Advent

The fourth Sunday. We start all over again! This Sunday begins our liturgical year. It is Advent! You are greeted with the sanctuary dressed in blue. The Advent wreath is waiting for the first candle to be lit. The season of preparation for the coming of Christ begins.

Greenery and decorations will be added the following Sundays as we draw nearer to Christmas. We will be needing some help during this season of preparation. Be looking for that opportunity (12/5 after service..).

Colors, symbols, & decorations along with hymns and readings help us focus and cycle through the year learning and worshipping the life and lessons of Jesus.

May Jesus live in your heart every day of the year.

Your sister in Christ,
Deborah

A Message From the President

As I write this November Timothian article, I do so again with bittersweet emotions. A year ago this month, we said our final goodbye to Pastor Kris and Steve who moved back home to Wisconsin to be closer to Pastor Kris's dad. This year on October 31st, we celebrated Pastor Tom's last day with us as our interim pastor. We are so thankful for his guidance and leadership this past year and wish him all the best in his new interim pastor position closer to home in Erie, PA.

Early last month, the Bonadio auditors spent two full days in person at our church and child care center. Thank you to Karen S., Kim, Debbie, Amanda, and Tracy for helping them find everything they needed. The auditors are now compiling their notes and will share their findings at our congregational meeting early next year.

Also, thank you to those who were able to donate or join our childcare teachers for trunk or treat. Thank you to Alison and Nicole who chaired the event and for our youth who volunteered handing out cookies and apple cider. It was a great success and enjoyed by all! We look forward to working more closely with our child care center by celebrating Reformation Day during their church time, collecting winter clothes for the shelterless, and praying for our saints who have gone before us. We will leave a bulletin in each cubby of those whose names are shared.

As we look forward into November, Pastor Tom has graciously arranged supply pastors to continue preaching in his absence for the next several weeks. We will return to having one service at 9:30am for convenience of the supply pastors and will do so until further notice. In addition, the call committee continues to be in contact with Julie Grindle, Assistant to the Bishop, regarding potential pastors for us and will move forward with interviews when available. Thank you to the Worship and Music team who will guide us through our services moving forward and to Kim who continues to keep us connected.

In closing, I hope that everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving. Let us thank God for all of the blessings He has given us. His grace is all we need.

In peace,
Karen Rose



MAY GRACE AND PEACE
BE YOURS IN ABUNDANCE.

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

St. Tim's Child Care Corner

We have had a busy couple months settling into the new school year. Now as we move into the holiday season, we are excited to share this special time with our families and all of you. We will enjoy exploring the festivities of the season and learning about the birth of Christ.

Fall picture days will be held on the 17th and 18th. We will be collecting winter items for Kenmore Alliance Church and Mats for a Mission alongside the church, and the child care center will also be collecting canned goods for the Grand Island Neighbors Foundation. The classroom that collects the most canned goods will have a pizza party, and if we can fill our box with items for those in need we will have a dance party in the big room! Any and all help is welcome.

In October, we welcomed back Ms. Nicole to our infant room and Ms. Amanda S. into the One year old room from Toddlers. Our Toddler and preschool classrooms enjoyed a special art class with Ms. Bonnie from Orange Poppy, and our preschool classrooms enjoyed a visit from the Library and an amazing trip to the Great Pumpkin Farm!

Have a very happy Thanksgiving,
Amanda Weir
Center Director



Fellowship

Trunk-or-Treat was a blast! Thanks to all who decorated trunks and brought small friends for trick-or-treating!



Worship Information

Starting on November 7th, we'll switch to a single 9:30 AM service until further notice to accommodate supply pastors. Our livestream option will continue at the new service time as well. Thanks for sticking together with us in worship during this time of transition.

Congregation News and Upcoming Events

Looking Forward

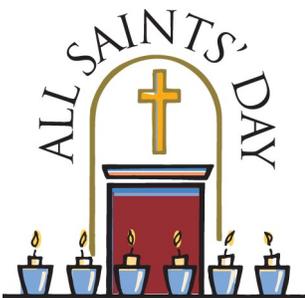
We are so grateful for Pastor Tom's time with us and know that God has great things in store, both for him and for us. He has been working hard to get us set through the end of December, and we look forward to welcoming the Rev. Mary Ellen Larson for two of those Sundays and the Rev. Richard Neal for the rest of them. Rev. Neal may also be serving us in a greater capacity while we continue the call process, and as such, would also be who we would turn to for pastoral care needs. As arrangements are confirmed, further details will follow. Please see a brief bio of Rev. Neal below to familiarize yourself with him.

Rich Neal has served for forty years as a parish pastor, including assignments as a transition ministry specialist. Ordained in The United Methodist Church, he has also served Lutheran (ELCA), Presbyterian (PCUSA), and United Church of Christ (UCC) congregations, most recently as transition pastor for two years at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Tonawanda. Rich was trained in intentional interim ministry by the Interim Ministry Network and in mediation and conflict transformation by the Mediation Center of Rochester and the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center, and he served as a partner in Buffalo Mediation Associates. In addition to his ministry as a parish pastor, Rich was the founding president of Support Ministries for Persons with AIDS, a housing ministry in Albany, N.Y. He also founded the Quality of Life Retreat, the nation's first United Methodist summer retreat ministry for persons living with AIDS. After retiring from full-time parish ministry, Rich continues to serve as a transition pastor and consultant helping churches, religious organizations, and nonprofits embrace change creatively for a better life. Rich lives in Snyder with his wife Sheryl, a retired social worker, and their three rescued dogs: Logan, Gracie, and Ollie.



All Saints Day

All Saints' Day is coming up on November 7th. Please tell us the name of the loved ones who have died, their date of death, and who they are remembered by no later than Thursday, November 4th. You can turn in the bulletin insert form, call the office, or send an email to communications @sttimothygrandisland.com to add a name. Please only include loved ones who have died between November 1, 2020 and November 1, 2021. Thank you.



Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service

Our Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service will be held at St. Timothy on Sunday, November 21st at 7 PM, with a pre-service concert from the Grand Island Community Chorus at 6:15 PM and our famous dessert smorgasbord immediately following in our fellowship hall. We'd be grateful if you could bring your favorite dessert to pass!

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 14th**. 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.



Thank
Offering

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 14th, 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.

Preparing for Christmas

As we head into Advent at the end of this month, we’ll start decorating for the Christmas season.

Please join us after the December 5th service for the Hanging of Greens. We’re also looking forward to the skits our youth will be putting on this year on each Sunday in Advent, leading up to the Pageant with all our Sunday School kids on the final Sunday in Advent, December 19th. Our Christmas Eve service will be held at 4 PM this year, both in person and on live stream.



The Childcare Center’s Breakfast with Santa is also returning this year! Save the date for a yummy stack of pancakes, breakfast sausage, fruit, and coffee or juice on Saturday, December 18th from 9-10 and 10:30-11:30 AM! Join in our holiday singalong at 10:30, and enjoy raffles, craft stations, and of course, a photo-op with Santa! Presale tickets will be available starting November 8th and are \$6.50 for adults (\$7.50 at the door), \$5.50 for children ages 3-12 (\$6.50 at the door), and free for children under 2 years old. We hope you’ll come and join us!

Mission

Winter Wear Collection

Our winter wear collection for the shelterless in Buffalo through Kenmore Alliance Church and Mats for a Mission is now going on. They're especially looking for adult coats and footwear, but warm socks, hats, gloves, and scarves are also gratefully welcomed; these can be new or gently used. Our youth will be delivering these items on November 27th.



For those of you that have been busy knitting hats, scarves, and mittens, those items will also be delivered to the Homeless Jesus statue in conjunction with the TriniKints project for our shelterless neighbors in another part of the city. Thank you for the outpouring of love you have made visible to those who need to hear the good news.

Missions Spotlight

SPEAK UP!

What do you care about? What stirs your heart enough to act? What can't you help keeping silent about?

All those are part of advocacy—speaking up for someone who is unable to. All parents are advocates for their children at one time or another and some people have experienced being an advocate for a relative who is ill and temporarily cannot speak for themselves. Have you ever thought of advocacy as a witness to Christ? Because what you are doing is caring for your neighbor. Do you remember the bracelets that said WWJD (what would Jesus do)? The answer is that Jesus would care about the hungry, the homeless, the stranger, the children, and orphans and widows.

ELCA advocacy is a wide-ranging effort, touching on local concerns as well as national and world-wide. Sometimes advocacy is dramatic and very public, as in rallies and demonstrations. But more often it's quiet and slow, involving months or even years of work with governments and social agencies. It is not political as it does not identify with a particular ideology or party. Here is a partial list of topics that ELCA Advocacy focuses on: migrant children; corporate social responsibility; faith, science, and technology; justice for women; peace not walls; racial justice; social issues. Go to elca.org, type "advocacy" in the search box, and you can sign up for email updates of those issues and more. You can find opportunities for action and also more resources.

We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work. Stand up for policies that create opportunities to overcome poverty, promote peace and dignity, and defend God's creation. Advocate as a witness to your faith!

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

Marcia Brown, ELCA Mission Interpreter

In Loving Memory

On October 3rd, we said goodbye to our beloved brother, Robert Miller, MD. Dr. Bob was a wonderful presence at St. Timothy, friendly and welcoming, full of quiet faith, compassion, and generosity. His was a life that touched many, full of loving service to his family and to the people of his community. Robert's legacy lives on as he is remembered as a wise and caring doctor and as the organizations he helped found—the Grand Island Rotary Club, the Narcotics Guidance Council, and the Grand Island Rescue Squad—continue their important work to this day. We are full of thanksgiving for his witness, and we rest in the comfort of knowing he is with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, after a truly beautiful life with us.



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 Tom. Please also include an address where we can send cards.

We hold the following people in our prayers: Linda Piechowiak, Christine Stepien, Dick Welte, Jennifer Buchanan, Elizabeth Glasoe, Jeffrey Cole, David Goodemote, Kathleen Maraldo, Siobhain, Joyce Zimmerman, Danny Penque, Dan Kramer, Brian Volo, Margaret Miller, Myrna Milani, Mike, Ray Romaleski, Renee, Joanne M., Dottie Roehrig, Sylvia and Joe Smith, Lorraine Pfohl, Cheryl Rosati, and Robin Bengaglio Richard.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



This month, we'll be celebrating Paul Yaeger's birthday on November 10th and Kathy Freer's birthday on November 20th. We wish them many blessings for the year ahead and good cheer on their special day! Please let the office know if you'd like to add your birthday and anniversary to our celebration list.

Pastoral Care

When our contact for pastoral care is confirmed, an email will be sent out to the congregation and announced the following Sunday. In the meantime, please contact the office with any needs and we will find someone in the synod who can walk with you for the time being. Please continue to let us know of hospitalizations and emergencies so we can be there for you in whatever way possible. Thank you.

November 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Daylight Savings Ends
7 Worship, 9:30 AM All Saints Day	8 Finance Meeting, 5:30 PM	9	10	11  Vet's Day	12	13
14 Worship, 9:30 AM Thankoffering Service	15 	16	17 Council Meeting, 5:30 PM	18	19	20
21 Worship, 9:30 AM Christ the King Thanksgiving Service 7 PM	22	23	24	25 Thanks-giving Day	26	27 Youth delivering to the shelterless
28 Worship, 9:30 AM First Sunday of Advent	29	30				