

Transformed by Grace
Living in Faith
Connecting to Christ

A L E T T E R F R O M ...

Timothy

314-781-8673 www.timothystl.org office@timothystl.org Timothy Lutheran Church
March 14, 2010 Pastor Ron Rall Pastor Bill Wilson

It is God Who Justifies All Sinners Through Christ

In January of 1998, I attended a workshop on prison ministry in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The sessions were led by Pastor Matthew Vesey. At the end of the first class period, the assignment was to go back home and volunteer at a local prison facility to lead a Bible study. After the Bible study, I was to write up a report on what I experienced and then bring my report back to the next class. Located in West Union, Iowa was a Residential Correctional Facility. I was able to schedule and lead several Saturday Bible studies at the facility before our next meeting.

When we gathered back in Cedar Rapids, there was one comment repeated by all the workshop attendees, "I'm glad I'm not a prisoner. I don't think I could handle being locked up. When the doors closed behind me it gave me an eerie feeling."

Pastor Matthew Vesey had done his vicarage in a prison and knew ahead of time what the general response would be. He said, "The first time I did a Worship Service at the prison I was looking at 30 prisoners sitting in front of me. I had the same feeling and response all of you had, 'I'm glad I'm not them.' But then something happened. We were singing 'Lift High the Cross, the love of Christ proclaim,' and a prisoner stood up and shouted out, 'I'm a new man. I've been delivered.' It was then that it struck me; I was standing before a group of sinners just like me. It was only by the grace of God through Christ that I, too, had been delivered and invited to be part of God's family.

It is only because of God's love through Jesus that anyone has the opportunity to hear and receive God's grace and mercy." God longs for the Church to be a gathering place for sinners; to hear sinners cry out to Him and take responsibility for their sins, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your child." This broken spirit is to God a pleasing sacrifice. This contrite heart the Lord will not despise. "Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit." Psalm 32: 1-2

The Lord knows our situation before we even cry out to Him. Before the words are even out of our mouth God has acted upon His grace and mercy by sending Jesus to suffer and die for our sins. Therefore, as Christ has risen from the dead we too rise and come before our Lord believing that He receives us just as we are; sinners in need of His forgiveness and in need of life. From Him we receive abiding happiness through the joy of forgiveness. "Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart." Psalm 32: 11

Pastor Bill



The following people with cancer:

- ✠ Carol Hassbaum
- ✠ Betty Deardorff
- ✠ Naomi Milburn
- ✠ Debbie Johns
- ✠ Miriam Kovac
- ✠ Dr. Steve Lutz

- ✠ Pat Watkins
- ✠ Jay Baer
- ✠ Jack Thomas
- ✠ Adam Willhite
- ✠ Carol Holmes
- ✠ Karis, Steve Meyer's sister-in-law
- ✠ Don Blaisdell, relative of Jim Rice
- ✠ Michelle, Jeff Dukeman's sister
- ✠ Susan Lutz, friend of Jenna Peters
- ✠ Sam, brother-in-law of Rachel Peters
- ✠ Joann Newlin
- ✠ Julie Schyver's father, Steve

The sick:

- ✠ Ellinore Gnuse
- ✠ Orville Diehl
- ✠ Harvey Scheer
- ✠ Dorothy Latko
- ✠ Buz Barton
- ✠ Erv Leimer
- ✠ Kelly Hamilton, after a stroke
- ✠ Wendy Rush
- ✠ Chris Spomer
- ✠ Jamie, complications with pregnancy
- ✠ Loretta Davis' sister, Rita
- ✠ Lori Ely

Recuperating:

- ✠ Catherine Krueger

- ✠ Joan Ezell
- ✠ Scott Bacon
- ✠ Steven Luhm, after surgery
- ✠ Jenna Peters
- ✠ Greg Lupone's mother
- ✠ Jen Jones' brother
- ✠ Joe Floyd

Hospice:

- ✠ Wilma Hiller

Hospitalized:

- ✠ Brandon Dennis, awaiting a lung transplant
- ✠ Dave Dickman
- ✠ Tammy Pappas, awaiting a liver transplant

Our Shut-ins:

- ✠ Marie Leuchtman
- ✠ Gertrude Lohman
- ✠ Virginia Meinholtz
- ✠ Pauline Niewald

Our Missionaries:

- ✠ The Hansons
- ✠ The Strohscheins
- ✠ The Boylans
- ✠ The Blankes
- ✠ Bryn Welcenbach

Also:

- ✠ Samuel Hunter's aunt, Maima.
- ✠ Those looking for employment
- ✠ Roger Jerden, brother of Rose Leicht who is having surgery this week..
- ✠ Larry Copley's sister, Carol Eppler who had a stroke and is hospitalized.
- ✠ Pat Diehl, having surgery this week.
- ✠ Those mourning the death of Dorothy Pratt, Scott Rowsell's grandmother.

"Life Quotes" from Lutherans for Life"

"Either all human life—from unborn children to demented mothers and fathers—is created ... and therefore infinitely precious, or humans are nothing but the result of mere chance, indistinguishable morally from a sand flea. The choice society makes will determine whether the most vulnerable among us will be respected and protected ... or whether we will 'put them down' when they become a burden." *Chuck Colson, author and founder of Prison Fellowship*



This "Life Quote" is from Lutherans for Life – www.lutheransforlife.org



Today 03/14/10

- 8:00 am Divine Service
- 9:30 am Bible Study and Sunday School
- 9:30 am Jonah Bible Study
- 9:30 am Alpha Class
- 10:30 am Vietnamese Worship
- 10:45 am Divine Service
- 1:00 pm Provision Living Worship
- 2:00 pm Loving Care Worship
- 3:00 pm Basketball

Monday 03/15/10

- 6:15 pm Bible Study
- 7:00 pm Worship and Monday School
- 7:00 pm ESL Class

Tuesday 03/16/10

- 10:00 am Provision Living Bible Study

Wednesday 03/17/10

- 11:00 am Lent Worship
- 5:30 pm Lenten Meal
- 6:00 pm Handbell Practice
- 7:00 pm Lent Worship
- 8:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday 03/18/10

- 7:00 am Laclede Groves Bible Study
- 10:00 am Bible Study
- 11:15 am Forest Park Worship
- 7:00 pm Maranatha Practice

Friday 03/19/10

- Wedding Rehearsal
- Rummage Sale Set-Up

Saturday 03/20/10

- Lutheran Women in Mission – LWML
- Rummage Sale
- Rowell ~ Jones Wedding

Join a Bible Study!



Weekly Readings at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays in the Vietnamese Chapel and in the Sanctuary at 6:15 p.m. on Mondays.

Jonah Bible Study at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Alpha Class at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays in the Music Room.

KFUO (AM 850) Bible study at 10:00 a.m. on weekdays. Pastor Rall is the guest on the second Monday of each month.

Provision Living Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesdays.

Connect small group at Stacey Welcenbach's house at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. Young adults are welcome.

Laclede Groves Retirement Center at 701 Laclede Station Rd. beginning at 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays.

Matthew Bible Study in the Multi-Purpose Room at 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays.

You can prepare for next Sunday's worship by reading the lessons:

Isaiah 43:16-21

Psalms 126

Philippians 3:4b – 14

Luke 20:9-20



Lenten Meal



This Wednesday's Lenten Meal will be sponsored by the Easter Egg Hunt Team, with proceeds going toward the Easter Egg Hunt. They will serve St. Patrick's Day eggs, bagels, and green desserts and jello.





STEWARDSHIP

-because we are blessed abundantly-

Our Stewardship Last Week: 03/07/10

Attendance: 369 (16 visitors)
 Sunday: 8:00 – 158 10:45 – 148
 Vietnamese: 16
 Monday: 47
 Wednesday: 128
 Monday School: 9
 Youth Bible Class: 25
 Adult Bible Class: 51
 Sunday School & Bible Class Offering: \$34.38

Needed Each Week General Fund: \$9,499.00
 General Fund: \$10,281.18
 Designed Funds: \$449.38
 Forward in Faith: \$135.00
 Building Fund: \$305.00
 Designed Funds: *Forward in Faith, Iris Guenther, PNG, Vietnamese Ministry, Tuition Aid, Human Care, Haiti Relief.*

**WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO OUT?
 THIS SEASON OF LENT REMINDS
 US AGAIN TO "KEEP THE MAIN
 THING THE MAIN THING."**

"I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for Whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ..." (Philippians 3:8).



**Stewardship
 Corner**

Jesus tells us what He expects of us: *"If anyone would come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me"* (Mark 8:34). By God's grace we are enabled to overcome obstacles, disappointments, and ridicule in order to follow after God. And Jesus promises those who come to Him, *"My yoke is easy and My burden is light"* (Matthew 11:30).

Our Vital Signs ~ February, 2010

CONTRIBUTIONS

General Fund: \$35,417.01
 Total 2010: \$67,497.03
 Budget Commitment \$75,992.00
 Designated Funds \$2,515.21
 Building Fund \$750.00
 Forward in Faith \$918.00 (YTD: \$1,775.00)

ATTENDANCE

February 2010 Avg.: 358
 February 2009 Avg.: 351
 2010 Average: 348
 2009 Average: 349





Senior Youth

March 21: Crazy Bowling--Senior Youth Style! Not sure what that means? You'll have to come and find out! Get ready for some crazy games--trust us, you won't want to miss Steve and Frank showcasing their spectacular skills. Meet at church after second service--we'll provide lunch and then drive to Tropicana Lanes. We'll be back at church by 3:30.

April 3 and 4: We'll be serving the Easter breakfast for the congregation again this year. Please set aside time on Saturday afternoon for set-up in the gym and plan to arrive early on Sunday morning to help cook and serve breakfast!

Junior Youth

The Return of the Pulled Pork Parfait!

Back by popular demand: at the **March 24th** Lent dinner the Jr. Youth will be serving pulled pork parfait – a tasty combination of pork, slaw, potato salad and baked beans. Plus chili for the non-pork eaters. Come early and tip big – your support helps the Jr. Youth and Confirmation ministry thrive at Timothy!

Coming in April: Laser tag! Stay tuned for more details.

THE SEASON OF LENT



This Wednesday we continue the Lenten journey that culminates in the crucifixion of our Lord on Good Friday. Lent is a solemn season that focuses our eyes more closely on the cross and the suffering of our Savior. During our Midweek services we will hear “personal” testimonies of some “Witnesses of the Passion”. Their accounts will help us understand more clearly those events of Holy Week. Please join us each Wednesday (at 11 a.m. or 7 p.m.) for our Lenten Services. Our evening service is

preceded by a “soup supper” served at 5:30 – 6:15 and then hymn sing at 6:40. Enrich your appreciation of Lent by joining in these special services.

- March 17 – The Two Thieves;
- March 24 – Roman Centurion and Simon of Cryene

Holy Week Schedule

Please pay close attention to the Holy Week schedule because some things have changed

- Sunday, March 28th, Palm Sunday and Confirmation
- Tuesday, March 30th, 6:00 p.m., Seder Meal at Timothy
- Thursday, April 1st, Maundy Thursday, 11 a.m. at Timothy, 7:00 p.m. at Concordia
- Friday, April 2nd, Good Friday, Tre Ore Service, noon – 3 p.m. at Concordia, **(on KFUO 850AM)** 7 p.m. Tenebrae Service of Darkness at Timothy
- Saturday, April 3rd, Easter Vigil, 7:30 p.m. at Timothy.





LWML Rummage Sale THIS SATURDAY

Lutheran Women in Mission – LWML Annual Rummage sale is just around the corner. Begin collecting your unwanted “valuables” now. The sale is Saturday, **March 20th**, beginning at 8 a.m.! Start bringing your items to the gym tomorrow. **NO LARGE FURNITURE** please! Sorry, we are also not accepting spouses!

Easter Egg Hunt Volunteers STILL NEEDED!

If you are available on Saturday, March 27th, we need your help! Lots of volunteers are still needed to help with the 15th Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Lindenwood Park. There is a sign up sheet in the entry way! If you have any questions, please see one of the pastors or Larry Tiemann.



Seder Meal



The Seder Meal will be **Tuesday, March 30th**, at 6 p.m. Ticket are available in the church office or from one of the pastors, and are \$5 for adults, \$3 for children. The Seder meal is somewhat a re-enactment of what Jesus Christ and His Disciples did in the Upper Room in Jerusalem “on the night in which he was betrayed.” By preparing and eating the actual foods used at the Old Testament Passover “Seder (family festival)” and reciting the words that were spoken in connection with this feast,

together with the commentary relating these words to their New Testament meanings, we gain a new appreciation of our Lord’s Supper and its use by Christians under the “New Covenant”.

SUPPORT GROUP

A Christ centered support group for the families of anyone suffering from pornography, gender identity issues, same sex attraction, or sexual addictions will begin meeting soon here at Timothy church. For more information, speak to one of the Pastors.



SHOE DRIVE



Timothy Lutheran Church is hosting a “Shoe Drive” to support the efforts of George “the Shoe Man” Hutchings to turn old shoes into water for Haiti. A total of 100,000 pairs of shoes are needed to be able to purchase one drilling rig and towing vehicle so that up to 30 wells can be drilled each year in Haiti to provide fresh, clean water for people who do not have access to safe drinking water. Volunteers will spend four

hours in the neighborhood around Timothy asking residents to donate their old shoes, and collecting them in the church parking lot. The day set for the activity is **April 24th**. You may register with Disney by going to this website <http://www.disneyarks.com>.

Sierra Leone

The Sierra Leone Association of St. Louis associated with Timothy will be embarking on a fund-raiser for the children of Sierra Leone. Raffle tickets are available by contacting Yeawah Brewah at 314-604-7515. The cost per ticket is \$5, and among the prizes is a television set!





Providence Cleaning Enterprise

Timothy is supporting a group of new immigrants in this new business endeavor. They clean church offices, schools, and homes. It is a way to help new immigrants to have an entry level job, and income that enables them to support their families and ministry. For more information, contact Pastor Rall, Pastor Loum, or Gerald Brewah.

Food Pantry Needs

Thanks for your continued support of our Food Pantry. Items we especially need are Non-Fat Dry milk, applesauce, canned fruit, soup, meat, fish, and macaroni and cheese. Thanks again for your help.



Thousands of Dollars!



What if everyone at Timothy used an eScrip card when they shopped at Schnucks? Could we be talking thousands of dollars for Tuition Aid or the Christ Care Fund? Schnucks and eScrip have partnered to bring us the easiest fundraising opportunity ever! Last year Timothy received \$192.19 from Schnucks when members swiped their cards before checking out. This year already we have received \$35.20.

It's easy and it's free. There is no catch. Schnucks contributes to Timothy with ever purchase you make. Stop by the TWB table on Sunday mornings or the call the office for a eScrip Community Schnucks Card.

Servant Day ~ Save the Date!!

Timothy is going to again be participating in a Servant Day! It is scheduled for **May 1st**. If you can help again, please join us. If possible bring others with you and pass this date to friends who have helped in the past. Rev. Randy Wilkins and Acts 1:8 will continue to lead us and prepare work sites and supplies. Those not familiar with the work in progress will have instructors heading each group. Let us know if you have experience and can lead a group.



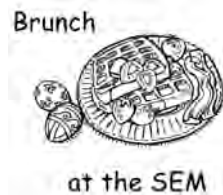
BACH AT THE SEM CONCERT



The Passion According to St. John as set to music by Johann Sebastian Bach will be performed Sunday, **March 21 at 3:00 p.m.** in Concordia Seminary's Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus, in Clayton, Missouri, by The American Kantorei, with Dr. Robert Bergt conducting.

SEMINARY TO HOST BRUNCH AT THE SEM

Concordia Seminary, will host *Brunch at the Sem* on **Easter Sunday, April 4**, and on **Mother's Day, May 9**, in Koburg Hall on the Seminary campus. Brunch will be served from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The price for adults is \$22; children (4-10 yrs.) are \$5.00; and children 3 and under are free. Cash, checks, MasterCard, Visa, Discover, and American Express cards are accepted. Space is limited. For reservations, call 314-505-7369.



March 14, 2010 Newsletter

TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH
6704 Fyler Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63139

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Worship Schedule:

Holy Communion is celebrated at all services

Sunday: Worship 8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. - Sunday School & Bible Classes 9:30 am

Monday: Worship 7:00 p.m. and Monday School during service. Bible Study 6:15 pm

Tuesday: Worship 1:30 p.m. on March 23rd, 2010

Church Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

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