

Pastoral Ponderings

By Pastor John Beck

LENTEN THEME: HUNGER FOR JUSTICE

The forty days of Lent are a time for reflection to prepare for the great paschal celebration of Easter. You are invited to consider ways to use this time to draw closer to God, to your brothers and sisters in Christ, and to the world that we share together. Historically, the season of Lent was a time of Baptismal preparation, a time when people learned about the faith, prepared for their lives to change in the waters of Baptism, and began to enter the mysteries of Christ's living presence in the community of faith. Over time, a series of practices grew up during Lent to help people prepare for Easter: repentance, fasting,

prayer, special giving and works of love.

Our Lenten theme this year is "Hunger for Justice."

This will allow us to focus our Lenten practices on feeding the hungry by collecting food, praying for God's abundance to come, fasting from some of our regular Lenten patterns, and shaping our prayers with themes of hunger and abundance. I am trying to find a special theme prayer that can be sung and spoken each Sunday as we collect our offering and prepare for the table. One possibility is a prayer from Argentina set to music by John Bell:

"God bless to us our bread, and give bread to those who are hungry, and hunger for justice to those who are fed. God bless to us the bread."



ASH WEDNESDAY FEB. 17

Ash Wednesday begins the 40 days of Lent. Join us for confession, imposition of ashes and Holy Communion on February 17, at either 1 p.m. or 6:45 p.m.

MIDWEEK SERVICES ON THURSDAYS

This year we will have midweek services at both 1:00 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. Not all people are comfortable coming out in the evening, so the afternoon option helps more people participate in the Lenten journey. The Thursday pattern will have soup supper at 6:00 p.m. and worship at 6:45 p.m. Choir practice will follow worship. In the third week of Lent Good Spirit will be having a monthly gathering on Thursday. Pastor Chuck and Pastor John are going to talk about possibilities of doing something together that Thursday.



BISHOP BRAUER-RIEKE GATHERS CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS

On February 20th leaders from St. Timothy are invited

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Phone 503-335-7058
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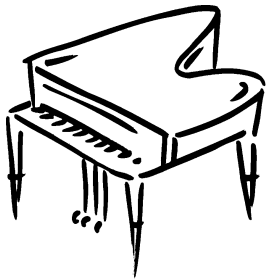
Newsletter E-mail
jwhitford50@hotmail.com

Newsletter Deadline is always the
18th of the month

St. Timothy Web Site
sainttim.org

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are invited to gather with the Bishop and members of the Synod Council for conversation and sharing. Groups of congregations are meeting in clusters on Saturday, Feb. 20. Then some of the leaders will attend worship at the different congregations on Sunday the 21st. If you are able to meet with the Bishop on the 20th, please let Ray Whitford know.



NEW PIANO SHINES

Thanks to all who have helped support the Ruth Beck Memorial Piano Fund. The piano was selected this week at Ogden

Piano Company. Church musician, Gary Shannon, has been on the lookout for a piano that will suit our worship space, be substantial enough to fill our room, and be of good quality. The particular piano we found is a 5 foot 7 inch grand, with beautiful reddish brown tones, and decorated with inlay. It has a rich tone and we are fortunate to have secured it. It was delivered last Thursday. Through an amazing twist of fortune we were also able to secure 50 padded room chairs for the basement and fireside room. They will make coming to meetings much more comfortable. We give glory and thanks to God for the life and memory of Ruth Beck.

LEADERS MEET ON FEB. 13

We will be gathering on February 13 for our leadership day, from 9-2. Please come at 8:45 for coffee and set-up so we can start on time. We will look at what we want to get done this year,

how we want to strengthen the congregation, and how we are going to work together as leaders. The regular February council meeting will be held at this retreat, so we only have one meeting in February.

Please mark the day. Meeting on the 13th allows any leaders who want to attend the Oregon Synod Global Mission Event on Feb. 6th at Milwaukie Lutheran to attend. Should be a good one.

If you have other people who are involved in various ministry areas that you would like to invite, please feel free. The more leaders we have present, the easier our communication becomes.

Blessings,
Pastor John



PROPERTY GROUP HOLDS MEETING

Congregation members interested in taking care of the buildings and property met in January. There was good attendance and lots of ideas for the future. Two action projects were chosen:

- Shampooing the carpet on the stairs by the elevator.
- Spring cleaning for the church and yard before Easter.

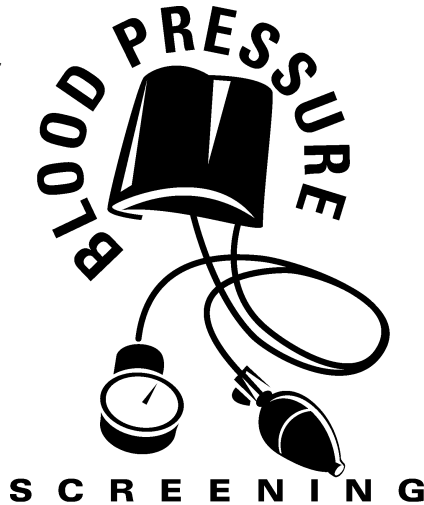
Everyone is welcome to the property meetings. The next meeting will be at the February 7 coffee hour after worship services. The March meeting is planned for the second Saturday, March 13.



Health Matters

Relay for Life Gresham is coming back to St. Timothy on July 31st to August 1. Watch for fundraising opportunities, invitations to join the team, honoring of survivors of cancer and so much more. See Sherry W. for further information.

At the February coffee hour the health ministry team will emphasize Heart Health. Children will be asked to help with the bulletin board. Blood pressures will be taken.



Watch for upcoming events of nutrition and recipes in March, honoring volunteers in April, and possible fundraiser for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer and celebration on women/mothers in May.

Thanks to Karen K. for all her work and being our volunteer Parish Nurse!



The Oregon Synod 2010 Global Mission Event will be held Saturday, February 6, at Milwaukie Lutheran Church from 9 am to 3:15 pm. The address is 3820 SE Lake Rd. (Exit 99-E (McLoughlin Blvd) in Milwaukie at Washington St., Right on Main to Lake). There will be a speaker as well as a choice of small classes. There is no charge, but a free will offering for the lunch is taken. This year we are invited to take donations for buying anti-malarial nets for Africa.



Foot of the Stairs Food Pantry

We have gathered a lot of food to share with St. Timothy families in need. If you can spare some time to organize the food, the shelves,

the bags or the distribution, then leave a message at the church for Jean W, 503-761-8202. If you have some grocery sacks to donate, that would help, too.

The name comes from the storage area we are using right now. Do you have a phrase or Bible verse that would work better?

Good News from Good Spirit

By Pastor Chuck Hunt

Over the past three months, Good Spirit has experienced new outreach and the encouragement of changing lives. Our monthly gatherings have a sense of community and spiritual life that is encouraging. At November's gathering, a little over 70 people shared in smaller groups around the tables—and we had a drawing for five turkeys.

Our December gathering was centered on the coming of Christ and included Esther telling a Native story, "The Give-Away," about the birth of the Great Mystery's Son who brings light, and hope, and love into our confusion. We also had our fourth annual Christmas communion service. The St. Timothy choir and participants from the Advent Service joined us to sing carols—a true blessing for Good Spirit, thank you.

About 45 people joined us at our January gathering where we collected new socks to distribute to homeless people—a table heaped with socks! Terry S. told us about recent changes God has made in his life, a humble and powerful testimony! Participants followed the theme of "new beginnings in our lives" in sharing around the tables.

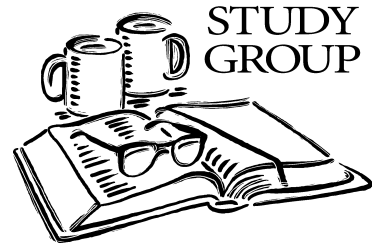
A little over a year ago, I noticed that far more women than men were involved in our Home Groups as well as at the monthly gatherings. We began to pray that God would give Good Spirit a "band of men whose hearts God had touched" (1 Samuel 10.26). One of our current weekly Home Groups for men has been meeting for a year, and at the last monthly gathering, Esther noticed

that about half the people were men.

Another weekly Home Group is led by Lois C. for both women and men.

They are currently focusing on prayer in their scripture time and in practice. The men's group is discussing lessons from the lives of men in the Bible.

The inspiration that Esther and I receive from the members of St. Timothy helps us in this ministry through Good Spirit. Thank you for your prayers, your participation, and your encouragement.



February Events

- Feb. 6, Saturday, Global Mission Event at Milwaukie Lutheran Church
- Feb. 7, Sunday, we have a new piano, we are celebrating Pacific Lutheran University and the coffee hour will have an Executive Council meeting, a worship planning meeting, a property committee meeting, and Health Ministry Team blood pressure screening
- Feb. 13, Saturday, a Leadership retreat for the council and other leaders at St. Timothy as we plan for the next months
- Feb. 14, Sunday, we will install the new council and have a Temple Talk by the Oregon New Sanctuary Movement
- Feb. 17, Wednesday, Ash Wednesday services at 1 pm and at 7 pm.
- Feb. 20, Saturday, ELSIES (the women's Bible study and meeting) will be at St. Tim at 10 am and the Oregon synod is sponsoring meetings for the clusters of the ELCA
- Feb. 21, Sunday, in addition to our Food Drive Sunday new members will be welcomed to St. Timothy, we will have visitors from the synod, and a coffee hour
- Feb. 25, Thursday, Soup Supper at 6 pm and Lenten service at 1 pm and at 6:45 pm

February 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 10 am Census	2 1 pm Fellow- ship Meeting	3 10 am Quilters	4 7 pm Choir practice	5 9 am Food Bank	6 9—3 Global Mission Event at Milwaukie Lutheran Church
7 10 am Worship Coffee Hour Worship Planning Property Meeting Exec. Council meeting Blood Pressure Screening	8	9	10 10 am Quilters	11 6:30 pm Good Spirit gathering 7 pm Choir practice	12 9 am Food Bank	13 8:45 am Council & Leader's Re- treat
14 10 am Worship Installation of Officers Oregon New Sanctuary Movement Temple Talk Pick Up Valentine Orders	15 10 am Census	16	17 10 am Quilters 1 pm Ash Wednesday Service 6:45pm Ash Wednesday Service	18 7 pm Choir practice	19 9 am Food Bank	20 10 am ELSIES Women's Bible study & meeting Cluster Meetings sponsored by the Synod
21 Food Drive Sunday 10 am Worship New Members Coffee Hour 1 pm Confirmation	22 Newsletter articles due	23 7 pm Health Ministry Meeting	24 10 am Quilters	25 1 pm Lenten Service 6 pm Soup Supper 6:45 Lenten Worship 7:30 pm Choir practice	26 9 am Food Bank Newsletter Printing	27
28 10 am Worship						

Worship Ministry Schedule for February 2010

	Feb. 7	Feb. 14	Feb. 21	Feb.28
Table	Dorothy C.	Sherry W.	Tim H.	Ray W.
Lector	Elenore K.	Derek H.	John B.	Betty C.
Acolyte	Ato T.	Rickson S.	John B.	Ato T.
Greeter	Grace D.	Vivian D.	Elenore K.	Greta C.
Usher #1	Pat B.	Steve T.	Greta C.	Mike T.
Usher #2	Gary M.	LeAnn T.	Grace D.	Pam T.
Announcer	Betty C.	Frances C.	Deanna H.	Jean W.
Video & Sound	Dorian W.	Clyde D.	Ray W.	Dorian Wi.
Counters	Don W. & Gene K.	Teddy and Jean	Mary & Shannon .	Fran and Deanna
Percolators	Candace O. and Deanna H.			
Lockup	Jean W.	Ray W.	Jean W.	Ray W.
Plant Care	Georgia V.			
Care Coordinators	John Beck and Karen K.			

Can't be at church on your assigned day? Call one of the other volunteers and ask to switch Sundays. Then leave a message on the church office phone, 503-761-8202, to get the right names in the bulletins.

NEW PROCESS: There will be a sign up sheet in the office for the next three months schedule. All worship volunteers are invited to meet at the March 7 Coffee Hour to finalize the schedule for April, May, and June.



FEBRUARY 7 COFFEE HOUR—We gather for planning and fellowship

Worship Planning: Ushers, readers, setting the scenes, and more will be needed for the extra services.

Property Committee: Lend a hand. Drive a nail. Dig a weed. Find out what this committee can do.

Executive Council: Short meeting.

Health Ministry: Get your blood pressure checked. Find help and support for your journey to good health.



Birthdays

February

- 3. Evelyn T.
Tamatoa S.
- 5. Cameron M.
- 6. Dawn R.
- 7. Bette B.
- 9. Steve T.
Barb V.
- 10. Matt C.
- 11. Uaealesi O.
- 13. Shannon H.
- 14. Hayden D.
- 15. Vivian D.
Matthew S.
- 17. Jeff S.
- 19. Mary M.
Andrea H.
- 20. Emily Nicole S.
Kathryn P.
- 22. Derek H.
- 24. Esther H.
- 25. Frances C.

You are invited!

Oregon New Sanctuary Movement's Love Has No Borders Celebration Dinner
 Thursday, March 11th at 6:30pm
 St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, 1704 NE 43rd Ave., Portland, OR
 With guest speaker Rev. Dan Dale, Chicago New Sanctuary Coalition
 Tickets are \$35. To RSVP or for more information, contact the ONSM at 503.550.3510 or portlandsanctuary@gmail.com.

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* ONSM Love Has No Borders Celebration Dinner on March 11th, 2010 - Mark your calendars! *

The Oregon New Sanctuary Movement (ONSM) is an interfaith coalition of over 20 different faith communities, called by our faith to respond actively and publicly to the suffering of our immigrant brothers and sisters residing in the United States. Oregon New Sanctuary Movement will have a Temple Talk at our February 14 worship service.



Thank You Notes

Gary S. found our new piano and it was on sale! Both he and Pastor John like its tone and strength. Thank you Gary for your leadership on this search.

When is a door not a door? When it is ajar. Joe R. fixed the doors to the sanctuary. He brought them into alignment and now they do not rub each other when closing. Plus they signal to the alarm system that they have indeed closed. Thank you, Joe!



Our Bible study direction has been chosen.

Road to Coronation:

A Study of the Four Passion Narratives

The course description says, "Road to Coronation retraces Jesus' steps through the Passion story in each of the four Gospels. As the course culminates with the Gospel of John, we come to see that Jesus' crucifixion was in fact His coronation as King of Creation—His cross was His throne!"

There are six parts to the study. We will meet in the afternoon and evening, but which day of the week? Contact Pastor John or Jean W. to vote for your preferred study day. Extra credit if you would like to lead one or two times during the study. Student manuals are \$7.



**St. Timothy Lutheran Church
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Address Correction Requested

**February
2010**

