

THE TIMOTHIAN

NEWSLETTER for ST. TIMOTHY EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH of GRAND ISLAND

1453 Staley Road, Grand Island, NY 14072

Our Pastor: The Rev. Adam Arends

Our website: www.sttimothygrandisland.com

Our emails: communications@sttimothygrandisland.com

and pastor@sttimothygrandisland.com

Our phone number: 716-773-4400

Our Child Care Center: 716-773-9249

Our Why:

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



February, 2023

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

- ◇ From the Pastor's Study
- ◇ Altar Guild Notes
- ◇ A Note from the President
- ◇ Child Care Center News
- ◇ Worship Information
- ◇ News and Upcoming Events
- ◇ Missions
- ◇ Preparing to Welcome Pastor Adam
- ◇ Prayer Chain and Pastoral Care
- ◇ Calendar



From the Pastor's Study

A few weeks ago in worship we read a story from the gospel of John. In it, John the Baptizer points to Jesus and says, "Behold the lamb of God!"

Immediately two of John's disciples turn to Jesus and begin to follow him. And, apparently, they recognize that Jesus is a different sort of rabbi, for they immediately say, "Jesus, show us where you're staying tonight." They are asking, maybe, for Jesus to show them how he lives, how he does.

And instead of giving them a bunch of rules to follow or giving them an address where they are to go later, Jesus says this: "Come and See."

The disciples could have just fallen on their knees and worshipped Jesus. But they didn't, they asked how to live where Jesus lives. And Jesus responds with an invitation, "Come and See."

As we begin our ministry together, dear people of St. Timothy, I hope we can get ourselves ready to respond to Jesus' call to "Come and See." What are the ways that you are already inviting others to come and see Christ at work at St. Tim's? How are you telling the story of how Christ is already at work in your life? Are you imagining new opportunities for a community where we know Christ's presence, and are excited to invite your neighbors to "Come and See"?

I am excited to work together with you as we answer Christ's call, and continue the invitation to our friends and neighbors, again and again. May we show up for each other in community, and see Christ among us.

See you soon!

In Christ's peace,
Pastor Adam Arends



Altar Guild Notes: February, 2023

Green is for gratitude. We are still in the season of Time after Epiphany. The green paraments still greet us in the sanctuary. They mark the time between the Christmas cycle and the Easter cycle.

The first three Sundays this month fall into this “ordinary” time. Ordinary in this case simply means counted. Quiet reflection while enveloped in the ordinary green beauty of the sanctuary can be anything but ordinary. Let the green help your heart open to the presence of Christ and his pure gift of love and redemption found in Word and Eucharist. Yes, green is for gratitude.

The season makes a dramatic change three days later. Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent in the Easter cycle. The sanctuary is somber. The purple paraments with troubling symbols are arranged over altar, pulpit and lectern. The flowers are gone, the shiny brass vases are wrapped in purple. The processional crosses are draped in purple. The dossal curtain cross has a banner of purple! The mood is reflective and penitential. Indeed, our hearts and minds are turned inward as ashes are smudged to our foreheads in the shape of a cross.



Ash Wednesday

The end of February brings the first Sunday in the forty days of Lent. We will have time to ponder the parament symbols during our walk together through Lent. While we are in the desert of this pilgrimage, Sunday still brings the Word and Eucharist to quench our thirst for God. The light of Christ still burns bright in the sanctuary candle that hangs above the altar. The Holy Spirit surrounds and guides us. We are reminded in faith, that these gifts are freely given for each and for all.

The sanctuary is ready. Candles are lit. The Eucharist meal is waiting.
What joy to join our voices in praise and prayer.

Your sister in Christ,
Deborah



A Note From the President

*“And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.”
~1 Corinthians 13:13*

What a perfect verse for this February. Our **Faith** in God that He would answer our prayers for a new pastor for St. Timothy’s when the time was right. Our **Hope** in God because He has promised to always be with us. Our **Love** for God for strengthening our church and bringing Pastor Adam and his family into our lives.

We did it! After two years, two transition pastors, three daycare directors, and countless staff and volunteers working behind the scenes, we are excited to welcome Pastor Adam Arends and his family into our ministry this month. While Pastor Adam will be with us, his wife, Kristen, will be a synodically authorized minister (SAM) at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Eggertsville. Kristen is her second year of seminary at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN. Their children, Annabelle (Anna) is 13 and in 8th grade, and Wesley (Wes) is 11 and in 5th grade. Please come meet them and reintroduce yourself. We look forward to many more years of ministry with them.

Looking forward to Valentine’s Day, we will be making valentines for our childcare staff and children. If you’d like to help, let us know. The children absolutely love visits from our church staff, so please come join us for children’s church on Friday mornings at 10 and 10:30am. The children love to “set the table” and sing! All are welcome.

On Sunday, February 19th, we will have our Congregational meeting immediately following our 9:30am church service. Please join us for a small brunch after church and bring something to pass if you are able. We will review our audit, past year, and more. This concludes my second three-year term on the council, so we will need to fill this seat. Thank you for allowing me to be your council president these past five years. I plan to stay just as involved to continue the momentum we have had these past two years. Remember, God doesn’t just call the equipped, He equips the called. Thank you, God, for equipping us all.

In closing, as we welcome Pastor Adam and his family into our ministry, let us remember that it takes a team to do God’s work. What we did these past two years, we will continue to do with Pastor Adam. The hard work doesn’t just stop, it’s only the beginning. Let’s start our new chapter here at St. Timothy’s by bringing our purpose *“To serve God by inspiring faith and passion through connections, so that we can nurture and fulfill our community and the world”* front and center.

In peace,
Karen Rose

Child Care Center News

Hello, Everyone!

January was another great month at the childcare center! Some of the highlights were a visit from Orange Poppy Art Studio, some time spent playing outside in the snow, and Bills Friday. Our teachers and staff also gathered for a fun Christmas party full of games, good food, and lots of laughter!

At the Christmas Party each year, the Mike Endres Leadership Award is given to a staff member who has exceptional leadership, dedication, and professionalism. Our 2022 recipient is Katelyn Benns, who has been an outstanding Preschool teacher for the last four years and this year took on the role of our UPK teacher. We are so blessed to have Miss Katelyn as a teacher, co-worker, friend, and mentor! Join us in congratulating her!



This month, we're excited to start working with Pastor Adam to continue growing and developing the Christian education component of our program with his leadership. Valentine's Day will also be tons of fun!

Thank you for your continued support and prayers, we truly appreciate it!

Amanda Weir

Center Director



Worship Information

Pastor Adam will be leading us in worship at 9:30 AM each Sunday. Livestream links can be found on the front page of our website, www.sttimothygrandisland.com. Ash Wednesday is on February 22nd this year, and we'll be gathering for a 7 PM service. We hope you can join us!

News and Upcoming Events

Congregational Meeting and Fellowship Brunch

Our next Congregational Meeting will be held on February 19th after the 9:30 AM service. Please plan to join us for a light brunch and bring a dish to pass as you are able. This will also be an opportunity to get acquainted with Pastor Adam and spend some time in fellowship with each other.



Ash Wednesday

Our Ash Wednesday service will be held on Wednesday, February 22nd at 7 PM in-person and over livestream. Ash kits will be available the Sunday before for any who will not be able to attend in person, and further information will be shared over email and in the Sunday bulletin as we get closer.

Ash Wednesday and Lenten series at Stella Niagara

Stella Niagara is holding an Ash Wednesday retreat day on February 22nd from 9AM-4PM along with a weekly Lenten Evening Series on Thursdays from 5:15-8:00 PM. Please see the flyer in the Narthex or contact the office for more information.

Missions

Thank you to everyone who generously gave clean undergarments to the Community Missions of Niagara Frontier and Journey's End during our Undie Sunday collection! We returned the laundry hamper to Rotary packed to the brim!



The final total sent to ELCA World Hunger from our congregation was \$785 and included: three sets of chicks; a rooster; six hives of honeybees; five piglets; six goats; food for a refugee family; food for ten at a soup kitchen; two sets of school supplies for a child; school fees and uniform for a girl; a set of Bibles; and a generous undesignated portion for wherever it is needed most.

Thank you again for showing up to give hope, love, and long-term security to so many in need!

Preparing to Welcome Pastor Adam

We're excited to welcome the Reverend Adam Arends as the new called pastor of St. Timothy's this month! His first day with us will be Sunday, February 5th. Please help us give him a warm welcome!

While Pastor Adam will be working out his schedule with his family over the next few weeks, if you'd like to stop in and say hello, he's planning to be in at least 8:30-2 on Tuesday, 2/7, Wednesday, 2/8, and Thursday, 2/9. Please consider calling ahead to avoid any scheduled meetings.

You can reach Pastor Adam at pastor@sttimothygrandisland.com or at 608-525-0288, as well as through the church office.

We've been encouraged by the Synod to help Pastor Adam get acclimated and to work to jump-start our ministry together. As such, there are a few things we'd appreciate your help with. One, of course, is prayer for him, the congregation, and our collaboration together, and inviting God to work among us in unexpected and powerful ways. Another is to each be intentional in fostering an openness to new leadership, change, and growth; it is natural for us to be resistant to change, but as Pastor Rich always said, "when you embrace change creatively, a richer life is possible." Join us in trying out the changes that Pastor Adam brings with open minds and hearts and with the intention of finding new ways to grow and bring the love of God to our community.

Lastly, Pastor Adam's ministry with and among us is facilitated by the knowledge of our congregation and the greater community that we equip him with. Please spend some time connecting with him and sharing what you know that could be helpful—from the congregation's strengths and how it operates in certain areas, to the needs of our greater community and other community leaders you may be able to introduce him to. Share your personal strengths in ministry and the dreams you have for where St. Timothy can go from here and how we can best reach our community. Every bit of input is valuable and helps us put the fuller picture together to create the most effective ministry we can.

It is through making connections that inspire faith and passion that we find ways to nurture and bring fulfillment to those around us in the love of God. Join us in connecting and being inspired to faithful action in the coming weeks and months as we begin our journey with Pastor Adam!

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 others 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 716-773-4400, email us at communications@sttimothygrandisland@gmail.com, or contact Pastor Adam. You can also fill out the prayer chain request sheet in the Narthex at the table next to the Sanctuary entrance. Please include an address where we can send cards to those in our prayers.

Here are the people in need of our prayers at this time: Josh; Tim Philips; Brenda Nebelecky; Ren Trietley; Myles; Becky; Jim O'Connor; Cathy; Deb; Alex; Kathy Wright; Maria and baby; Colin; Gary; Lana Breiner; Nancy Gorrell; Brenda; Margaret Miller; Marion Passerelli; Marlene; Yosenia; Kurt Yaeger; Randy; Betty; Riley; 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 Herb and Esther Westfall's anniversary on February 4th and Mark N. Steck's birthday on February 22nd. Please let us know if you'd like to add your birthday or anniversary to our celebration list!



Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care is an important resource available at St. Timothy's. To contact Pastor Adam for pastoral care needs, you can reach him at pastor@sttimothygrandisland.com or at 608-525-0288.

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.

February 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5 Worship, 9:30 AM	6	7	8	9 Worship & Music, 7 PM	10	11
12 Worship, 9:30 AM	13	14 	15	16	17	18
19 Worship, 9:30 AM Congregation Meeting	20 Council Meeting, 5:30 PM	21	22 Ash Wednesday, 7 PM	23 	24	25
26 Worship, 9:30 AM	27	28				