

The St. Timothy Times

A newsletter for members and friends of
St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Preschool & Childcare, ELCA
Hudson, Iowa, 50643
Volume 13:11 NOVEMBER 2023

NOVEMBER 2023



Fall is often considered stewardship season. There are a variety of reasons for this, but the main one is that it is harvest time – the time of year when it is most apparent that God has provided what we need to survive. In many rural congregations, there used to be a tradition of going

door-to-door to the farmers to ask for contributions in the only season they had income to give.

I imagine we are all glad that tradition is no longer an expectation, but as we give thanks for another year of crops and the food we need to survive the winter, we still turn our minds to generosity. God's generosity toward us, and our generosity toward others. This is the natural progression for Christians, to recognize that when God gives to us, God gives through us. It is such an essential part of the Christian life that even in places where people have no money to give, they still find a way to give back.

In 2015, I had the opportunity to preside in a congregation of Maasai people, nomadic herdsmen in eastern Kenya. At that service, the men were out tending to their livestock, but the women and children gathered. When it came time to walk forward to give their offering, I noticed that many of them did not have money, but instead dropped bracelets, or other small items that could be sold into the basket. They were committed to supporting the mission of the church even when they had no money at all and they gave what they had. It was a beautiful demonstration of giving from what God has given us.

There are a number of times that I have been inspired by the generosity of others and I try to keep them in mind regardless of the season. But as we gather this month specifically to give thanks, I am grateful for those who have inspired me and for the reminder that God has provided for us whether in the form of crops harvested, or beads made into bracelets, or income from our jobs. This season, may we all be inspired to give thanks and to give generously. Happy Harvest and Happy Thanksgiving!

~Pastor Dena

Annual Reports Due Soon

Committee Members, please email your annual report to the office by December 12.

Coming Events

Mondays: 8 AM Men's Breakfast at Village Inn

Tuesdays: 6-8 PM AA Meetings

Wednesdays: 2 PM Confirmation

Fridays: 9 AM-12 PM Friday Quilters



Nov. 1: 2 PM Work at Food Bank with Confirmation Class
5:30-7 PM Family Faith Night

Nov. 5: 9 AM All Saints Day

1 PM Sip & Paint

4:30 PM Preschool & Childcare Board Meeting

Nov. 6: 5 PM Youth & Education Board Meeting

Nov. 8: 6:30 PM Food & Faith at Urban Pie

Nov. 12: 9 AM Temple Talk - Lutheran Services in Iowa
Baby Book Club

10:15 AM Bible Study

Nov. 14: 10:40 AM Preschool Chapel Time

Nov. 15: 10 AM Hudson Ministerium at Community Church

6:30 PM Mutual Ministry at Al Schneider's

Nov. 18: 9 AM-1 PM Fellowship Hall Reserved

Nov. 19: 10:15 AM Council Meeting

Nov. 21: 10 AM Ruth Circle

Newsletter Deadline

Nov. 22: No Confirmation

Nov. 23: Happy Thanksgiving! Office & Preschool Closed

Nov. 24: Office & Preschool Closed

Daylight Savings, November 5

It's that time of year to "Fall Back", set your clocks back one hour before you go to bed to be ready for church on Sunday!



Thank you

Thank you for the cake and the gift of beautiful mums in celebration of one year of ministry together! It was a fantastic year and I look forward to seeing how God leads us next.

~Pastor Dena

Time to order your Poinsettia!

We will be ordering poinsettias for our Christmas season soon. If you would like to help beautify our church this year, please fill out the form in this newsletter and bring it to the church no later than **December 4**.





~Clara Nehmer
P&CC Director



Council Notes

The council reviewed the three goals set at the beginning of the year: 1. Community building 2. Structure and curriculums 3. Education and service opportunities for adults. Boards are making good progress.

It was noted that the computer used for PowerPoint projection in the balcony had outlived its usefulness and needs replacing. The Tech Team will look into this.

The financial report shows all is normal. The various boards are submitting their requests for next year's budget.

Pastor Dena thanked all for recognizing her one year anniversary of her call to St. Timothy. She is busy planning for Advent and Christmas.

Family Faith Night and Baby Book Club are going well. An LSI speaker will give a temple talk November 12 and a Mitten Tree will be set up for Christmas donations.

Gina Rasmussen has been hired as a full time employee. She will be splitting her time as a half time preschool/daycare assistant director and half time bookkeeper for the Preschool/daycare and the church.

The trustees have been busy with some small projects related to fascia, gutters, faucets, and wire covers. Members and employees are reminded to fill out the request forms for maintenance needs or make sure a contact is made for emergencies.

~Jim Prather

Food & Faith at SingleSpeed



Eleven people gathered at SingleSpeed brewing for our first Food and Faith conversations in October. We had wonderful food, fellowship, and conversation. You are invited to join us for the next one on Wednesday, November 8, 6:30 p.m. at Urban Pie in Cedar Falls.

~ Pastor Dena



October has been a very busy month for everyone. The toddlers have been busy making October and Halloween crafts.

They made ghosts using each child's footprint, bats that have handprint wings, and Frankenstein's that are made of various shapes.



Early in the month, the Hudson Fire Department visited the Preschool children during Fire Safety week. All the preschoolers love to sing, and each day you hear them singing the rainbow song, brown squirrel, the opposite song, their ABC's and many more. The nice weather has allowed for lots of outside play time.



Can you guess how many children can fit in the sandbox at one time? The school-aged children have been having a blast. A representative from Iowa State University Extension and Outreach has come to do some Wednesday activities. Ms. Poyner purchased an air hockey game and the room off Fellowship Hall has been turned into a game room. This week they enjoyed making blanket tents.



I have been busy training new employees. This month, God blessed us with 3 new employees. We welcomed Gina Rasmussen, Allyssa Norman, and Jody Heaverlo to the staff. Gina is the new business manager, she will be responsible for bookkeeping for the church and Preschool & Childcare, staff scheduling and training, and assisting with children's registration and schedules. Allyssa will split her time between office work, social media, monthly drills, special projects, then working as a preschool provider plus overseeing the preschool summer program. Jody works in the kitchen, helping prepare food, serve meals and doing lots and lots of dishes. Please introduce yourself when you encounter them.



Looking forward: The center will be closed November 23 & 24 for Thanksgiving and December 25 & 26 for Christmas. Preschool Christmas program is December 14, at 6:30 p.m.

Parents -- be on the look for a Christmas Holiday needs survey.

Chamber Appreciation Supper

The Hudson Chamber of Commerce held their Appreciation Supper at the Firehouse in Hudson for the community on September 22.

Several members of St. Timothy fried the hamburger and onions ahead of time and members below prepared the chili. (L to R) Al Schneider, Randy Marquard, Lynette Leeper, Jan Wilkes, Jon Robertson, Jamie Robertson, Barb Kramer, Dianne Schneider, Joyce King, and Kathy Holst.



Picking Pumpkins and Squash

Volunteers Joyce King, Jon & Jamie Robertson helped pick the home grown pumpkins and squash from Russell & Lynette Hartman's patch.

Smaller pumpkins were used for Family Faith Night and the rest of the crop went to the NEIA Food Bank. Thank you Russell & Lynette for your generosity, and everyone else who helped bring in the crop.



Family Faith Night



We had our October Family Faith night on October 3rd. We continued learning the story of Joseph, and talked about his time in slavery and how his ability to interpret dreams gave him a place working for the king.



We finished the evening by painting pumpkins that were generously donated by the Hartman's. You can see some of the creations at the front of the church. We



hope you can join us on November 1st for tacos, the conclusion of Joseph's story, and a Thanksgiving themed craft. Be on the lookout for information about our Christmas program!

~ Tiffany Ahrens

Pictures by Pastor Dena

Prayer before the prayer by Desmond Tutu and Mpho Tutu from *The Book of Forgiving*

I want to be willing to let go, to forgive.

But dare not ask for the will to forgive,

in case you give it to me

And I am not yet ready.

I am not yet ready for my heart to soften.

I am not yet ready to be vulnerable again.

Not yet ready to see that there is humanity

in my tormentor's eyes

Or that the one who hurt me may also have cried

I am not yet ready for the journey.

I am not yet interested in the path

I am at the prayer before the prayer of forgiveness

Grant me the will to want to forgive.

Grant it to me not yet but soon

Can I even form the words? Forgive me?

Dare I even look?

Do I dare to see the hurt I have caused:

I can glimpse all the shattered pieces of that fragile

thing

That soul trying to rise on the broken wings of hope

But only out of the corner of my eye.

I am afraid of it.

And if I am afraid to see

How can I not be afraid to say: Forgive me?

Is there a place where we can meet?

You and me

The place in the middle where we straddle the lines

Where you are right and I am right too.

And both of us are wrong and wronged

Can we meet there?

And look for the place where the path begins

The path that ends when we forgive.



Thanksgiving Food Drive

Our Outreach project for November will help the Northeast Iowa Food Bank provide traditional foods for Thanksgiving meals. We will be collecting dessert mixes, pudding, and pie fillings. They also need canned fruit, canned vegetables, and gravy mixes. Cash donations are also welcome, and will be used to purchase perishables to distribute. Please make checks out to the NEIFB, and give to Joyce King or Kathy Holst before November 16th. The Food Bank will pick up our donations on the 16th so that they can be distributed from the 20th to the 22nd of November.

~Kathy Holst

**St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Preschool & Childcare,
ELCA**

1 Thelma Court
Box 567
Hudson, Iowa 50643-0567
319-988-3571

secretary@sttimothyhudson.org

Web: www.sttimothyhudson.org

Facebook: St. Timothy Lutheran Church Hudson Iowa

Pastor Dena Gable

Cell: 507-319-0357
Office: 319-988-9006
pastor@sttimothyhudson.org

Clara Nehmer, Preschool & Childcare Director

Office number: 319-988-3633
preschool@sttimothyhudson.org

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Hudson, Iowa 50643

Sunday Schedule:

Worship @ 9:00 a.m. w/children's
messages and weekly communion

Fellowship for all ages @ 10:00

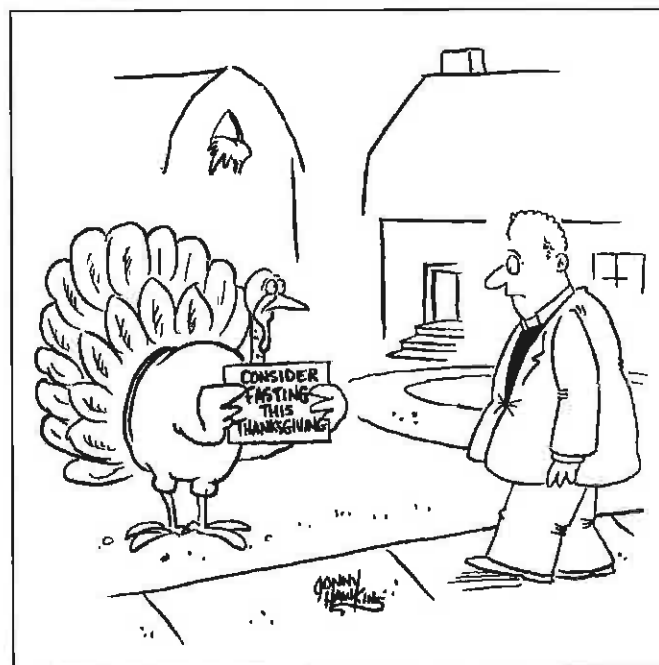
**Online Facebook Live St. Timothy Lutheran
Church Hudson Iowa @ 9 a.m.**



Our Mission:

All in God's Name—

Loving, Serving, Welcoming



**Laughter is Good for the Soul,
A Monthly Church Chuckle**