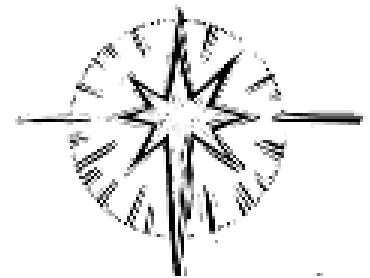


**D**espite all the turmoil in the world churning all around us, it is good to remember that God came into the world in human form in another turbulent time over 2100 years ago. But, unlike the hoped for triumphant messianic king, God gave humanity a little baby - defenseless and vulnerable. In doing so, our heavenly Father God showed us that He would not force us to love and serve Him. From the beginning, God gave humanity freewill to choose between

God and evil. And, from the beginning, Adam and Eve chose to disobey God which resulted in our separation from fellowship with our heavenly Father. In order to have us return to fellowship, God gave us the Ten Commandments through Moses to remind us to love God and to love our neighbor. Repeatedly God sent us judges and prophets to have us turn back. Instead, we constructed religious systems that imprisoned us to rules and restrictions which have caused so many of us to feel guilt and unworthiness. How could God show us that He loves us and doesn't want to punish us? In order to fulfill the Mosaic covenant of sacrifice for the atonement of sin,

we know that, in the midst of darkness under cruel Roman occupation, God sent his Son in human form to redeem humanity from the dark and heavy cloak of political, religious, physical, and personal oppression - not with a



*God With Us*

mighty warrior king but through a child, a baby. And, as that Baby grew into adulthood, Jesus showed us that God's kingdom is about forgiveness, compassion, tolerance, respect for one another and, especially, love. Jesus forgave sinners, healed the sick, encouraged the brokenhearted, and accepted the outcast. Jesus showed us what the kingdom of God would look like. So, as we enter the season of Advent, we remember that God has healed us to heal our neighbors with the love and compassion of Jesus. In doing so, we give the world a peak into what God's kingdom would look like. When we are kind, compassionate, forgiving, and loving, people can catch a glimpse into the kingdom of God.

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**[sainttimothydx@gmail.com](mailto:sainttimothydx@gmail.com)**

Newsletter Deadline is the Wednesday before the last Sunday of the month.

**St. Timothy Web Site**  
**[sainttimothydx.org](http://sainttimothydx.org)**

But, as I have said so many times in sermons, God's kingdom is here, but not yet. So, this Advent, as we await the arrival of Jesus, we know that, as the followers of Jesus, we are called to invite others be reconciled to God. God doesn't want to be separated from humanity; God wants to be in fellowship with us. But, God won't force us because God is love. As Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "Love is patient; love is kind... It does not insist on its own way... (love) bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." God never forces us to love us; so, God simply loves us and showed us that love on the Cross at Golgotha and, as John stated so simply and beautifully, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." We don't have to be perfect; God loves us just as we are. So, as we await the birth and return of the Son of God, let us join the chorus of witness of the past, present, and future and sing joyfully together, "O, Come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant... O, come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!



(President and Financial Secretary) and members at large.

We have selected and approved a Call Committee for a new pastor. The Synod office



has the information and the committee will meet with Bishop Laurie soon. Trunk or Treat evaluation and information was presented. The majority who responded were

positive. Approximately 117 came to the event which is a marked decrease from the past. We had 11 trunks, one a neighbor. Planning next year will look at number of other churches, etc. who have events now. This has increased since we started. Easter Jubilee is in the planning stages for March 2024.

We decided the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday donations in December will be to Oregon Energy Fund.

We are participating in the community dinner at Pilgrim on November 22<sup>nd</sup> by providing pies.

We are working hard on technology improvements under the leadership of Ray. Property reports work on gutters including an estimate from Drain Master. We discussed removal of the carpet in the sanctuary and replacement with flooring—important since the carpet has unsafe "lumps" at the front.

Our homebound continue to have cards sent and calls made by Karen Olomua, Parish Nurse, and informal contacts from members.

As we start Advent on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, let us wait and watch for our Lord, Jesus Christ's birth.

Sherry Willmschen President



## Social Concerns:

**The Food Pantry:** We have been very busy giving food to those in need and running out of food. Thanks to our regular shoppers for all you have done and continue to do. We served 37 people in November up to the 21st. Our next Portland Food Project is December 9th. Any volunteers to work at the site or help with unloading at St. Timothy are welcome. Blessings to all who help.

**Snow-Cap:** We continue to collect clothing and egg cartons.

**Cultivate Initiatives:** We continue to make referrals to them for help with garbage pick-up, outreach to campers and information regarding help for those on the street and showers. We will be working with them in conjunction with our mid-week Advent worship.

### **Fifth Sunday Coat Drive:**

I personally am amazed, gratified and overwhelmed. We collected a total of \$2515 with the match and maybe more as of the 12th of November. We spent the entire amount on coats which were accepted with enthusiasm. They will keep kids kindergarten through high school warm and dry. The 4 social workers who picked them up were excited. They took coats boxed by sizes to a school room and will be organizing to give out. A few boxes remain which will be picked up the 21st. St Tims rocks!!!!

Sherry Willmschen

# **Annual Congregational Meeting Notice**

**The meeting will be  
January 14, 2024**

**at St. Timothy Lutheran Church.  
It will be held after the church service  
and will start at about 11:15 am.**

**If the meeting must be postponed (for instance, due to bad weather), it will be held**

**on  
January 21, 2024.**

**A potluck meal will be shared  
after the meeting**

## **December Worship Services**

**If you are unable to make your scheduled Sunday, please contact another person to take your place.**

	<b>December 3</b>	<b>December 10</b>	<b>December 17</b>	<b>December 24</b>	<b>December 31</b>
<b>Preacher</b>	<b>Pastor Yukio Hamada</b>	<b>Pastor Yukio Hamada</b>	<b>Pastor Yukio Hamada</b>	<b>Pastor Yukio Hamada</b>	<b>Pastor Yukio Hamada</b>
<b>Assistant</b>	<b>Tim H.</b>	<b>Sherry W. Ray W.</b>	<b>Ray W.</b>	<b>Tim H.</b>	<b>Sherry W.</b>
<b>Lector</b>	<b>Tim H.</b>	<b>Mary F.</b>	<b>Tim H.</b>	<b>Cathy H. Lisa S.</b>	<b>Karen R.</b>
<b>Usher</b>	<b>Ernie &amp; Allen P.</b>	<b>Gladys &amp; Greta</b>	<b>Steve &amp; LeAnn</b>	<b>Ernie &amp; Allen</b>	<b>Gladys &amp; Greta</b>
<b>Communion</b>	<b>Elaine &amp; Gladys</b>	<b>Cathy H.</b>	<b>Cathy H.</b>	<b>Elaine &amp; Karen O</b>	<b>Candace &amp; Gladys</b>
<b>Video &amp; Sound</b>	<b>Ray W.</b>	<b>Ray W.</b>	<b>Ray W.</b>	<b>Ray W.</b>	<b>Ray W.</b>
<b>Counters</b>	<b>Elaine &amp; Ernie</b>	<b>Jean &amp; Mary F.</b>	<b>Ray &amp; Candace</b>	<b>Elaine &amp; Mary</b>	<b>Ray &amp; Ernie</b>
<b>Music</b>	<b>Gary S.</b>	<b>Gary S.</b>	<b>Gary S.</b>	<b>Gary S.</b>	<b>Gary S.</b>
<b>Care Coordinator</b>	<b>Sherry W.</b>	<b>Sherry W.</b>	<b>Sherry W.</b>	<b>Sherry W.</b>	<b>Sherry W.</b>



## Singing Christmas Tree

I continue to sing in this outreach to the community. I know that our performing in Beaverton means most of you will not come, but matinees are very safe (in the light). Performances are as follows:

Saturday November 25th 2 and 6 pm

Sunday November 26th 2 and 6 pm

Friday, December 1 at 7

Saturday, December 2nd 2 and 6 pm

Sunday December 3rd 2 and 6 pm

I love the message and the people—we will even have the Grinch.

Blessings, Sherry

Joel Tobias

Amanda Kimber

Julia Standley

Dave Vecsi

Tim Jupp

Tim Henderson

Alex Verdier

Karen Burger

Joshua Tobias

Cathy Henderson

Michael Gunzel



Birthdays

Redley Sam

Christine Lutz

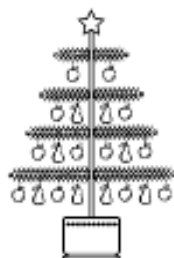
Barbara Swayze

Kate Henderson

Betty Canham

Bill Haase

Jan Ruppert



**Centennial School District  
loved our coats donated for  
kids in our neighborhoods  
We helped kids keep warm this winter  
with our 5th Sunday offering in  
October.**


## Guess What!! December has a 5th Sunday, too!!

**The council elected to keep helping  
families this winter.**

**We will collect offerings for Oregon  
Energy Fund. They use the funds to  
pay heating bills for families. How?  
They provide funds for energy assistance  
to 30+ partner agencies and  
nonprofits throughout Oregon. A  
copy of their newsletter is on the  
bulletin boards in the narthex.**

# December 2023

St. Timothy News December 2023

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>Midweek Advent Services</b>  at St. Tim: 11:30 am to 1:30 pm  On three Wednesdays we will meet for an Advent service, a potluck meal and helping  Cultivate Initiatives make sandwiches.</p>					<p><b>1</b>  10 am—1:30 pm Pr. Hamada's office hrs</p>	<p><b>2</b>  9—noon Property Work Party Check with Ray</p>
<p><b>3 Advent I</b>  8:45—9:45am Continental Breakfast downstairs  9:20am Choir practice  <b>10 am Worship</b>  Zoom available  Coffee Time After church  Bible Study Time</p>	<p><b>4</b>  10 am to 1 pm Office &amp; Food Pantry</p>	<p><b>5</b>  11am 1pm Food Pantry hours</p>	<p><b>6</b>  10 to 11, then 1:30 to 3:30pm Office &amp; Food Pantry  10 am-11:00am Pr. Hamada's office hours  <b>11:30 am Praying, Eating, Serving</b></p>	<p><b>7</b>  10am-1 pm Food Pantry  <b>7 pm—8:30 Choir Practice</b></p>	<p><b>8</b>  10 am—1:30 pm Pr. Hamada's office hrs</p>	<p><b>9</b>  9—noon Property Work Party Check with Ray  <b>12:30 pm PDX Food Project</b> food arrives. Volunteer to unload!</p>
<p><b>10 Advent II</b>  9:20 am Choir practice  <b>10 am Worship</b>  Zoom available  Coffee Time After church  Bible Study Time</p>	<p><b>11</b>  10 am to 1 pm Office, Food Pantry  10 am Help load pantry shelves and fill the overflow shelves</p>	<p><b>12</b>  11am 1pm Food Pantry hours  <b>6:00 pm Church Council</b> at Karen O.'s house</p>	<p><b>13</b>  10 to 11, then 1:30 to 3:30pm Office &amp; Food Pantry  10 am-11:00am Pr. Hamada's office hours  <b>11:30 am Praying, Eating, Serving</b></p>	<p><b>14</b>  10am-1 pm Food Pantry  <b>7 pm—8:30 Choir Practice</b></p>	<p><b>15</b>  10 am—1:30 pm Pr. Hamada's office hrs</p>	<p><b>16</b>  9—noon Property Work Party Check with Ray</p>
<p><b>17 Advent III</b>  9:20 am Choir practice  <b>10 am Worship</b>  Zoom available  Coffee Time After church  Bible Study Time</p>	<p><b>18</b>  10 am to 1 pm Office &amp; Food Pantry</p>	<p><b>19</b>  11am 1pm Food Pantry hours</p>	<p><b>20</b>  10 to 11, then 1:30 to 3:30pm Office &amp; Food Pantry  10 am-11:00am Pr. Hamada's office hours  <b>11:30 am Praying, Eating, Serving</b></p>	<p><b>21</b>  10am-1 pm Food Pantry  <b>7 pm—8:30 Choir Practice</b></p>	<p><b>22</b>  10 am—1:30 pm Pr. Hamada's office hrs</p>	<p><b>23</b>  9—noon Property Work Party Check with Ray</p>
<p><b>24 Christmas Eve</b>  9:20 am Choir practice  <b>10 am Worship</b>  Zoom available  Coffee Time After church  Bible Study Time  6:45pm Xmas Carols  7pm Worship Service  8pm Coffee hour</p>	<p><b>25</b>    Christmas Day</p>	<p><b>26</b>  11am 1pm Food Pantry hours</p>	<p><b>27</b>  10 am to 1 pm Office &amp; Food Pantry  10 am-1:30 pm Pr. Hamada's office hours</p>	<p><b>28</b>  10am-1 pm Food Pantry</p>	<p><b>29</b>  10 am—1:30 pm Pr. Hamada's office hrs</p>	<p><b>30</b>  9—noon Property Work Party Check with Ray</p>
<p><b>31 New Year's Eve</b>  9:20 am Choir practice  <b>10 am Worship</b>  Zoom available  Coffee Time After church  Bible Study Time</p>						



## **Midweek Advent Services**

**Wednesdays; Dec. 6, 13, 20 from 11:30am to 1:30pm at St. Timothy. First, worship and Bible study, next sharing a potluck lunch and then making sandwiches for Cultivate Initiatives**

**Advent Breakfast before church on Dec. 3.**

**On Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24, we will have worship at 10 am as usual. At 6:45 pm we will have carol singing and a candlelight worship service starting at 7 pm. After the service we will have a coffee time downstairs.**

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**St. Timothy Lutheran Church  
14500 SE Powell Blvd  
Portland OR 97236**

x

**Address Correction Requested**

**December  
2023**