

ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH MOUSE
March 2021



Sunday, March 7, 2021
Third Sunday in Lent
Worship in Church or Drive In 10:00 am
Katie Castro

Sunday, March 14, 2021
Fourth Sunday in Lent
Worship in Church or Drive In With Communion 10:00 am
Ned Lindstrom

Sunday, March 21, 2021
Fifth Sunday in Lent
Worship in Church or Drive In With Communion 10:00 am
Ned Lindstrom

Sunday, March 28, 2021
Palm Sunday
Worship in Church or Drive In 10:00 am
Ned Lindstrom



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

Pastor's Ponderings (from March 2019)

In a matter of days, on Ash Wednesday, we will begin the weeks of Lent that lead us up to the celebration of Jesus' death and resurrection. On Ash Wednesday, we will once again hear these words of invitation:

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent – self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love – strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Leaders Desk Edition*)

The word "Lent" actually means spring, as in the season of spring. In prayer, fasting, self-examination and the other works of love, we are looking forward, just as nature looks forward to spring, in Lent, we look toward the resurrection, to Easter, a time of glorious celebration of the victory of the risen Christ over death and the grave.

Some people get stuck on things they think they should give up for Lent like coffee or chocolate. But it seems to me that we can give up something and still live for ourselves. God is calling us into something much more, something life-changing.

Through the discipline of Lent, God is calling us deeper into relationship with God. "self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love" are a means of growth in Christ. It is not a matter of grit our teeth determination to do these things to be a better Christian, because if that's the case, then these are just our own deeds and our own works, which no matter how nice they look, cannot please God. If we allow God to come near in these times, "strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament," we will find ourselves transformed by our encounters with the Holy One.

Now for a time of true confession—I am not the most disciplined person when it comes to setting aside special times of prayer, scripture reading or other disciplines. Getting up any earlier is a struggle. Frankly, I'm in awe of some of my colleagues and their depth of spirituality. But my hope for all of us is that God knows our hearts and if we can take just one little step toward God, God takes leaps and bounds toward us.

Will we take up the challenge being extended to us? Will we get up a few minutes earlier to hear what our Beloved Lord may speak to us in the quiet? Will we stay up just a few minutes later to reflect on our day? Join me. By God's grace, not my own strength, I will spend more time in prayer, meditation and study of God's word. And you know what, I hope to become more like Jesus. "Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is" (1 John 3:2). Shall we get a head start?

Pastor Ivy

St. Timothy Church Council

President- Kristie Bloomquist
Vice President - Marty Hunt
Secretary - Marcy Saar
Kathy Carlson Tammy Haas
Linda Milks Pastor Ivy Gauvin

Treasurer - Julie Bihler
Financial Secretary - Kathy Carlson

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.



6 Dustin Raynor
8 Alice Swartz
12 Ron Simpson
13 Dan Kelly

14 Ginnie Sloan
16 Bob Terreberry
25 Roy Pihl
30 Arden Johnson

Online and Smartphone Giving via Give+ App

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.





5 & 2 Ministry has increased its bin count to **90**. Thank you to all who have supported this worthwhile ministry for our Bemus Point School children!

Fighting childhood hunger in our community one child at a time.

THANK YOU FOR CONTINUING TO SUPPORT OUR 5 & 2 MINISTRY!
The 5 & 2 Ministry Sub Committee



Prayer Requests: Dave Bentley, Pastor Ivy Gauvin, Ron Simpson, Karen Johnson, Roy Pihl, George and Janet Balcom, Maj-Britt Traynor, Beverly Klang, Trudy Fetzner, Mabel Trantum, Thom Shagla, Matt Isaacson, Alice Swartz, Barb Mattern, Joseph Gauvin, Rick Duzick, Emerson Allaby, Sarah Van Staalduinen and Dick Starks those serving in the military and law enforcement and their families, including Ben Wickerham, Jeffrey Clauson, David Bentley and Kris Peterson, those caught up in violence and war who have no safe home in which to live. For all children, that the love of Christ may reach them through all of us who have resources to love, protect, pray and provide for them.

Council Highlights

February 2021 Council Highlights:

- **Council Officers for 2021:**
 - **President: Kristie Bloomquist**
 - **Vice President: Marty Hunt**
 - **Secretary: Marcy Saar**
- **Installation of Council members will be April 11th.**
- **Council was happy with how the annual meeting went and we received positive feedback from members of the congregation.**
- **Council hopes that the congregation will use the Lenten devotional during the Lenten season since no services or activities are planned.**
- **No Council meeting is scheduled for March.**

March 7, Third Sunday in Lent

Readings and Psalm

[Exodus 20:1-17](#)

The commandments are given at Sinai

[Psalm 19](#)

The commandment of the LORD gives light to the eyes. (Ps. 19:8)

[1 Corinthians 1:18-25](#)

Christ crucified, the wisdom of God

[John 2:13-22](#)

The cleansing of the temple

March 14, Fourth Sunday in Lent

Readings and Psalm

[Numbers 21:4-9](#)

The lifting up of the serpent

[Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22](#)

You deliver your people from their distress. (Ps. 107:19)

[Ephesians 2:1-10](#)

Saved by grace through faith for good works

[John 3:14-21](#)

The lifting up of the Son of Man

March 21, Fifth Sunday in Lent

Readings and Psalm

[Jeremiah 31:31-34](#)

A new covenant written on the heart

[Psalm 51:1-12](#)

Create in me a clean heart, O God. (Ps. 51:10)

[Hebrews 5:5-10](#)

Through suffering Christ becomes the source of salvation

[John 12:20-33](#)

The grain of wheat dying in the earth

March 28, Sunday of The Passion

Readings and Psalm

[Isaiah 50:4-9a](#)

The servant of the LORD submits to suffering

[Psalm 31:9-16](#)

Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)

[Philippians 2:5-11](#)

Humbled to the point of death on a cross

[Mark 14:1-15:47](#)

The passion of the Lord

Global Mission

By Marcia Brown, Mission Interpreter

ELCA PRIORITIES

The ELCA is actively engaged in national policy. As Christians in the world, our engagement is consistently shaped by our love of one another as God loves us. Civic participation is not simply voluntary, altruistic, or idealistic, but grows from the Biblical idea that God calls His people to be active citizens and to be sure everyone benefits from the good of government. Together we endeavor to live into our baptismal covenant to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

Here are the priorities the ELCA has set for 2021. Surely (at least) one of them will pique your interest, and you can follow its progress, become involved, or perhaps donate to the cause.

Domestic Policy:

- Hunger and poverty
- Criminal Justice reform
- Civil and Human rights
- Healthcare
- Budget concerns
- Infrastructure
- Fair Housing and civil rights
- Disaster Response

Environment Policy:

- Climate and environmental justice
- Sustainability

International Policy:

- Foreign assistance
- Conflict prevention/peacebuilding
- Gender justice and human rights protection

Immigration Policy:

- Rights of migrants and refugees
- Enforcement and detention
- Asylum and refugee systems
- Foreign policy and climate threats

Civic Engagement:

- Dialogue in the public Sphere
- Election security and voter access reforms

...And this is not even a complete list. Sign up at [ELCA.org/advocacy/signup/](https://www.elca.org/advocacy/signup/) to receive monthly updates on policy activity and be invited to take action when your voice and experience will have an impact. Find resources at [ELCA.org/resources/advocacy](https://www.elca.org/resources/advocacy). All of this happens with the help of your mission support. **Thank you!**

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



Ways to Help this Month:

- 5 & 2 donations. Lists of food items and sizes available on the church website.
- Bemus Point Food Pantry. Items needed are cereal, spaghetti noodles and spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, soups, canned fruit, applesauce, toilet paper, dish soap, shampoo and toothpaste. **Monetary donations are always welcome.** Contact Marty Hunt 720-0460 for donations and questions.
- Can tab collection: The Synod Assembly planning team has decided to DISCONTINUE with the collection of aluminum can tabs for THIS year.
- Honduras Promise Children Project needs new sponsors
- **Mailing in your weekly or monthly offering would be greatly appreciated for March if you haven't already done so.**

Myths, truths, and debates about switching the clocks

The terms “spring forward” and “fall back” are used to describe a practice of changing standard time with the intention of “saving” (as in, making better use of) natural light. During daylight savings time (DST), clocks are turned ahead one hour, so that the sun rises later in the morning and sets later in the evening. The change is reversed in autumn.

Originally enacted in the United States as a wartime conservation effort, observance of DST became federal law in 1918. (To dispel a common myth: It was not enacted for farmers—in fact, most farmers fought for its repeal.) While it was quickly repealed after the war ended, DST was observed nationally again during World War II. By 1966, some 100 million Americans were practicing some type of DST through their own local laws. In 1966, Congress acted to end the confusion and establish one consistent nationwide pattern. The Uniform Time Act of 1966 stated that DST would begin on the last Sunday of April and end on the last Sunday of October. (Any area that wanted to be exempt from DST could do so by passing a local ordinance. [Hawaii and most of Arizona, for example, are exempt from DST.](#)) By 2005, the Energy Policy Act established that DST begins each year on the second Sunday in March at 2:00am and that the changeover back to standard time (ST) occurs on the first Sunday in November at 2:00am.

How much difference can an hour make? Opinions about the 60-minute swap tend to be passionate. For instance, proponents say that DST saves energy because in the spring and summer months, more people may be outside in the evening and not using energy (in the form of artificial light) at home. Some simply relish long summer evenings full of outdoor barbecues, swims, and late sunsets. Opponents say that any energy savings due to using less artificial light have been offset by an increased use of air-conditioning over the past few decades. They also

argue that the drawbacks of springing ahead include increased [sleep debt](#), lost productivity, and a rise in traffic accidents due to [drowsy driving](#) during the first few days after the spring time change. Sadly, those traffic accidents can even include cars and bus drivers hitting young students who are walking to their bus stops or standing at them during the dark, early morning hours in the late spring and early fall.

Clearly, over the past century or so, the U.S. has had conflicting views about the usefulness of DST. Will DST be around forever? Only time will tell.

Walia offers these tips for dealing with the time change:

1. Start preparing a few days early. About a week before “**springing forward**,” Dr. ...
2. Stick to your schedule. Be consistent with eating, social, bed and exercise times during the transition to Daylight Saving Time. ...
3. Don't take long naps. ...
4. Avoid coffee and alcohol.



Easter Word Search



Angel

Cross

Crown of Thorns

Easter

Empty Tomb

Good Friday

Holy

Hope

Jesus

King

Love

Mary

Messiah

Resurrection

Risen

Sacrifice

Salvation

Sunday

Savior

Third Day



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*We have returned to
worshiping in the
sanctuary as well as
worshiping in our cars.*

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: 3748 Rt. 430

Length: 30 minutes

WEAR YOUR MASKS

Coming inside? COME EARLY!

While Pastor Ivy is out, you can contact Pastor Heather Allport-Cohon if there is a need for pastoral care. She can be reached at 716-708-6466.

Synodically Authorized Minister Ned Lindstrom will be leading worship and preaching on Sundays. He can be reached at 716-490-3820.

Katie Castro will be leading worship the 1st Sunday of each month until Pastor Ivy's return.

MARCH 2021
WORSHIP AND SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES
AT ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH

	DATE March 7	DATE March 14	DATE March 21	DATE March 28	
Assistant Liturgist	Sarah Goebel	Sarah Goebel	Sarah Goebel	Sarah Goebel	
Ushers/Greeters	Linda Milks Marty Hunt	Linda Milks Marty Hunt	Linda Milks 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 – MARCH 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Dustin Raynor
7 10:00 am Worship With Katie Castro Bible Study 10:40 am	8 Alice Swartz	9	10	11	12 Ron Simpson	13  Dan Kelly
14 10:00 am Worship w/Communion Bible Study 10:40 am Ginnie Sloan	15	16 5&2 Packing 7 pm	17 	18	19	20
21 10:00 am Worship w/Communion Bible Study 10:40 am	22	23	24	25 Roy Pihl	26	27
28  10:00 am Worship Bible Study 10:40 am	29	30 Arden Johnson	31			

25 Pray for all those who grieve and suffer the loss of a loved one, friend, co-worker or neighbor, especially those impacted by the death of someone from COVID-19.

26 We see humility, sacrifice and unconditional love in the suffering Jesus endured for our redemption. Pray that the Spirit will make us humble, loving servants willing to sacrifice convenience, reward and emotional comfort for the sake of sharing the gospel and caring for our neighbors in need.

27 Pray for our ELCA missionaries serving alongside companion churches and organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean, including Albert (Gustavo) Driau and the Rev. Rachel Ringlaben (Argentina and Uruguay), Karen Anderson (Chile), Linda Gawthorne (Colombia) and the Rev. Claudia Lopez Ortega (Nicaragua).

28 *Palm Sunday* Jesus endured persecution, inner conflict, betrayal by his closest followers, arrest and an unfair trial leading to his death – all for our salvation and the fulfillment of God's promises and love. Give praise and thanks to the Son of God!

29 Pray that we might reconcile our differences and embrace, teach and act on our values, appreciating the diversity of humanity and our communities, attending to our neighbors in need, practicing mutual respect and care, and pooling our diverse gifts, skills and perspectives to change our society, church and world.

30 Prayerfully reflect on who Jesus is and what we profess to believe about Jesus as Savior, teacher, servant, example, source of truth, man and Son of God.

31 Give thanks to God that “we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses” who support and encourage our faith and accompany us in our baptismal journey of service and witness.

This resource may be copied and shared among members and friends of the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Contact info@elca.org for additional information. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631-4101. Telephone: 800-638-3522, ext. 2458.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

PRAYER VENTURES

MARCH 2021

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 *Women's History Month* Give thanks for women throughout history and in our lives who have shared their gifts and leadership in the church and society, raised and cared for us, taught us and nurtured our faith, and fought for justice, equality and healing. Pray for women everywhere who suffer injustice, demeaning stereotypes, violence and poverty, that they will not lose hope but will be delivered from their suffering and persecution to live freely and boldly.

2 Give thanks that we can trust completely God's promises, love and forgiveness, especially when we feel unlovable, unfaithful or uncertain.

3 The Spanish word *amparo* means protection of a living creature from suffering or damage. Pray for the ELCA's Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities (AMMPARO) strategy, and pray that we will join in serving the most vulnerable children and their families as they seek safety and the opportunity to live in welcoming, humane communities and congregations.

4 Pray for our synod bishops, the presiding bishop and the secretary, who are meeting online for the Conference of Bishops. Ask that the Spirit guide and inspire their discussions, prayerful deliberations and decisions, which impact the ELCA, the work we do together and the Future Church goals and structure being implemented in the churchwide organization.

5 During our Lenten journey, pray that God will help us reflect on aspects of our life and faith that we find difficult to examine and confess, and that we will remember we are always loved and made new through the life, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ – our Savior, redeemer and source of hope.

6 Ask God to bless and guide our efforts to worship, commune, study Scriptures, socialize and care for each other online, and to find safe ways of gathering in person. Give thanks for the inspiration of the Spirit and the creativity of our siblings in Christ, who help us envision and practice new ways of being church together.

7 Pray that the theology, values, traditions and practices of our church and congregations will be centered in the good news of Jesus Christ and the ways of God, and that God will guide us back to this center when we are distracted or drawn away from our purpose and identity as the body of Christ.

8 *International Women's Day* Pray for women everywhere, for gender equality and equity, for the elimination of gender bias and stereotypes, and for opportunities for women to develop and use their gifts, skills, insights and passions without barrier or discouragement.

9 Pray that in the sign and symbol of the cross we will see the power of God at work for our salvation through Jesus Christ – a gift of love and mercy for all people and nations.

10 Lift up prayers of joy for, and find ways to reach out to, those celebrating birthdays, marriages, anniversaries and other special occasions without being able to share those moments with others in person.

11 Give praise and glory to our wonderful God, whose ways and commands are revealed to us with clarity and who is merciful and gracious with us when we stray from them.

12 Pray that we will continue to gain ground on vaccinating people against COVID-19, especially those who are most vulnerable and those who provide essential services for the sake of our health, well-being and daily needs, here and globally.

13 We are a publicly engaged church that participates in God's work of pursuing justice and peace and of restoring and reconciling communities. Give thanks for ELCA Advocacy, ELCAvotes, the Lutheran Office for World Community and the teachings of our church, which help us to understand the needs of our neighbors, equip us for social concerns and encourage us to respond as God calls us to serve and act.

14 "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." This is welcome news for everyone! Give thanks and praise to God!

15 Give thanks that God has created us to do good in the world and that, even in complex and difficult circumstances, the Spirit is always at work teaching and emboldening us to love and serve our neighbor.

16 Give thanks that God loves us, hears our pleas – spoken and silent – and grants us hope, comfort and relief amid our troubles. Ask that the Spirit will show us how to respond with wisdom, compassion and hope when our neighbors experience difficulties.

17 Pray for our ELCA missionaries serving alongside companion churches and organizations in Africa, including the Rev. Elisabeth Johnson (Cameroon), Anne and Willie Langdji (Madagascar, West Africa and Central Africa), the Rev. Alex Lachapelle (Kenya), the Rev. Brian Palmer and the Rev. Linda Johnson Seyenkulo (Liberia), the Rev. Lancelot Themba and Kwena Mkhabela (Madagascar, West Africa and Central Africa), and the Rev. Amanda and the Rev. Grant Applehans (Madagascar).

18 Ask God to prepare and equip congregations and communities – physically, emotionally and spiritually – to respond to the severe weather that often comes in spring, and to help one another endure.

19 Give thanks that God, through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, rescues us from darkness, sin, death and all that separates us from our loving and merciful Creator. Pray that we will take to heart Paul's reminder that "by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God."

20 Thank God for our special relationship with the Reformed Church in America, a full communion partner with the ELCA since 1997. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, and pray that together we will find strength and new resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor, especially in these uncertain and challenging times.

21 We grieve the suffering and death of Jesus, yet we also rejoice in his resurrection and the promise of salvation that comes with it. Pray that we will follow Jesus wherever he leads us – through challenges and joys – and that our lives will glorify God throughout the journey.

22 Pray for the lay leaders of our church, who respond to God's call to serve, accept invitations to share their gifts and skills, and give of themselves to grow the church, serve neighbors in need, nurture the faith of others and equip disciples of all ages.

23 Pray for God's mercy and love every day. Ask that God will instill in us joy and hope, create in us a faithful spirit, teach us truth and wisdom, and stir gratitude in our hearts for all that God has done and continues to do for us and all humanity.

24 Due to the lasting impact of COVID-19 and the uncertainty surrounding vaccine rollout, the ELCA has decided not to send Young Adults in Global Mission volunteers for its 2021-22 program year. Pray for young adult applicants who are eager to serve and share their faith, and for the enduring relationships we have with our companion churches and partner organizations around the world.