ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH MOUSE
March 2022

Wednesday, March 2, 2022
Ash Wednesday
Worship 5:00 pm
Pastor Ivy Gauvin

Sunday, March 6, 2022
First Sunday in Lent
Worship With Communion 10:00 am
Pastor Ivy Gauvin

Sunday, March 13, 2022
Second Sunday in Lent
Worship 10:00 am
Pastor Ivy Gauvin

Sunday, March 20, 2022
Third Sunday in Lent
Worship With Communion 10:00 am
Pastor Ivy Gauvin

Sunday, March 27, 2022
Fourth Sunday in Lent
Worship 10:00 am
Baptism – Maverick McGaughy
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 Ponderings – by Pastor Ivy

We move from the enlightenment of Epiphany to the somberness of Lent in March. As I look at my calendar, there are no other holidays in March. We just have Lent. In fact, *most* of Lent takes place this month.

The observance of Lent goes back as far as the early 300s with an emphasis on the spiritual disciplines of self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love. These are strengthened in our lives by the gifts of word and sacrament.

So, what's in it for us? This all sounds pretty glum. But it's an opportunity to strip away the distractions that so often keep us from God. I invite you this Lent to dive into a deeper relationship with God and God's people. This is how we grow in our faith.

Most of us were baptized as babies, but we aren't expected to have our faith remain at the baby stage. As we grow, so should our faith. The concerns of a teenager are not the same as the worries of an elderly person who is a shut-in. If we allow God to work in our lives, our faith will grow as we do and will meet the needs of our stage of life.

I admit that the disciplines of Lent are difficult and take time and energy. Why don't we pick one to concentrate on during this time? These are parts of the faith of the kingdom of God that we should be regularly exercising, not just during Lent. Let's take small steps however, so that we don't stumble. No matter which we choose, we will receive benefits.

Our almighty, head over heels in love with us, generous God wants us to become closer to God. As the chorus of "Listen, God is Calling," (*ELW* 513) declares:

Listen, listen, God is calling,
Through the Word inviting,
Offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.

Amen!

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.

February Council Highlights:

- **Altar flowers chart is up – cost is still $20.**
- **Special Congregational Meeting set for March 6th – to approve monies being used on parsonage and church repairs.**
- **Lenten Bible Study will begin in March.**
- **5 & 2 is still collecting donations – Food items (see list) and also monetary gifts**

12 Ron Simpson
13 Dan Kelly
14 Ginny Sloan
16 Bob Terreberry
25 Roy Pihl
30 Arden Johnson

Prayer Requests:

The family and friends of Carolyn Wickerham, Gene Heil, Dianne Sloan, Rose Johnson Prieur, Roy Pihl, George Balcom, Trudy Fetzner, Thom Shagla, Charlene Hunter, Dave Bentley, Joe Gauvin, Emerson Allaby, Karen Brown, Tom West, John Alm, Eileen Beichner, John Gingrass, those serving in the military and law enforcement and their families, including BenWickerham, 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.

5 Loaves & 2 Fish Backpack Ministry

5&2 Ministry at St. Timothy is busy serving Bemus Point and Chautauqua students with bags of food on Fridays. We pack on the 3rd Tuesday of the month and would love to have you join us. Please respond to Gale Svenson-Campbell if you are able to help. Gales1949@gmail.com
We are also in need of Slim Jim's and fruit snacks.
As always, thank you for all your time, food and donations!

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

♦ Mailing in your weekly or monthly offering would be greatly appreciated for March if you haven't already done so.

Driving While Black PBS Documentary will be shown at Lakewood UMC, Lakewood NY for any and all to attend. March 5th, 2022, Saturday, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. This excellent movie will highlight the challenges that have been faced by many African-American people over the past seventy-five or so years. It details the movement of the nation via highways. We will be having a short break in the middle for discussion purposes. Light snacks will be provided. Please RSVP to Lakewood UMC office at: 716-763-9345; or email response to: lakewoodunitedmc@gmail.com.

Thank you for promoting this event to your congregation. God bless your day as you do God's work in the world! Rev. Michael R. Childs, Pastor at Lakewood and Falconer UMC's.

FLOWERS ARE BACK

Our flower chart that was part of our way to remember or honor loved ones Is back! You can sign up for a certain week to have the flowers placed on the alter, and then Lakeview Gardens will arrange a beautiful floral arrangement. The cost will remain the same, $20.00 per arrangement. The flower chart is in the Narthex, so please sign up the week that you would like to order them.

Thank you for your support.

TIMOTHY TIDBITS

Hello from St. Timothy! It's March and that means we're one month closer to Spring!! Last month was a special one for **Dan and Judy Kelly** – they are the proud great grandparents of Kelly Lynne Ames born Wednesday, January 26. That day was ALSO their 59th wedding anniversary!! Happy Anniversary Dan and Judy!! **Dianne Sloan** had knee surgery February 4 and is recovering nicely under the watchful eye of her friends and family**.** Anyone seen **Kristie Bloomquist** or **Kathy Carlson** lately? Rumor has it that they're spending March in Florida to golf and kayak. Keep an eye out for

their return. And **Sarah Goebel** is celebrating the BIG "65" with many well-deserved trips. Remember to help keep us up to date with all your family news going into the year!!!

Monthly Readings and Psalm

Wednesday, March 2, Ash Wednesday
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.
2 Corinthians 5:20b--6:10
Now is the day of salvation
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
The practice of faith
Sunday, March 6, 1st Sunday in Lent
Deuteronomy 26:1-11
The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.
Romans 10:8b-13
If you confess that Jesus is Lord, you will be saved
Luke 4:1-13
The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness for forty days
Sunday , March 13, Second Sunday in Lent
Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
The covenant with Abram and his descendants
Psalm 27
In the day of trouble, God will give me shelter.
Philippians 3:17--4:1
Our citizenship is in heaven from where we expect a Savior
Luke 13:31-35
I have desired to gather Jerusalem as a hen gathers her brood
Sunday March 20, Third Sunday in Lent
Isaiah 55:1-9
Everyone who thirsts, come to the water; seek the LORD
Psalm 63:1-8
O God, eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you.
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Israel, baptized in cloud and seas, ate the same spiritual food as Christians
Luke 13:1-9
Unless you repent, you will perish: parable of the fig tree
Sunday March 27, fourth Sunday in Lent
Joshua 5:9-12
Israel eats bread and grain, the produce of the land
Psalm 32
Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD.
2 Corinthians 5:16-21
The mystery and ministry of reconciliation
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
The parable of the prodigal father and the repent

MESSAGE FROM UCAN (first posted 16 February)

Here is a message from Jeff Rotunda at UCAN. Note especially that there are opportunities for volunteers to help at the Mission --

We have been growing and even more than ever
have **opportunities** for people to be able to serve directly. **Men, women, and youth.** Any of the churches are more than welcome to share this with their congregations.

I was wondering if you could post the following:

I have answered countless phone calls asking what we need here at the UCAN City Mission. We fill our guests' bellies with food donated by members of the community that our kitchen coordinator prepares. We clothe our guests with the donations given by members of the community. They are able to keep up with their hygienic needs because of the donations given by the community. I could go on, and on about the blessings that have been showered on the UCAN City Mission. We are constantly in awe of God's love coming through these doors.

Have you ever wanted to "help" the UCAN City Mission in a more hands-on way? Have you ever felt like you were being called to help in your own community? Do you have 1 day a month that you want to make a difference with? -- We welcome you to email UCAN516@gmail.com, call 716-488-7480 and talk to administration, or stop down at 7 w 1st St. Jamestown NY 14701 between 8am-4pm and talk to one of us about on call shifts, volunteering, or general employment.

Thank you so much!

Jeff Rotunda, Executive Director

MARCH 2022
WORSHIP AND SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES
AT ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH

	MAR 6	MAR 13	MAR 20	MAR 27	
Assistant Liturgist	Sarah Goebel	Sarah Goebel	Tammy Haas	Sarah Goebel	
Ushers/Greeters	Marty Hunt Linda Milks	Marty Hunt Ginny Sloan	Ginny Sloan Linda Milks	Marty Hunt Linda Milks	

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 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 ASH WEDNESDAY Service 5 pm 	3 Tai Chi 9:30 & 12	4	5
6 10:00 am Worship w/Communion Special Congregational Meeting Bible Study 10:45 am	7 Healthy Bones 9 am	8	9 Healthy Bones 9 am	10 Tai Chi 9:30 & 12 Choir 5:00 pm	11 Ellery Senior Citizens 11:30 – 1:30	12 **DAYIGHT SAVINGS TIME SET CLOCKS FORWARD** Ron Simpson
13 10:00 am Worship Bible Study 10:45 am Dan Kelly	14 Healthy Bones 9 am Ginny Sloan	15 5 & 2 Packing	16 Healthy Bones 9 am Bob Terreberry	17 Tai Chi 9:30 & 12 Choir 5:00 pm 	18	19
20 10:00 am Worship w/Communion Bible Study 10:45am	21 Healthy Bones 9am	22	23 Healthy Bones 9am	24 Tai Chi 9:30 & 12 Choir 5:00 pm	25 Roy Pihl	26
27 10:00 am Worship Baptism – Maverick McGaughy Bible Study 10:45 am	28 Healthy Bones 9 am	29	30 Healthy Bones 9 am Arden Johnson	31 Tai Chi 9:30 & 12 Choir 5:00 pm		

[Prayer Ventures for March 2022]

1 *Women's History Month* Celebrate and give thanks for the achievements, influence, leadership, stories, gifts and faithful witness of women in our church and society throughout history. Pray for women who suffer injustice, demeaning stereotypes, violence and poverty, that they will cling to hope and be delivered from their suffering and persecution to live freely and boldly as loved and valued children of God.

2 *Ash Wednesday* On this day, let us approach God in prayer with humble and penitent hearts, marking ourselves with the ashes of our messy, fragile human lives yet doing so with the reassuring sign of the cross — the mark of Jesus Christ, our source of forgiveness, salvation, hope and new life.

3 Pray for our synod bishops and presiding bishop as they gather for the Conference of Bishops. Ask God to bless their time together for worship, study, building relationships and deliberating on how we can share the good news of Jesus Christ, serve our neighbor, strive for justice and peace, work alongside our global companions and grow the church.

4 Praise God, who is boundless, awesome, merciful, pure and attentive, and who loves justice and peace.

5 Remember in prayer refugees from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria who have been stuck at the Belarus-Poland border since last November; pray for the Lutheran Church in Belarus as it assists refugees with translation services, food, clothing, hygiene items and other essentials; and give thanks for the support and assistance we are able to provide through Lutheran Disaster Response.

6 Give thanks that we know Jesus as the son of God, who did not give in to worldly temptations of power or serving his own needs but humbled himself and demonstrated God's sacrificial love for the salvation and healing of humankind.

7 Pray for the work, advocacy and networks of ELCA Disability Ministry, and that our congregations and communities might, without hestitation, preconception or limitation, connect with and embrace people living with disabilities, inviting them into full participation in the life and leadership of the church and society.

8 *International Women's Day* Celebrate and give thanks to God for the gifts, influence and leadership of women and girls everywhere. Pray that we will continue to strive for a world free of bias and injustice, providing women and girls with equitable access to education, health care, work and opportunities to use their gifts in the church, our communities and our world.

9 Ask the Spirit to help us see beyond our weaknesses and self-doubt and confess with confidence our faith in the saving, life-giving love of Jesus Christ and the encouragement we receive from our siblings in Christ.

10 Give thanks that our church accompanies our global companions, working together to share God's love, respond to neighbors in need and participate in God's mission.

11 Lift up prayers of gratitude that God is our refuge and fortress, the one in whom we can trust in every circumstance, no matter how complicated or threatening.

12 During Lent, as we spend time reflecting on our human weakness and limitations, pray that we do not slip into discouragement or hopelessness but allow the Spirit to lead us toward the hope, forgiveness and newness we receive as a gift through Jesus Christ, the manifestation of God's enduring and redeeming love for us.

13 Give thanks for the humbling, awe-inspiring example of Jesus Christ, who persisted in his ministry and work of healing the world undeterred by criticism and death threats. Pray that the Spirit will inspire and embolden us to be committed and unwavering as we care for our

neighbors in need, sharing our faith and spreading the life-changing good news of Jesus Christ.

14 Pray for the community ministries of congregations across the country that serve neighbors in need through community gardens, meals, food pantries, homeless shelters, counseling, disaster response, neighborhood renewal, day care for children and adults, educational opportunities and connecting volunteers with ecumenical partners and community organizations.

15 Pray that being siblings in Christ will inspire us to encourage and care for one another; equip each other to live our faith and serve our neighbor; strive for justice and peace in the world; trust each other with our joys, sorrows and questions; and gather together to praise God for claiming and restoring us as loved children with an eternal inheritance.

16 Our church has deep, long-standing relationships with Lutheran churches and partners around the world. Pray that we will grow stronger as a global church, receive one another's gifts and expertise, and support the growth and work of our companions, which includes urban and youth outreach, establishing new congregations, providing theological education, pursuing justice and peace, and training new leaders.

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

18 Ask God to remind us that we accomplish far more of God's work in the world by embracing relationships and partnerships with our siblings in Christ and others.

19 Pray for ELCA Global Mission personnel, Young Adults in Global Mission and seminary interns who accompany and support the work of our companion churches around the world, especially as they adapt to the changing needs, circumstances and opportunities in their respective countries during the lingering pandemic.

20 *First day of spring* Praise God for the wonders of creation and the signs of hope, life and renewal that emerge with spring.

21 Pray that our lives, relationships and behaviors might reflect God's patience and undeserved confidence in our capacity to change, grow and love as the Spirit works within us.

22 *World Water Day* God's gift of water — in all its forms — nourishes and sustains life and stirs awe and wonder. Pray that we will faithfully steward the water resources entrusted to our care and enjoyment. Pray that we will work together to conserve water, help those who lack access to clean water, take thoughtful action during droughts and do the work of cleaning up and protecting water that we have polluted or misused.

23 Give thanks for God's faithfulness, actions, teaching and example throughout the ages, which guide us to follow the word and desires of God, enrich our faith, and bear hope and the good news of Jesus Christ to all people.

24 Pray for ELCA missionaries serving alongside church bodies and companion organizations in Central America to train leaders; share the gospel; respond to poverty, hunger and violence; advocate for laws that respect the human rights and dignity of migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers; and teach church leaders to care for victims of trauma.

25 "My mouth praises you with joyful lips when I think of you on my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night; for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy. My soul clings to you" (Psalm 63:5-8).

Thank God for being our ready help and refuge in every moment of our life.

26 Across the country, congregations and synods working with resettlement agencies are sponsoring individuals and families who have been evacuated from Afghanistan. Pray that the Spirit will guide our efforts to welcome, support and care for people who are resettling and adjusting to unfamiliar communities, neighbors and cultures. Give thanks for the challenging and essential work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, Lutheran Services in America and the ELCA's AMMPARO strategy (Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities).

27 Recall recent experiences — personal or witnessed — when God's grace far exceeded your expectations and comprehension. Lift up prayers of acknowledgment and gratitude to God.

28 Ask God to build up our resiliency, optimism, hope and confidence in God's presence when we feel anxious, overwhelmed or powerless in today's world.

29 Rejoice and give thanks to God for surrounding us with steadfast love and forgiveness that cannot be taken away or diminished by anyone or anything.

30 Remember in prayer poets who free us to see and contemplate in new ways the beauty and complexity of creation, diverse human experiences, challenging social conditions and our faith.

31 Pray for the leaders from across our church who serve on the ELCA Church Council. Ask the Spirit to guide them as they support, review, advise and enable God's work in the world with thoughtfulness, integrity, respect and partnerships sharing a common vision.