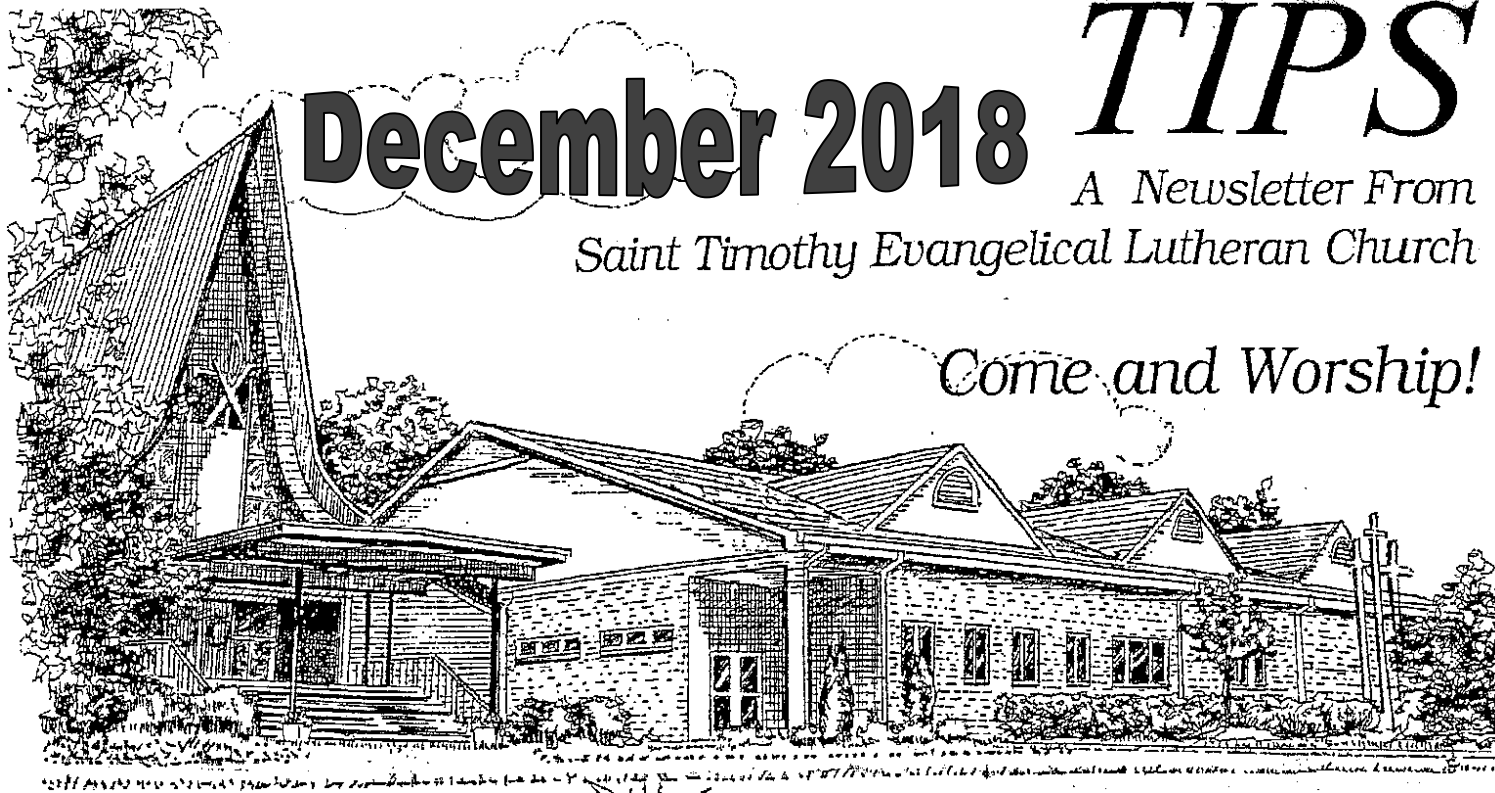


December 2018

TIPS

A Newsletter From
Saint Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church

Come and Worship!



Sunday Worship 9:00 & 10:30 am

Saturday Worship 6pm

395 Valley Road, Wayne, New Jersey 07470

sttimothynj.org

The Rev. Robert M. Mountenay, Pastor

395 Valley Road, Wayne, NJ 07470

Parsonage

Director of Music

Church Secretary

Church Office Email

Phone: (973) 694-8316

Phone: (973) 694-2036

Caroline Parody

Laurie Crowley

st.tims395@yahoo.com

Church Council

Robert Andersen	.....	(973) 831-0326
Dr. Lori Bleeker	.....	(201) 485-7384
Edward Cleaver	.....	(201) 337-5411
Laura Dec	.....	(973) 835-2348
Anthony DeStefano	.....	(973) 694-1445
Lisa Fabian	.....	(973) 835-4148
Fallon Goskowski	.....	(862) 485-2651
Pat Kaplan	.....	(973) 341-7920
Robin Koegel	.....	(201) 939-5518
James Koppenal	.....	(973) 406-7405
Barbara Westerberg	.....	(973) 696-1471
Hannah Wantula	.....	(973) 616-8330



December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 <u>6 pm</u> Worship with Holy Communion
2 <u>9:30 am</u> Worship with Holy Communion  Poinsettia Orders Due	3 <u>9 am</u> Mon Morn Crew <u>9:30 am</u> HHM Sorting <u>7:00 pm</u> WELCA Board	4 <u>11:30 am</u> Chair Yoga	5 <u>11 am</u> PrimeTimers <u>7:15 pm</u> : AAFH <u>7:30 pm</u> Advent Lessons and Carols 	6	7 <u>7 pm</u> AAFH (AA in Fellowship Hall)	8 <u>9:30 am</u> Bookworms  <u>6 pm</u> Worship with Holy Communion
9 <u>9 & 10:30 am</u> Worship with Holy Communion	10 <u>9 am</u> Mon Morn Crew <u>9:30 am</u> HHM Sorting	11 <u>11:30 am</u> Chair Yoga <u>7:30 pm</u> Council Meeting	12 <u>10 am</u> Angel Circle <u>12 Noon</u> Miriam Circle <u>7 pm</u> : Handbells <u>7:15 pm</u> : AAFH <u>8 pm</u> : Choir	13	14 <u>7 pm</u> AAFH	15 <u>6 pm</u> Worship with Holy Communion  TIPS Deadline!
16 <u>9 & 10:30 am</u> Worship with Holy Communion <u>10:00 am</u> SS Advent Program 	17 <u>9 am</u> Mon Morn Crew <u>9:30 am</u> HHM Sorting	18 <u>11:30 am</u> Chair Yoga <u>1pm</u> Knitting <u>7 pm</u> CEC Meeting	19 <u>7:15 pm</u> : AAFH <u>7:30 pm</u> Handbells & Choir	20 <u>10:30 am</u> Adult Book Group	21 <u>7 pm</u> AAFH 	22 <u>6 pm</u> Worship with Holy Communion
23 <u>9 & 10:30 am</u> Worship with Holy Communion ----- 30 <u>9:30am</u> Lessons & Carols <i>No Sunday School</i>	24 <u>5:30 & 10:30 pm</u> Christmas Eve Services  31 	25  Merry Christmas!	26 <u>7:15 pm</u> : AAFH <div>IRREGULAR OFFICE HOURS</div>	27	28 <u>7 pm</u> AAFH	29 No Service



Worship Participants

December 2018

Date	Altar Guild	Ushers	Acolytes	Reader	Communion Assistants	Coffee Hosts
December 2 Advent 1 <i>Eileen Smith, Liturgist</i>	Nancy Farina Debra Tanis	Amy Taranto Chris Taranto Dave Taranto Rick Beyer	Madison Schloesser Tricia Kellstrom	Jeff O'Sullivan	Intinction	<u>Angel Gifts</u> Karen Sajban Nancy Farina
December 9 Advent 2 <i>Eileen Smith, Liturgist</i>	Valerie McGrath Le Eckert	Marnie Sperling Lindsay Sperling Tom Sajban Craig Beyer	Jacob Dittmer Joshua Dittmer	Danielle Dittmer	Intinction	Terri Loftus Valerie McGrath
December 16 Advent 3 <i>Eileen Smith, Liturgist</i>	Ilona Oosterwyk Terri Loftus	Andrew Gaffney Cindy Gaffney Craig Beyer Rick Beyer	Colin Loftus Olivia Gaffney	Mary Stevens	Intinction	The Wantulas
December 23 Advent 4 <i>Eileen Smith, Liturgist</i>	Alice Huizinga Mary Laverack	Justin Oosterwyk Doug Zangrilli Bill Monsees Jeff Riotto	Colin Bedi Ryan Bedi	Bob Davidson	Intinction	Sandy DeRose Dolores Monsees
December 24 5:30pm Christmas Eve <i>Eileen Smith, Liturgist</i>	ALL	Marnie Sperling Lindsay Sperling Tom Sajban Eric Sajban	Ryan O'Mealy Adam O'Mealy Need 2 More	Charlie Purcel	Jenn Andersen Debbie Andersen Jaclyn Sajban Samantha Sajban Eileen Smith	No Coffee
December 24 10:30pm Christmas Eve	ALL	Rick Beyer Craig Beyer Justin Oosterwyk Pat Kaplan	Hailey Oosterwyk Need 3 More	Nancy Tammi	Lori VanDerStad Need 4 More	No Coffee
December 30 Lessons/Carols Christmas 1	Lori VanDerStad Lisa Fabian	Alex Banu Bob Bartelt	Henry McGrath Caroline Corbett	Pastor Eileen Smith Mary Laverack Lori VanDerStad Art DeRose	Intinction	Barbara Westerberg Nancy Farina

From the Pastor

Ministry of Word and Service

When Lutherans think of Christian worship, the most often think in terms of “Word and Sacrament.” Our Sunday liturgies center on the proclamation of God’s Word and the distribution of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Pastors, are known as ministers of word and sacrament, because they have been called and ordained to preach the Word and administer the sacraments.

There is another professional ministry in the church, and that is the ministry of Word and Service. We read in Acts 6 that the apostles were so busy with their ministry of proclamation that the distribution of food among the widows of Jerusalem was neglected. In response to the pressing need for service to the poor, the office of deacon (from the Greek *diakonos* – “servant”) was established in the early church. Seven men were set apart as deacons, among them Stephen, the first Christian martyr. It was their responsibility to care for the vulnerable members of the fledgling Christian community. In Romans 16:1-2 St. Paul makes reference to Phoebe, “a deacon of the church at Cenchreae,” indicating that women, as well as men, likely served in this role in earliest days of Christianity.

While the diaconate seems to have flourished during New Testament and Patristic times, by the fifth century there was a decline in the “permanent” diaconate in the Roman Church (though they remained prominent in the Eastern Church). Seminarians were ordained as “transitional” deacons in preparation for their ordination into the priesthood, but permanent deacons were few and far between for centuries. Following the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s, however, the role of deacons in the church has expanded. While they may not preside at the Mass, they may baptize, officiate at weddings, and serve in a variety of liturgical roles. Deacons often work directly in ministry to the marginalized inside and outside the church: the poor, the sick, the hungry, the imprisoned. While most have other full-time employment, some deacons are employed as full-time chaplains in hospitals, prisons, and other institutions.

Among Lutherans, the diaconal movement has also developed significantly in recent years. The ELCA and its predecessor bodies have set apart deaconesses – female ministers of service – since the early 19th century. In the early days of the movement, deaconesses often did nursing work in church related institutions, such as orphanages

and hospitals. Later, they often served as directors of Christian education in Lutheran parishes. Fewer women have become deaconesses since the ordination of women began in the late 1970s, but there is still a need for ministers of Word and Service, both male and female.

When the ELCA was established in 1988 it established three rosters of ministers: pastors, deaconesses, and associates in ministry. In 1993 a roster of diaconal ministers was established, and the first were consecrated in 1995. Since 2017, those who served on the lay rosters as associates in ministry, diaconal ministers, and deaconesses are now part of a unified roster of “Ministers of Word and Service, and are known as deacons. As with Roman Catholic deacons, preparation for the diaconate involves theological study and practical training, both in parish and institutional settings. According to the ELCA website: “Deacons serve in congregations and other ministries of the ELCA, including family ministries, youth, administration, volunteer ministry, social services, music or parish nursing. Deacons connect the church with the needs of the world and work to equip others to lead a living, active and caring Christian life.”

Our own deacon, Eileen Smith, was set apart as a deacon in 1998 by the Metropolitan Synod of the ELCA. Before moving to New Jersey, her initial call to diaconal service was synod communicator, in which capacity she wrote a monthly newsletter for the ministerium (synod clergy) and occasional articles for *The Lutheran* magazine. She also worked with end-of-life issues, including establishing a semi-annual gathering of ELCA and LCMS clergy and addressing congregations on these matters. She also assisted Bishop Stephen Bouman, both administratively and liturgically.

We were truly blessed when Eileen move to Wayne and joined our fold. She has served the church and our congregation in many ways. Deacon Eileen serves frequently in traditional liturgical functions, and is an excellent preacher. She’s often filled in for me when I’ve been on vacation and preached at my 25th anniversary of ordination service way back in 2006. She regularly writes articles for TIPS and has also been published in *The Lutheran* and the *Forum Letter*. She initiates, assists, and edits our confirmands’ annual devotional booklets. Eileen was the architect of our excellent Prime Timers program and continues to find speakers and organize events. She’s active in the Wayne Alliance for the Prevention of Substance Abuse and has chaired several committees at St. Timothy over the years, including Worship and Outreach. Eileen was officiating at her nephew’s wedding on June 17, 2018, the 20th anniversary of her consecration as a deacon. Let’s wish her a belated happy and blessed anniversary! We at St. Timothy, as well as the whole Church are truly blessed by this Ministry of Word and Service.

continued...

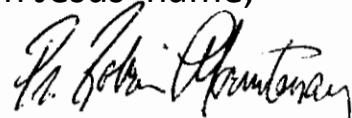
Good Stewards 2018

For the third time in the history of St. Timothy's Good Steward Award, the honor was bestowed upon a couple in 2018: Patricia and Bernard Spardel. Unfortunately, for the first time in the award's history, one of the recipients was awarded the prize posthumously, and that, of course, was Pat, whom we lost last month. Pat is remembered as a wife, a mother, a language instructor, a professional counselor, and a crafter *extraordinaire* (quilting and knitting were her specialties) as well as being an extremely active member of our congregation. At church she served several terms on council, was a member of the Outreach Committee, was active in Bookworms, the adult reading group, Miriam Circle, and was the founding member of our knitting group. Pat coordinated our Christmas season angel gifts and, together with Hulde Ritz, scheduled our weekly coffee hours. In the community she was active in Family Promise of Passiac County, the Wayne Alliance, and various other organizations. She was also the "voice of St. Timothy," emailing shepherding notices to the congregation (patch1103@aol.com) and making phone calls with the familiar introduction, "this is St. Timothy calling ..."

Husband Bernie's no slouch either, though his faithful service is somewhat less visible. Bernie also served several terms on council (though not concurrently with Pat!), and has been a very active member of the property committee for many years. Along with the late George Laubscher, Bernie was responsible for much of the design work for our Connection of Faith building project and was the Connection's project manager. Over the years Bernie has responded to countless emergency call from yours truly – "Bernie, there's no hot water"; "Bernie, the furnace isn't running"; "Bernie, the AC isn't working," etc., etc., etc. and showed up on site with *barely* a complaint. He was even stuck in the elevator once when no one else was in building, effectively testing the emergency phone system. Another of Bernie's enduring contributions to St. Timothy is his belief that the only good weed is a dead one. He's the guy applying Weed-be-Gone to all the errant vegetation.

As a couple, Bernie and Pat were distinctly different from one another but were truly a complementary couple. I'll especially remember the way they'd sit together on the love seat in the parlor during my Lenten mid-week Bible studies. Both would ask probing questions and make insightful observations. They were truly a match made in heaven!

In Jesus' name,



Pastor Robin Mountenay



12/1	Janet Romaine	12/21	Julia Hayes
12/2	Ryan O'Mealy	12/21	Irene Stumpf
12/3	Craig Beyer	12/21	Carol Labadie
12/5	Ellen Grexa	12/21	Ann Rocko
12/9	Karen Kong	12/22	Alex Banu
12/9	Matthew Stevens	12/22	Roberta Jankiewicz
12/10	Nancy Tammi	12/26	CJ Beyer
12/14	Vincent Venturelli	12/27	Jean Marc
12/15	Taisha Purcel	12/29	Sarah Riotto
12/15	William Muschko	12/30	Lisa Fabian
12/18	Christian Wantula		



12/2	Raymond & Marie Threlfall
12/23	Barbara & Richard Koegel
12/28	Barbara & Richard Westerberg
12/29	Leonard Smith & Kathryn Jones-Smith

*Should you be on this list, and you're not??
 Please email Laurie at st.tims395@yahoo.com
 or call the office at 973-694-8316!*



MEMORIALS

Since October 15, 2018, gifts were given to the General Memorial Fund in memory of:

Rita Laubscher

Pat Spardel

Ken and Betty Jones

Kathleen Kemenczy, sister of Janet DeStefano

to the George Laubscher Monday Morning Fund in memory of:

Rita Laubscher

and to the Grace and Cliff Flanders Scholarship Loan Fund in memory of:

Susan DeRose

Loved ones of Alice Hamm

Pat Spardel

There have been no Memorial purchases during this month.



No Memorial Garden pavers were purchased this month, so our paver total stands at 112. The price of a paver is \$300.00. Checks may be made to St. Timothy Memorial Fund, with the words “Memorial Garden” on the memo line. Pavers may be engraved with the names of deceased loved ones, or left blank for future engraving. Paver application sheets are available in the narthex. Please see

Pat Winters for further information or assistance. The Memorial Garden is self-supporting; gifts are welcome at all times!

We also welcome contributions to the fund for restoration and enhancement of our Church organ. The work is on-going and should be completed very soon. Checks may be made to St. Timothy Memorial Fund, with the words “Organ Repair” on the memo line.



We are grateful to all who have given to the St. Timothy Memorial Funds – the General Memorial Fund, the Music Fund, the George Laubscher Monday Morning Fund, the Memorial Garden Fund, the Eternal Light Candle Fund, and the Flanders/Schleer Scholarship Loan Funds – and for the faithful repayments to each loan fund. We welcome additional contributions to these Funds, that we may continue to assist families with the high price of college.

New time: 10:30am

Adult Book Group ~ December 20th

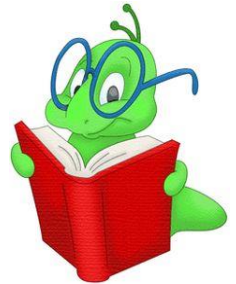


We meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 10:30am in the parlor. In November we will be reviewing chapter 7 of Borg's book, *Reading the Bible again for the first time*. Our discussions are lively and many times go off topic. We are lead by our wonderful leader Art DeRose. Everyone is welcome .

Carol, Art, Sandy, Dolores,
Le, Nancy, and Barbara

Bookworms ~ December 8th

We will be meeting December 8th at the usual Barnes & Noble coffee shop. Our book selection is *Our Souls at Night* by Haruf. In January we will be reviewing *An Innocent Client* by Scott Pratt. Come and join us for good camaraderie and interesting discussion. We'd love to have you.



December - *Our Souls at Night* by Haruf

January - *An Innocent Client* by Scott Pratt

February - *The Home for Unwanted Girls* by Joanna Goodman

March - *Behold the Dreamers* by Imbalo Mbue

Join us any time at the coffee shop in Barnes & Noble on Rt. 46. ***We will be doing our traditonal book exchange of a previously loved wrapped book at our December meeting.*** Happy reading.

Colleen, Nancy, Le, Dolores,
Carolyn, Elsie and Barbara

PRIME TIMERS – DECEMBER 5TH

OUR ANNUAL ADVENT

(SHHHHHHH CHRISTMAS) BRUNCH!

December 5th at the Village Inn from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. We've had a great time at this event and hope all our Prime Timers (50+ members) will be able to attend.

The party will continue in January! On January 2nd we will celebrate the New Year (and a bit of Christmas as well). This time we are asking Prime Timers to bring a dessert and we will supply a sandwich lunch. Carolyn Russo will lead us in singing some of our favorite Christmas carols.



In your childhood Advent Program:



Were you a shepherd for 7 years in a row?

Do you still have childhood scars because you never got to be Mary?

Here's your chance! This year's Advent Program, *A Nativity for Us*, will let you be whatever you want to be in the program. Just show up on December 16th at 10am and we will have the costumes and instructions to let you be whatever you want to be. You will not have to say a word.

Join us – it should be a lot of fun!



Wayne Interfaith Network

Currently WIN is serving 118 clients and their families. Approximately 22 families are served each week. The pantry particularly needs cereal, coffee, canned fruit and pasta sauce. There is no need for canned corn, green beans, variety beans, soup or pasta.

Monetary donations are greatly appreciated and may be made “in memory of” or “in honor of”. Mail to Wayne Interfaith Network, PO Box 3341, Wayne, NJ 07474-3341.

Thank you for your generosity.

www.WinFoodPantry.org



Thank you to our St. Timothy family for all of the expressions of sympathy and support given to us on the passing of wife and mother, Patricia Spardel.

The Bernie Spardel and Karen Sajban families



December 2	<u>Angel Gifts</u> Karen Sajban Nancy Farina	January 6	Robin Koegel Mary Laverack
December 9	Terri Loftus Valerie McGrath	January 13	Cliff & Nancy Konnerth
December 16	The Wantulas	January 20	Laura Dec Amanda Dec
December 23	Sandy DeRose Dolores Monsees	January 27	Lois Clapp Loretta Kratky
December 30	Barbara Westerberg Nancy Farina		



"For I know the plans I have for you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11.

12 Christmas... PRAYERS

- 1 Faith** Father God, it is by Your grace we have been saved, and through our faith - this is not from ourselves, but a gift from you - not by our works. Ephesians 2:8-9
- 2 Hope** May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in Hope. Romans 15:4
- 3 Love** Help us to love because You first loved us. 1 John 4:19
- 4 Forgiveness** Thank you for being faithful and just in forgiving us our sins and thus purifying us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9
- 5 Mercy** Let us be merciful, just as our Father is merciful. Luke 6:36
- 6 Kindness** Let us be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as through Jesus, You forgave us. Ephesians 4:32
- 7 Generosity** Let us be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, and to give the glory and thanks to you Lord! 2 Corinthians 9:11
- 8 Compassion** Let us live in harmony with one another, be sympathetic and compassionate, love as brothers, and be humble. 1 Peter 3:8
- 9 Joy** Let us be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Romans 12:12
- 10 Salvation** Thank you for providing Jesus who is the way, the truth, the life and the only way to You. John 14:6
- 11 Obedience** Help us to not merely listen to Your Word, and so deceive ourselves. Help us do what it says. James 1:22-25
- 12 Life** Thank you for coming that we may have life, and have it to the full. John 10:10

More "Make Life Easy" next Tips
Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year! Barbara Westerberg



Angels Circle

The Angels will meet on December 12th at 10am.

If we need to cancel due to the weather, you will receive a phone call.

Merry Christmas!

Barbara Kaplan

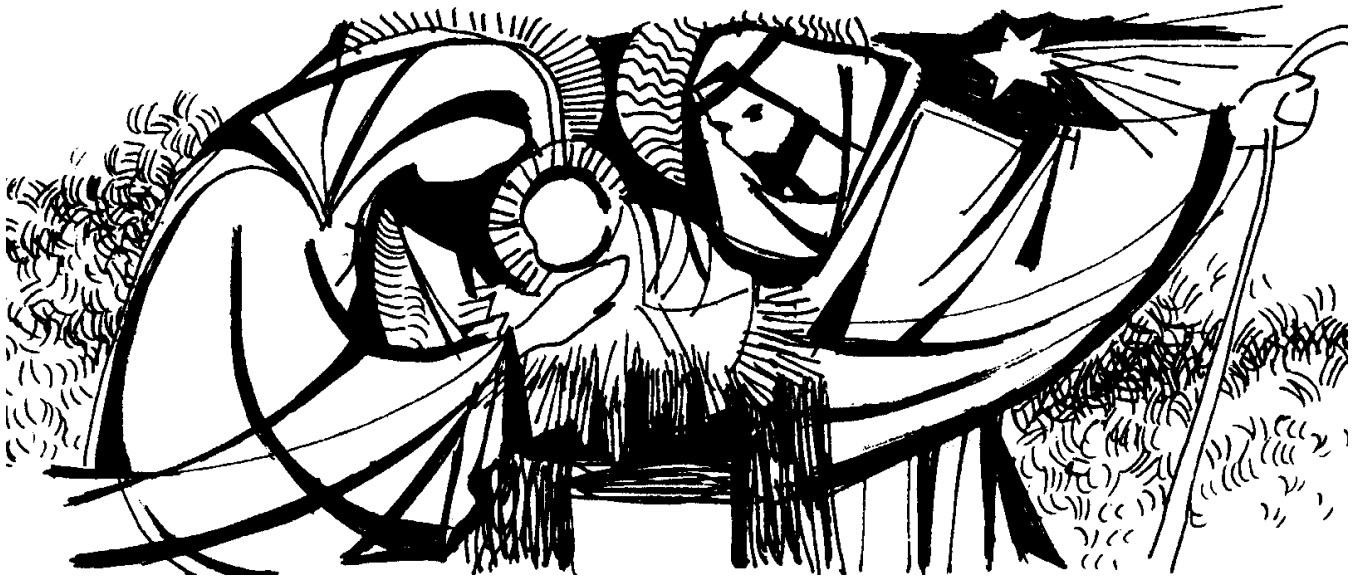


Heart 'n Hands Mission

Merry Christmas to our St. Timothy family
From all of us at Heart 'n Hands Mission!

With your ongoing support, we continue to serve many people in need each month, and relay to you their many thanks and wishes of God's Blessings upon you. As we have said and written in the past, no gesture is too small, no good deed goes unnoticed, and help comes in many ways. We are grateful for all of them.





Christmas Worship Schedule

December 24 ~ Christmas Eve

5:30 p.m.

Family Christmas service
with children's sermon and Cherub Choir

10:30 p.m.

Candlelight Christmas service
with Alleluia Choir, Bell Choir and instrumentalists

+ + +

December 30th ~ The First Sunday After Christmas

9:30 a.m.

Christmas Lessons and Carols

~ Holy Communion will be celebrated at all services ~

*Please note: No 6:00pm Saturday Service 12/29.
 No Sunday School 12/30.*

ALTAR FLOWERS

Consider honoring a birthday, anniversary, baptism, marriage, or the memory of a loved one by sponsoring flowers for worship. You are invited to celebrate and remember the special people and occasions in your own life, and in the life of the church. We purchase two bouquets each week and you may sponsor one or two bouquets for the sanctuary at **\$20 each**. To reserve a Sunday, you may sign up on the poster in the hallway near the elevator. The 2019 flower chart will go up on **December 9th**. Please indicate the person whom you are honoring or remembering with your gift and, if you would like, your relationship to that person. Checks should be made payable to St. Timothy - Flowers. We only place two bouquets per Sunday on the altar, so we ask that if your date is already filled, you consider sponsoring the closest available date. You may take the flowers home after the 10:30 a.m. liturgy.



ETERNAL LIGHT



Another way to celebrate and remember the special people in your life is to sponsor the eternal light. You may make a donation to the Eternal Light Fund, either in memory of a loved one or in honor of friends, family, or a special occasion. The donation for an eternal light is **\$5.00** and we ask that we have one sponsor per Sunday. There is a poster in the hallway near the elevator where you can sign up to sponsor an eternal light. Please indicate the person whom you are honoring or remembering. Please make your check out to St. Timothy Lutheran Church and write, "Eternal Light" in the memo line.

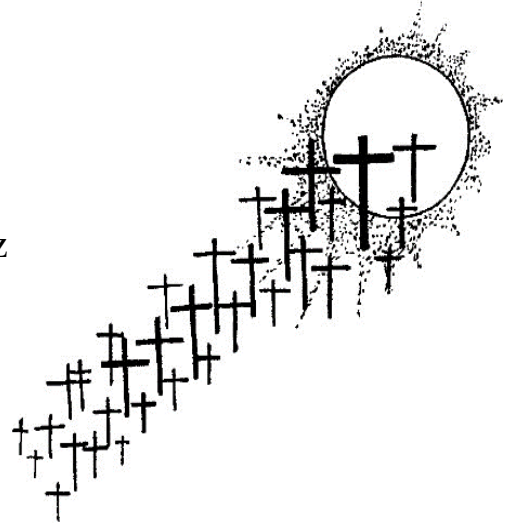
The 2019 list will be available **December 9th**.

Your gift will be acknowledged in the Sunday bulletin and your loved ones will be remembered in the Prayers of the Faithful on the Sunday that you have designated.

At the Commemoration of the Faithful on All Saints Sunday, November 4, 2018, we remembered with love and affection these St. Timothy members, beloved relatives, and dear friends who went to the Lord within the past year:

St. Timothy members and former members:

- + James Klopp, former member, father of Terri Loftus
- + Irene Stumpf
- + Gustav Vogt
- + Rita Laubscher
- + John Lohse, former member, father of Nancy Schwartz
- + Marie Eggers
- + Elaine Clark Trama
- + Patricia Spardel
- + Doris Sager



Beloved relatives and friends:

- + Emma Heagney, friend of Joyce and John Steible
- + Cynthia Engelsbe, mother of Matt Engelsbe
- + Evelyn Carlson, mother of Carin Wantula
- + Helen Martens, mother of Loretta Kratky
- + Dorothy Purcel, mother of Charlie Purcel
- + Amador Suarez, uncle of Joe Suarez
- + Robert Lender, brother of Ray Lender
- + Raymond Schiff
- + Peter Bridge, father of Becky Kremen
- + Arthur Udland, brother of Peg Gerding
- + Kathleen Kemenczy, sister of Janet DeStefano
- + Richard Fruggiero, father of Christine Bedi
- + Kenneth Kramer, very close neighbor of Ellen Grexa
- + Kerry Loftus, sister-in-law of Terri Loftus
- + Ed Langschultz, Sr., father of Ed Langschultz
- + Robert Kruithof, nephew of Art and Sandy DeRose
- + Connie Gruters, sister of Doug Zangrilli

We remembered also many loved members, relatives and friends who went to the Lord in years past.

*Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord,
And may perpetual light shine upon them.
May they and all the faithful departed
Through the mercy of God rest in peace.*



Sunday School News

Advent time is here again at St. Timothy's. Our Pre-K thru 3rd grade children will be meeting in the Sanctuary at the 9am service for there opening. Pastor will be telling them Bible stories at the Jesse Tree. The Jesse Tree is the Advent Tree of anticipation. The children will be given ornaments to color that relate to the stories. After the story they will go to class to learn more about the Birth of Jesus.

"A Nativity For Us" is this year's Advent Program. Please come and enjoy the fun on December 16 at 10am in the Sanctuary. Everyone can be in the show. And, we promise that you don't have to say a word!

The Christian Education Committee wishes everyone a joyous Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

****GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD totals will be in the January Newsletter****

In His Name,
Laura Dec

Dates to Remember:

Dec. 16 – Sunday School Christmas Program at 10am – No Snow Date

Dec. 23 – Sunday School **HAS** Classes

Dec. 30 – NO Sunday School

Jan. 6 – Sunday School classes resume

A Nativity for Us!



**2018 Advent Program
Sunday, December 16th
at 10 am**

*Join our Sunday School for the
retelling of the Nativity story.*

New Jersey Synod's Bosnia International Servant Trip January 13, 2019 - Save the Date St Timothy!



While 2018's trip ended in July the memories and impact carry on. On this January date I will be sharing with St Timothy my first time experience at Camp New Hope (held in beautiful Rama pictured here) as well as the friendship camps we held throughout the country.

While I will be doing temple talks at the worship services I hope you can join Nancy and I for coffee hour after the 10:30 service for more updates on this ministry. At which time i will also be presenting a gift of appreciation for the congregations past support.

Several members have expressed interest in possibly joining the travel team for 2019. The application form is available on our newly revamped website (the link is below). I encourage you to apply if you are at all interested, this is not a commitment but it would serve to keep you in the loop on this year's plans the leadership team is now developing.

For everyone else please check it out and prepare your questions for January 13th.

Thank you, remember it's
God's Work, Our Hands,
Cliff

<https://servanttrips.org/>

Advent Faith Practices



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Instead of focusing on material things this Advent, focus on faith! This advent faith practices calendar rotates through three types of practices: prayer [P] service [S] and spiritual practice [SP] Make this calendar work for you and your family by adapting it to suit your needs. If you are unable to complete one of the practices on a specific day, just skip over it and pick it up on the next day. Visit https://www.facebook.com/TraciMarieSmithAuthor during December for more ideas and daily inspiration.						1. [SP] Waiting. Practice waiting today by taking a few extra moments to rest between activities today.
2. [S] Who in your community is in special need of a note, call, or visit? Make an effort to check up on that person.	3. [P] Today's prayer word is HOPE. What does it mean to have hope? Draw a picture of something hopeful or pray for a hope you have.	4. [SP] Silence. How long can you sit in silence? Try one minute, two minutes or even five minutes!	5. [S] Write a note of appreciation to someone in a helping or serving profession to tell them how much you value their work.	6. [P] Hope, continued. Today, light one candle for hope.	7. [SP] Imagination. Look at the clouds or the grass or snow outside. What do you see there?	8.[S] Donate food or other needed items to an organization that serves those in need.
9. [P] Peace. What gives you peace? Thank God for peaceful things.	10.[SP] Gratitude Practice gratitude today by listing the things for which you are thankful.	11.[S] Make a special effort to offer a smile or kind gesture (such as opening the door) for a stranger today.	12.[P] Peace, continued. Light two candles today. One for hope and one for peace.	13.[SP] Play! Play a game together as a family. Did you know play can be a spiritual practice? It can!	14. [S] Pick up trash around your neighborhood or other public place.	15. [P] Pray for others today. Who do you know who needs an extra word of prayer to God? Write their name down.
16. [SP] Beauty. Take a walk outside and notice three beautiful things.	17. [S] Do something kind for a neighbor. Shovel their walk, leave a plant, or write a kind note.	18.[P] Today's prayer word is joy. What brings you joy? Draw a picture of it or say a prayer.	19. [SP] Listening. It is a spiritual discipline to listen well. Ask someone in your family three questions. Listen closely to their answer.	20.[S] Compliment a stranger today.	21.[P] Joy, continued. Light three candles. One for hope, one for peace, and one for joy.	22. [SP] Hospitality. Invite someone to come to your house today.
23. [S] Give a gift to someone who really needs it today.	24. [P] Love. Today's prayer word is love. Draw a picture of someone you love.	25. [P] Love, continued. Light four candles today. One for hope, one for peace, one for joy, and one for love.	This calendar brought to you by Traci Smith, author of <i>Faithful Families: Creating Sacred Moments at Home</i> . It's a book full of simple and easy to implement faith practices for your family. Find it on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, or at Chalice Press!			

DECEMBER LECTIONARY

Saturday, December 1	Nehemiah 9:26-31	Luke 21:20-24	Psalm 25:1-10
Sunday, December 2	Jeremiah 33:14-16	1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	Luke 21:25-36
Monday, December 3	Numbers 17:1-11	2 Peter 3:1-18	Psalm 90
Tuesday, December 4	2 Samuel 7:18-29	Revelation 22:12-16	Psalm 90
Wednesday, December 5	Isaiah 1:24-31	Luke 11:29-32	Psalm 90
Thursday, December 6	Malachi 3:5-12	Philippians 1:12-18a	Luke 1:68-79
Friday, December 7	Malachi 3:13-18	Philippians 1:18b-26	Luke 1:68-79
Saturday, December 8	Malachi 4:1-6	Luke 9:1-6	Luke 1:68-79
Sunday, December 9	Malachi 3:1-4	Philippians 1:3-11	Luke 3:1-6
Monday, December 10	Isaiah 40:1-11	Romans 8:22-25	Psalm 126
Tuesday, December 11	Isaiah 19:18-25	2 Peter 1:2-15	Psalm 126
Wednesday, December 12	Isaiah 35:3-7	Luke 7:18-30	Psalm 126
Thursday, December 13	Amos 6:1-8	2 Corinthians 8:1-15	Isaiah 12:2-6
Friday, December 14	Amos 8:4-12	2 Corinthians 9:1-15	Isaiah 12:2-6
Saturday, December 15	Amos 9:8-15	Luke 1:57-66	Isaiah 12:2-6
Sunday, December 16	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Philippians 4:4-7	Luke 3:7-18
Monday, December 17	Numbers 16:1-19	Hebrews 13:7-17	Isaiah 11:1-9
Tuesday, December 18	Numbers 16:20-35	Acts 28:23-31	Isaiah 11:1-9
Wednesday, December 19	Micah 4:8-13	Luke 7:31-35	Isaiah 11:1-9
Thursday, December 20	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Hebrews 10:10-18	Psalm 80:1-7
Friday, December 21	Isaiah 42:10-18	Hebrews 10:32-39	Psalm 80:1-7
Saturday, December 22	Isaiah 66:7-11	Luke 13:31-35	Psalm 80:1-7
Sunday, December 23	Micah 5:2-5a	Hebrews 10:5-10	Luke 1:39-55
<i>Monday, December 24</i>	<i>Isaiah 9:2-7</i>	<i>Titus 2:11-14</i>	<i>Luke 2:1-14</i>
<i>Tuesday, December 25</i>	<i>Isaiah 62:6-12</i>	<i>Titus 3:4-7</i>	<i>Luke 2:8-20</i>
<i>Wednesday, December 26</i>	<i>2 Chronicles 24:17-22</i>	<i>Acts 6:8—7:2a, 51-60</i>	<i>Matthew 23:34-39</i>
<i>Thursday, December 27</i>	<i>Genesis 1:1-5, 26-31</i>	<i>1 John 1:1--2:2</i>	<i>John 21:20-25</i>
<i>Friday, December 28</i>	<i>Jeremiah 31:15-17</i>	<i>1 Peter 4:12-19</i>	<i>Matthew 2:13-18</i>
<i>Saturday, December 29</i>	<i>1 Chronicles 28:1-10</i>	<i>1 Corinthians 3:10-17</i>	<i>Psalm 147:12-20</i>
Sunday, December 30	1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26	Colossians 3:12-17	Luke 2:41-52
<i>Monday, December 31</i>	<i>Ecclesiastes 3:1-13</i>	<i>Revelation 21:1-6a</i>	<i>Matthew 25:31-46</i>

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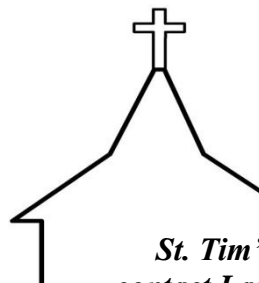
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