

**ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH MOUSE
2024**



**Sunday, February 4, 2024
5th Sunday after Epiphany**

Worship in Church or Drive In With Communion 10:00 am
Pastor Ivy Gauvin

**Sunday, February 11, 2024
Transfiguration of Our Lord**

Worship in Church or Drive In 10:00 am
Pastor Ivy Gauvin

**Wednesday, February 14, 2024
Ash Wednesday**

Worship in Church or Drive-In 5:00 pm

**Sunday, February 18, 2024
1st Sunday in Lent**

Worship in Church or Drive In With Communion 10:00 am
Pastor Ivy Gauvin

**Sunday, February 25, 2024
2nd Sunday in Lent**

Worship in Church or Drive In 10:00 am
Pastor Ivy Gauvin

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***Join us for indoor worship or in the church parking lot
for the Drive In service***

PASTOR'S PONDERING- By Pastor Ivy

February is a month that greeting card companies and florists love. It's the month of love, with Valentine's Day smack-dab in the middle of the month, on the 14th. But guess what else is on the 14th, Ash Wednesday? Doesn't that seem like a downer if you're making plans to be with your sweetheart for dinner or something else that's special? They seem diametrically opposed, but they are not.

St. Valentine lived in the third century. He ministered to persecuted Christians. Valentine was martyred and buried on February 14th. Since around the eighth century, this day has been observed as his feast day.

There are three Valentines referenced in different sources. "One was a Roman priest, another the bishop of Interamna (modern [Terni](#), Italy) both buried along the [Via Flaminia](#) outside Rome, at different distances from the city. The third was said to be a saint who suffered on the same day with a number of companions in the [Roman province of Africa](#), of whom nothing else is known" ([Wikipedia](#)). At any rate, they were all dedicated to God and God's work.

Ash Wednesday also relates to love. We are reminded of our humanity when we hear the words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Oh, how can we receive any encouragement from that? God reaches down in Jesus and lifts us up out of the dust heap we find ourselves in. We have been cleansed and made God's children in the waters of love—Holy Baptism.

This Valentine's Day, Ash Wednesday, let us think about what God has done for us. God is our beloved, and we are God's. In the Song of Solomon, we read, "He brought me into the banquet hall, and he looked at me lovingly" (Song of Solomon 2:4, *New English Translation*). We may not all have sweethearts in the Hallmark movie or greeting card

sense, but we do have One who is more loving and trustworthy than anyone else could ever be.

I love the way scripture speaks to our relationship with the Almighty. “See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are” (1 John 3:1). And of course, there is the well-known scripture, “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life” (John 3:16). These are only a couple of the many places God’s word speaks of the over the top love God has for us.

This February, with its emphasis on so-called “love,” let us think of our love relationship with our Creator, Sustainer and Sanctifier, the Lord.

God’s peace,
Pastor Ivy

St. Timothy Church Council

President– Kristie Bloomquist

Vice President - Marty Hunt

Secretary – Marcy Saar

Kathy Carlson Bob Pecuch

Linda Milks Pastor Ivy Gauvin

Treasurer – Julie Bihler

Financial Secretary – Kathy Carlson

<i>Do you have questions or ideas for Council? Feel free to share them with any council member or write them down and leave in the office.</i>
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JANUARY 2024- COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- We applied for a grant through the Community Foundation to purchase a large screen TV and mounting bracket for the Fellowship Hall. The grant was approved and the TV has arrived. 😊
- Mike Krott asked Council if we could have a Pancake Breakfast in early Spring. Bob Samuelson and Bob Pecuch will help Mike with it. Council enthusiastically approved their proposal.
- Property Committee is looking into installing additional CO2 detectors in the church to be sure we are following the necessary requirements.
- Kathy Carlson has agreed to run for a 2nd 3 year term on Council.
- Council approved the budget for 2024 to be presented to the Congregation at the Annual Meeting on January 28.



PRAYER REQUEST

Prayer Requests: Ann Saar, Kay Marker Magneson, Roy Pihl, George Balcom, Thom Shagla, Tom Dellapenta, Myron Klein, Pastor Karen Larson, Adam Hull, Pastor Gerry Zimmerman (Bethel, Portville and Shepherd of the Valley, Wellsville), James Dieter, Joe Gauvin, Emerson Allaby, John Gingrass, those serving in the military and law enforcement and their families, including Sean Pecuch, and Ben Wickerham, those caught up in violence and war who have no safe home in which to live.

ONLINE GIVING at St. Timothy for Debit/Credit cards

Three ways to give:

- Go directly to our website at www.sttimothybemus.com.

- Use our QR code with the QR reader on your smartphone.
 - Download the app 'GivePlus Church'. Create an account.
- For further information, see Kathy Carlson on Sundays or call her at 485-1316.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

4 Pastor Ivy Gauvin

5 Judy Kelly

7 Laken Raynor

9 Joyce Johnson

15 Debra Raynor

16 Lucy Castro

21 Tammy Haas

23 DonTraynor Jr.

25 Jack Briggs

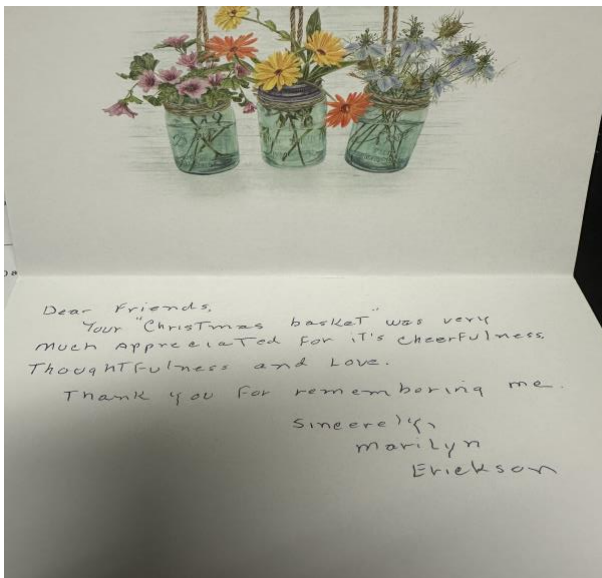
26 Trish Pecuch



5 Loaves & 2 Fish Backpack Ministry

We continuously collect food items for the 5 & 2 Ministry. Bring your donations and place in the black bin in church narthex. Lists detailing items needed are also available in the narthex. Monetary donations welcome! Contact Gale-Svenson-Campbell for details gales1949@gmail.com

**Thank
You!**



MONTHLY READINGS

February 4, 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Readings and Psalm

- [Isaiah 40:21-31](#)
- *The creator of all cares for the powerless*
- [Psalm 147:1-11, 20c](#)
- The LORD heals the brokenhearted. (Ps. 147:3)
- [1 Corinthians 9:16-23](#)
- *A servant for the sake of the gospel*
- [Mark 1:29-39](#)
- *The healing of Peter's mother-in-law*

February 11, Transfiguration of Our Lord

Readings and Psalm

- [2 Kings 2:1-12](#)
- *Elijah taken up to heaven and succeeded by Elisha*
- [Psalm 50:1-6](#)
- Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth in glory. (Ps. 50:2)
- [2 Corinthians 4:3-6](#)
- *God's light seen clearly in the face of Christ*
- [Mark 9:2-9](#)
- *Revelation of Christ as God's beloved Son*

February 14, Ash Wednesday

Readings and Psalm

[Joel 2:1-2, 12-17](#)

Return to the LORD, your God

[Isaiah 58:1-12](#) (alternate)

The fast that God chooses

[Psalm 51:1-17](#)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love. (Ps. 51:1)

[2 Corinthians 5:20b--6:10](#)

Now is the day of salvation

[Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21](#)

The practice of faith

February 18, 1st Sunday in Lent

Reading and Psalm

[Genesis 9:8-17](#)

The rainbow, sign of God's covenant

[Psalm 25:1-10](#)

Your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness. (Ps. 25:10)

[1 Peter 3:18-22](#)

Saved through water

[Mark 1:9-15](#)

The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness for forty days

February 25, 2nd Sunday in Lent

Readings and Psalm

[Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16](#)

God blesses Abraham and Sarah

[Psalm 22:23-31](#)

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD. (Ps. 22:27)

[Romans 4:13-25](#)

The promise to those who share Abraham's faith

[Mark 8:31-38](#)

The passion prediction

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Caring and Sharing Ministry Returns

St. Timothy is excited to announce that the Caring and Sharing Ministry is starting up again under the guidance of Trish Pecuch. The goal this year will be to send a little token or basket to our shut ins on holidays to say, "Hi. We're thinking about you."

Our first basket of the new year will be for Valentine's Day. If you would like to be a part of this wonderful ministry, please contact:

Trish Pecuch – (716) 673-5510

Kristie Bloomquist – (716) 485-3931



2023 Community Outreach

Every year, St. Timothy donates \$100 to 2 area organizations who have been influential in our community. This year Council chose Community Helping Hands (In honor of Dianne Sloan) and LOVE Inc. Pictured on the left is our Council President, Kristie Bloomquist and Pat Sharp, Office Manager Community Helping Hands. On the right, Kristie is presenting our check to Love Inc. Coordinator, Beth McCanna.



Journey through the Psalms- Sunday Bible Study Begins - Sunday 2/18

- 1. Psalm 32-God Our Hiding Place**
- 2. Psalm 121-"My help comes from the Lord," v. 2**
- 3. Psalm 95-"For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods," v.3.**
- 4. Psalm 23-God Prepares a Table**
- 5. Psalm 130-Watching and Waiting**

Lenton Bible Study Program

Thursday 2/22 Week One What Is Lament?

Thursday, 2/29-Week Two: "Little" Laments

Thursday, 3/7-Week Three: Laments from the Depths

Thursday, 3/14-Week Four: Individual Lament

Thursday, 3/21-Week Five: Communal Lament

We will be meeting at 6 for worship and pizza.

Join the Month of Unselfish Love Challenge

On Jan. 23 journey alongside Presiding Bishop Michael Curry of The Episcopal Church and others as they explore the power of love in the new documentary [A Case for Love](#).^{*} You and your congregation are invited to join the “[Month of Unselfish Love Challenge](#)” — a 30-day regimen of daily acts of selflessness. Let’s see what happens when we put unselfish love front and center for the world to see! The [film’s church discussion guide](#) was developed by Luther Seminary’s [Faith+Lead](#).

^{*}A Case for Love, only in theaters, Jan. 23. Buy your tickets today!

Carly Davis’ next set of Dog Lessons in the fellowship hall.

MONDAYS:

- First practice class: 2/12/24
 - Second practice class: 2/19/24
 - Third practice class: 2/26/24
 - Evaluations: 3/4/24
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5 & 2 Ministry is have their 6th Annual **2024 Meat Raffle** Saturday, Feb. 20 at the Stanley Hose Fire Hall in Sherman. Tickets are \$20 each. Food and beverage included with the ticket purchase. This is a fun raffle and the meat is really good quality from Neckers. See Kathy Carlson for tickets.

FEBRUARY 2024
WORSHIP AND SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES
AT ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH

	FEBRUARY 4	FEBRUARY 11	FEBRUARY 18	FEBRUARY 25	
Assistant Liturgist	Tammy Haas	Kristie Bloomquist	Sarah Goebel	Trish Pecuch	
Ushers/Greeters	Linda Milks Marty Hunt	Ginnie Sloan Linda Milks	Ginnie Sloan Marty Hunt	Linda Milks Marty Hunt	

St. Timothy Lutheran Church 716-386-7280
Church Email: sttimothy2015@gmail.com
Website: www.sttimothybemus.com
Facebook Page: <http://www.facebook.com/sttimsbemus>

ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH FEBRUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 	2	3
4 10:00 am Worship w/Communion Pr. Ivy Gauvin	5 Healthy Bones 9am Judy Kelly	6	7 Healthy Bones 9am Laken Raynor	8 Tai Chi 9:30am & 12pm Caring/Sharing 3:30 Choir 5pm	9	10
11 10:00 am Worship	12 Healthy Bones 9am	13 5 & 2 Packing 7pm	14  Worship 5pm Healthy Bones 9am 	15 Tai Chi 9:30am & 12pm Choir 5pm Debra Raynor	16 Lucy Castro	17
18 10:00 am Worship w/Communion Church Council 11:00	19  Healthy Bones 9am	20	21 Healthy Bones 9am Tammy Haas	22 Tai Chi 9:30am & 12pm Choir 5pm Lenton Program 6pm	23 Don Traynor	24
25 10:00 am Worship Jack Briggs	26 Healthy Bones 9am Trish Pecuch	27	28 Healthy Bones 9am Zonta Meeting	29 Tai Chi 9:30am & 12pm Choir 5 pm Lenton Program 6pm		

26 Pray that we will not grow weary of serving our neighbors in need, both nearby and around the world. Ask the Spirit to renew us when we feel overwhelmed by human needs.

27 Remember in prayer the bishops of our church gathering for the Conference of Bishops in Itasca, Ill. Give thanks for their faith, gifts, wisdom and diverse perspectives, which God uses to benefit the church and help us do God's work in the world.

28 "In my trials, Lord, walk with me; when my heart is almost breaking, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me" (*ELW* 325). Lent reminds us of our frailty, suffering and loneliness and of God's love and forgiveness, found in the life, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Breathe a sigh of relief and thank God.

29 Be mindful of those in your community who lack safe shelter and adequate food. Pray that their needs will be met, and that God will use you and your congregation to meet them.

These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA, as well as for the needs and circumstances of our neighbors, communities and world. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.

1 Pray for synod hunger team chairs and other key ELCA World Hunger leaders participating in the ELCA World Hunger Leadership Gathering in Houston. Ask the Spirit to guide their work of energizing congregations and synods to end hunger and poverty in the world, bringing relief and hope to our neighbors.

2 Remember in prayer those who suffer from heart disease, heart failure and congenital heart defects. Pray for the doctors, nurses, surgeons, care providers, researchers and chaplains who provide treatment, care and encouragement to patients of all ages and their families.

3 Pray for your synod's leaders, congregations and special ministries. Ask the Spirit to sustain them and stir their creative wisdom in carrying out the mission of the church in a changing and challenging world.

4 Give thanks for Jesus, our Savior, who changed the world not by force or coercion but by demonstrating God's lifesaving love, mercy, care for those who suffer and welcome for those who are excluded. Pray that the example of Jesus and the word of God will guide us in living for one another and sharing the gospel.

5 Pray for peace, healing and justice in places of conflict and violence, especially Ukraine, the Holy Land, Myanmar, Haiti, Venezuela and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

6 "The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary" (Isaiah 40:28). Who better to have at our side during every twist and turn in life than God, who is mighty, merciful and concerned for our well-being? Give praise and thanks to God!

7 Remember in prayer our neighbors and siblings in Christ who experience domestic abuse — physical, sexual or emotional. Pray that they will find refuge, community support and care for their injury and trauma. Give thanks for the work of ELCA Justice for Women, Women of the ELCA and community organizations that serve victims and survivors of domestic violence.

8 Praise God for the 50th anniversary of ELCA World Hunger and the ways God continues to use our collective assets to impact the world and serve our neighbors in need.

9 Promise to follow in the footsteps of Paul, who was mindful of the responsibility God had entrusted him with to share the gospel with people of various cultures, beliefs and life circumstances.

10 Pray that the Spirit will strengthen and sustain Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, stir her wisdom and renew her vision for our church and its mission.

11 Like Jesus' disciples, we are often confused, fearful and full of questions, longing to understand what God is doing through Jesus and what we must do as followers. Pray for God's patience as our faith matures and we learn how to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ.

12 Give thanks for our global companions, whose daily realities, faith traditions, culture and language may differ from ours yet complement and enrich our lives and faith.

13 Pray that everything we do and say as people of faith will light the world, direct attention to our Creator and reflect God's love for humanity and all creation.

14 *Ash Wednesday* "Beware of practicing your righteousness before others in order to be seen by them" (Matthew 6:1). Reflect on who we are to God — fragile, imperfect beings and loved children who stand before God with humility and gratitude.

15 Joy and sorrow are both intrinsic to being human. Pray that we might feel each of them as deeply, in the world and in our lives.

16 Pray that, during Lent, we will lean into God's grace and mercy with humility, trusting the promise that the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ win us a place in the kingdom of God.

17 Pray that, as bold disciples of Christ, we will be unashamed of our faith, confident in God's promises, comfortable telling our faith story and quick to respect and serve those in need.

18 "God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth'" (Genesis 9:12-13). Give thanks and praise to God for this promise of love and forgiveness.

19 *Martin Luther, renewer of the church (1483-1546)* Give thanks that we continue to learn from and be inspired by the sermons, hymns and writings of Martin Luther, who studied and wrestled with Scripture and the church to better understand God's saving grace and how it impacts every aspect of daily life.

20 Ask God to bless the work of the ELCA Organizing for Mission Network, a community of leaders and resource providers who use the principles of community organizing to develop, redevelop and renew gospel-centered communities that act for the sake of the world and the well-being of our neighbor.

21 The cross has become widespread in art, jewelry, clothing and popular culture around the world. Reflect on the symbol and the true meaning of the cross for those who find salvation and identity in Christ.

22 Remember in prayer those who helped you become the child of God you are today — siblings in Christ, parents and family, church leaders, teachers, friends, strangers, mentors and influential people who have gone before us.

23 Promise to learn God's ways and truth and to integrate them into your daily life, that we might operate from a firm foundation of love, wisdom and justice when struggling to discern right from wrong and to relate to one another.

24 Pray for the work of the ELCA Peace Not Walls campaign, which seeks a just and lasting resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and connects ELCA members with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, the Lutheran World Federation and ecumenical companions across the Middle East.

25 Do you know someone celebrating a momentous occasion — a birth, an anniversary, recovery from illness or injury? Let their joy be your joy, and lift up prayers of thanksgiving to God.