

# THE TIMOTHIAN

NEWSLETTER for ST. TIMOTHY EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH of GRAND ISLAND

1453 Staley Road, Grand Island, NY 14072

Our Pastor: Kris Bjerke-Ulliman

Our website: [www.sttimothygrandisland.com](http://www.sttimothygrandisland.com)

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Our phone number: 716-773-4400

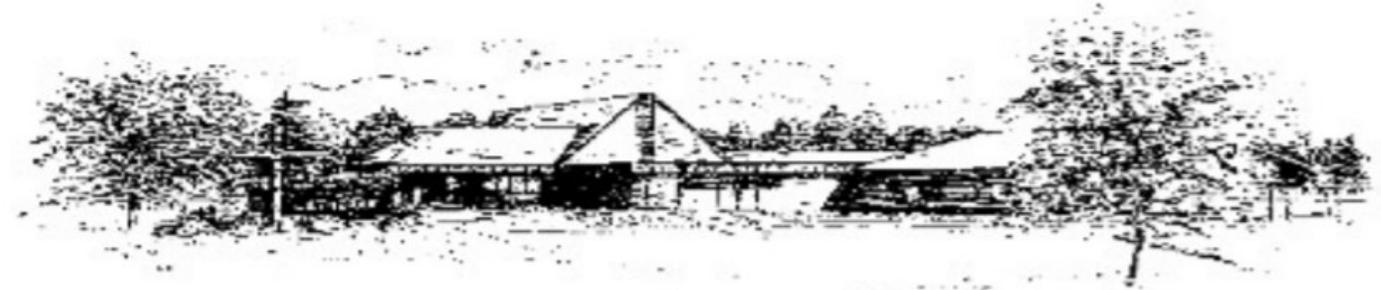
Our fax number: 716-773-4413

*Our Vision:*

*Christ Being the Cornerstone of  
Grand Island*

*Our Mission:*

*Sending Forth Disciples of  
Christ*



*November, 2019*

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

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# From the Pastor's Study:

## When Gratitude Grows, Love Flows

The benefits of Gratitude are practically endless. A sense of well-being, happiness, peace and joy are all traits of a thankful heart. As a community of believers, at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, we gather to share our thankfulness in praise and prayer to our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

This month we focus on the gifts of God we have received. The first is food. We are blessed with an abundance of food while others go through life with food insecurity. The loss of a job, illness, or injury can create unexpected havoc. Some make choices between heat, medicine, or a hot meal. Others make poor choices that lead them down a path of suffering and pain.

Jesus met so many suffering people in need of food, health, or simply compassion, and Jesus was there for them. Now we are to be there for others as Christ is here for us.

During the month of November, we will collect canned goods for Community Mission.

On November 10th, we will celebrate with a special Litany in prayer and thanksgiving for those who have served in the armed forces.



# Thank Offering

Thank offering is a celebration of women “to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.” Through the “thankoffering,” we show gratitude for God’s blessings and support our partnership with God in making Christ known in all the world. Look for the blue envelope or write thankoffering on your check or envelop.

The Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service is November 24th. We are thankful for the Grand Island Community Chorus and local pastors who are part of our ministerium. While we are all different in theology and church practices, Christ joins us in prayer and celebration! Desserts to follow!

Finally, as November slips into December, we celebrate Christ the KING. If you are brave, Check our Kanye West Album “Jesus is King” on YouTube. Gospel, Rap and Christ permeate his lyrics! I’m grateful for our God who moves in mysterious ways.

As gratitude grows, love flows. **Get a copy of our Gratitude challenge for the month of November after worship.** What would happen if for 30 days you listed three things you were grateful for each day? Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow. From 2 Thessalonians 1:3, “We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing.”



As we enter December, join me in the Advent Conspiracy! The Advent Conspiracy is founded on the radical idea that we can celebrate Christmas humbly, beautifully, and generously. Advent is the story of a wondrous moment when God entered our world to make things right. It is the greatest story ever told and it changes everything—including the way we celebrate Christmas. A weekly study group goes with their series along with activities for children and the family as well!

## *An Abundance of Thanks*



I am grateful to St. Timothy for their service and dedication to Christ. Thankful for our board and all our leaders who make ministry happen in marvelous ways. Read our Board President’s article as she shares how she is “in Christ” in the world! Together all things are possible with Christ.

Blessings,

*Pastor Kris*

# Breaking Down Walls

## From the ELCA Advocacy and Global Mission

“On Nov. 9, 2019, the world will commemorate the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. As we look back to remember this important moment in human history, we are reminded that there is much work to be done to tear down the walls that divide us today. We are called in this moment to advocate for an end to division and oppression in our own communities and throughout the world. My friends, I encourage you, your congregations, and your communities to join together in proclaiming this truth — that we are one human family.”

— The Rev. Rafael Malpica Padilla, executive director for Global Mission, ELCA

One of the ELCA’s advocacy groups is “Peace not Walls.” It pertains primarily to the Israeli-Palestinian divisions and the walls being built to separate the two. We also hear a lot about a wall on our southern border—again in an effort to separate people.

But there are invisible walls too—walls of hunger, poverty, loneliness, mental illness. Those walls keep children of God from being full participants in society. Maybe you are behind one of those walls yourself. What can we do? The same admonition from Rev. Padilla (above) applies to invisible walls, too.

There is much work to be done, but we must tear down the walls that divide us. We must be advocates for those who suffer from the walls and reach out through the walls to break them down. If the Berlin Wall can come down, so can the rest!

ELCA Advocacy and Global Mission are supported through your congregation’s Mission Support. Thank you!

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



# Altar Guild Notes: November, 2019



Buckle up! It's a busy month! There are two major liturgical festivals and one important secular holiday. Each festival, holiday, and Sunday is met with particular images, colors, and accents that emphasize its importance in our lives.

The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday. As the title suggests, we honor the Saints that have gone before us. The sting of death is soothed by our knowledge of the resurrection. You will see the white paraments. On this Sunday, let them remind you of the white linen pall that is draped over the casket at a funeral. They also symbolize the white linen that dries your head from the waters of your baptism, where you died to sin and are made clean as a child of God!

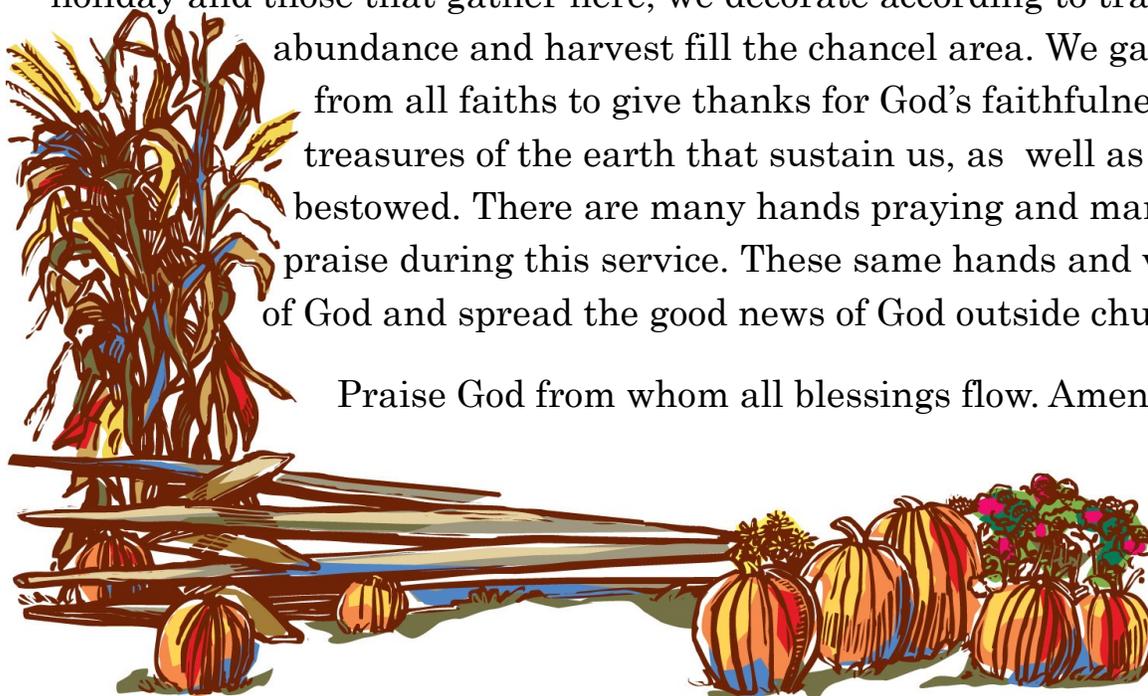
The next two Sundays continue the Time after Pentecost. You will see green panels added to the altar frontal, as well as green accents in the sanctuary. We are counting down the end of the year.

The last Sunday in November is Christ the King Sunday. It is also the final Sunday in our liturgical year! This important festival recognizes Jesus Christ as our true king, both human and divine. The green panels and accents are gone. Christ's image on the altar frontal shows his arms open wide to hold each and every one of us. We are embraced through all our struggles and joys on earth until we rise to see His face.

We also open wide the doors of St Timothy in the evening of this last Sunday. All are invited to the annual ecumenical Thanksgiving service. To celebrate this holiday and those that gather here, we decorate according to tradition. Symbols of abundance and harvest fill the chancel area. We gather together from all faiths to give thanks for God's faithfulness to us, the treasures of the earth that sustain us, as well as the blessings bestowed. There are many hands praying and many voices singing praise during this service. These same hands and voices do the work of God and spread the good news of God outside church walls.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Amen.

Your sister in  
Christ,  
*Deborah*



# A Note From the President

When someone asks you what you do (for a living), how do you respond? Are you happy and fulfilled or tired and frustrated?

This past week, I made one of my patients cry. Not because I was being rough cleaning her teeth and not because I was lecturing her for not flossing, but because something I said touched her heart. I had never met her before. She was 28 years old and asked me how I could still enjoy what I do after 30 years of doing it. My answer.... "I'm a disciple of Christ disguised as a Dental Hygienist." That is what made her cry and what tugged at her heart strings. She gave me a big hug and sent me a note thanking me for what I did.

Wow! That is why I do what I do. That is what God has called us to do. Be His disciples. Be His hands, be His feet and His voice. Find a purpose in what you do by letting God work through you. Only then will you be more than happy: you will be fulfilled.

This month we celebrate Thanksgiving. We have so much to be thankful for. My prayer is that we spread love and thankfulness to everyone we meet. Consider becoming involved in our ministry areas. Help mentor our youth. Invite someone to our service on Sundays or to the Island-wide Ecumenical Thanksgiving service that St. Timothy's hosts this month. Encourage them to attend our support groups or just join us for some old-fashioned fun. God needs us to reach His church and unchurched people. "It is by grace through faith" means there are no strings attached and no disguise needed!

In peace,

Karen Rose

*Be God's  
Hands*



# News and updates from the Child Care Center

Laura Chiddy, our Child Care Center director for the last few years, has moved to a new job. We are fortunate to have hired Joelle Waters as the new CCC director and are looking forward to where she will lead the center in the coming years!



Below is a short bio for you to get to know Joelle.

I am so excited to be back at St. Timothy Lutheran Child Care Center. As some of you may remember, I was the Assistant director a few years back.

My name is Joelle Waters. I am married to Bobby Waters and together we have 6 grown children and 2 super cute pugs. I'm proud to say my husband has served in the United States Army for 25 years, and will soon deploy.

I have been in the childcare field for almost 30 years and I look forward to continuing the amazing program here at St. Tim's!

## New Members

We are excited to have welcomed Kathy Freer, Melissa, Alex, Lily, and Derek Nesselbeck, and Jeanette, Michael, Molly, Jake, and Bobby Connolly as new members in our congregation here at St. Timothy's this month. We're glad you are making your home here with us!



# October Baptisms

This month, we welcomed Lily Nesselbeck and Derek Nesselbeck into the Family of God at St. Timothy's. We celebrated with parents Melissa and Alex, and with sponsors Ashley Fabio, Tim Eddy, Andrea Shorr and Joe Shorr.



# October Fellowship

Trunk-or-Treat was a success! We had some great trunk decorations and saw tons of cute costumes. Goodie bags were filled, and everyone had a great time.



## Upcoming Fellowship

Join us for a Thanksgiving-themed Paint Night on November 20th at 6:30 PM. All supplies, snacks, and drinks will be provided for a total cost of \$30. Our awesome instructor walks us through the painting step-by-step, so come give it a try, even if you have no faith in your artistic skill! We promise you'll have a great time!



Dessert, anyone? Come enjoy some goodies as we gather in the spirit of Thanksgiving to enjoy each other's company. Our Dessert Smorgasbord will be held on November 24th following the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at 7:00 PM. The Grand Island Community Chorus will be singing, so come enjoy some music, too. Sign up in the Narthex to bring your favorite dessert!

# Looking Ahead



## Food Collection

In the month of November, we will be collecting canned goods for the Community Missions of Niagara Frontier, Inc. Our Youth will be helping in the soup kitchen on December 7th and will give them what we collect then.

November 3rd is All Saint's Sunday and Daylight Savings Time ends. Remember to set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night.

On November 10th, we will be honoring our Veterans and their families.

On Sunday, November 17th, we will be accepting Thankofferings in the blue envelopes provided, or by writing "Thanksgiving" on the Designated Offering line of your envelope. We are called to offer with joy and thanksgiving what God has first given us, so let us support the ministries of WELCA with our Thankofferings.

The Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will be held at St. Timothy's on Friday, November 22 at 7 PM, followed by the Dessert Smorgasbord.



Love & Loss will continue to meet for the next two Thursdays at 7:00 PM, and Steady Love will continue to meet the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM. The Inspired book study will also continue to meet on the last Monday of the month.



The month of December brings Advent, and with it, The Advent Conspiracy. Join us as we get back to what really matters in the Christmas season: preparing our hearts for Christ's coming. Learn how to

let go of the hectic and money-driven commercialized Christmas and rediscover what it's really all about. We will be meeting from 11:30 to 12:30 for a series of Sundays in December, and will enjoy warm bowls of soup together. Advent-themed activity books, coloring books, and family activities will be provided for the kids. We hope you'll join the movement with us and get back to the real spirit of Christmas. Learn more by watching the video on our website, [sttimothygrandisland.com](http://sttimothygrandisland.com).

# Stewardship of Creation

Anyone like 10% savings on your energy bill? That's what Blue Rock Solar is offering those who sign up to receive community solar on Grand Island. There will be no solar panels attached to your house and your energy will be delivered in the exact same way. This savings continues indefinitely due to government subsidies, so it's a win-win for you and the environment. In addition, for every household from our congregation that signs up, a \$50 donation will be made to St. Timothy's from Blue Rock Solar. If you'd like to get a quote or sign up, please visit [bluerockenergy.com/grandislandsolar](http://bluerockenergy.com/grandislandsolar) or call 877-421-0340. Our contact, Sam Doubleday, can also be reached at (315) 432-4191.



## Start your savings & impact

YOUR  
ZIP CODE

14072

AVERAGE MONTHLY  
POWER COST

\$130

TERM

Annually

5 Years

**\$156**

Your Estimated Power  
Savings

**\$117**

Estimated Power Cost  
with Solar

**8,419**

kWh of Solar Power  
Generated

EMISSION REDUCTION

**13,813**

Pounds of CO<sub>2</sub>

EQUAL TO CARBON CONSUMED BY

**103**

Tree Seedlings  
Grown for  
10 Years

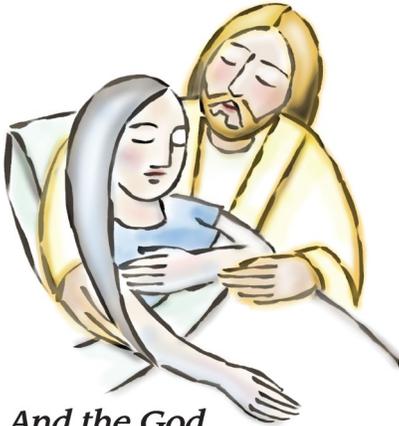
**7.0**

Acres of US  
Forests in  
One Year

Start the process



# Prayer Chain



*And the God*

*of all grace ... will himself  
restore you and make you  
strong, firm and steadfast.*

1 Peter 5:10, NIV

Here at St. Timothy, we believe that prayer is powerful and can be incredibly helpful in our lives and in the lives of others. Our prayer chain allows you to ask others in our church community to pray for your friends and loved ones in their times of need. If you would like to add someone to the prayer chain, you can email us at [sttimothygrandisland@gmail.com](mailto:sttimothygrandisland@gmail.com), call us at 773-4400, or fill out the prayer chain request sheet in the Narthex at the table next to the Sanctuary entrance. Please also include an address where we can send cards to those in our prayers.

Here are the people in need of our prayers right now: the families of Gail Sturm and Marlaine Kaniecki, Stanley and Carol Woodcock, Jen Ming Luo, Ray Pilarski, Brian Bauer, Gerry Peete, Jean Anstett and her family, Sylvia and Joe Smith, Wanda Cutini, Debra Saura, Cathy Niccola, Mike Cutini, Charlene Faleski, and the Marris Family.

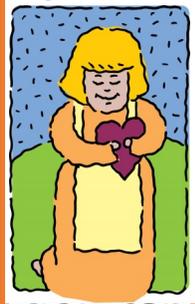
# Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care is an important resource available at St. Timothy's. Pastor Kris can be contacted at any time at 773-4400 or 715-965-5940. The following are some situations in which you should call:

- ◇ In the event of a hospitalization or placement in another health care facility. These institutions do not notify churches and pastors, so Pastor Kris will not know unless you call.
- ◇ In emergency situations of injury or illness, even if there is no hospital admission. People are often sent home under difficult circumstances.
- ◇ In times of personal crisis or struggle in which you may benefit from direct pastoral care.
- ◇ When in need of pastoral services such as baptisms, weddings, home communion, funeral, or memorial services.
- ◇ In any other circumstance where pastoral care may benefit you. When in doubt, call.



# November 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Canned Goods Collection	Goods Month		1	2	
3 Worship, 8 & 10:30 All Saints & Daylight Savings	4	5	6	7 Love & Loss, 7 PM	8	9 
10 Worship, 8 & 10:30 Thanks to Veterans	11 	12 Steady Love, 6:30 PM	13	14 Love & Loss, 7 PM	15	16
17 Worship, 8 & 10:30 Thankofferings collected	18 Finance 6:30, Board Meeting 7:30	19	20 Paint Night, 6:30	21	22	23
24 Worship 8 & 10:30 Christ the King Thanksgiving Ecumenical, 7 PM, Dessert	25 Inspired Book Study, 6:30	26	27 	28 Thanks-giving	29 	30

**Saint Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church  
of Grand Island (ELCA)  
1453 Staley Road  
Grand Island, NY 14072-2114**

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Organization**  
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Grand Island, New York



**OR CURRENT RESIDENT**

**MAY GRACE AND PEACE**  

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**BE YOURS IN ABUNDANCE.**

**I P E T E R I : 2 , N R S V**

Service chart for November, 2019

	3	10	17	24
Deacons: 8:00	B. Peete	D. Wiczorek	P. Buchanan	B. Peete
10:30	T. Wiswall	S. Miller	D. Wiswall	T. Cutini
Acolytes: 10:30	E. Haseley	E. Steck	R. Cummings	B. Pagoada
Ushers: 8:00	C. Remmes	M. Endres	C. Remmes	M. Endres
10:30	G. Barker	B. Kemp	P. Bassette	P. Glassman
	S. Webb	M. Wasson	J. Pagoada	E. Glassman
Counters:	T. Endres	P. Yaeger	D. Kaniecki	T. Endres
	D. Fabio	S. Webb	K. Rose	D. Fabio
Coordinator:	C. Wasson			
Altar Guild:	K. Bates	T. Senn	A. Neutz	L. Barker