

Timothy Topics

Newsletter

February 2021

St Timothy's Presbyterian Church
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Rev. Reine's Virtual Office Hours: Tuesdays, by appointment
Sunday Worship Service 10am

Fun Fact!

Though the word *Trinity* is not in the Bible, Matthew 28:19 says: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit . . ."

Minister's Corner

Would you take a selfie with God?

While physical distancing was unheard of before March 2020, emotional or social distancing from others was not. Distancing is a double-sided coin. It has a healthy face to it, but it can also mean the unwillingness to interact with others on a deep and real level. The more this meaning makes its way into our close and nurturing circles, the more unhappy we will be.

Isaiah: 55:8-9 says: "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

We can handle "different" up to a limit; but a heaven-earth different can be overwhelming. This is why distancing ourselves from God might sound, to some of us, as the right thing to do. We might believe He is out there, but have a minimal interaction with Him.

However, it is possible and recommendable to deal with God's different 'thoughts and ways' in a manner that can lead us to be closer to Him. What separates us from God is not a cold and static gap, rather an intriguing space that is inviting and welcoming. A space that is meant to be explored and discovered. The experience of knowing God and our existence in relation to Him is what makes our life worth living. Not having a deep and true interaction with Him means we will be spending our days on this earth engaged with 'the ordinary'. The human realm alone can't satisfy our need for meaning. No matter how 'interesting' our life might be, we will feel trapped in our own smallness, if not now, then later on, when we look back on our life and try to join the dots.

The only distance we need to take from God, is similar to the distance between you and your phone to take a good selfie: a space that gives perspective and background.

God is a relational being who is keen to connect with us personally. Don't keep your distance, take a selfie with Him! Rev. Reine

Black History Service: A St. Tim's Tradition

Tradition is a way of doing something that has existed for a long time among a particular group of people (Oxford dictionary). St. Timothy's celebrated its first Black History Service 10 years ago. That's a tradition! First held Feb 20, 2011, it was a vibrant event with much singing, dancing, colourful dress and delicious food representing cultures from Ghana, Cameroon, Liberia, Malawi, Guyana and Grenada/Barbados! Rev. Alex Mitchell provided the sermon and Baiye Orock led Children's Time. Our African members combined with our St Timothy's Choir; and Ni Wewe Tu provided special music. The gathering that followed was joyful, lively and scrumptious!

From this first Black History Service spawned our African Chorus, whose members have since represented other countries: Sudan, DR Congo, Togo, Ivory Coast and Ethiopia, and who regularly brighten our worship services with their traditional hymns. The African Chorus has organised and contributed to the Black History Service with sermons by Elder Sam Asomani, Ntaribo Ashu, Cameroon High Commissioner Solomon Azoh-Mbi, and guest preacher Dr. Jacob Ekwa Duala-Ekoko and with Children's Times led by Elder Greg Bedell, Eddie Peprah, Gertrude Peters and Joel Kolle. Through the years, African Chorus sang hymns in various languages: Yoruba (Nigeria), Kenyang and Duala (Cameroon), Twi (Ghana), Kpelle (Liberia), French and of course English.

Join us! Celebrate Black History Month in worship and praise of our wonderful God! **Black History Service, Feb 21, 10am.** What a tradition!

Making the Best of a Virtual Reality

By taking advantage of Zoom, our virtual reality is expanding beyond Worship Services, Session/Committee meetings, and Café Connections. Last month, Rev. Reine introduced **Bedtime with Jesus**, where she reads a Bible-based bedtime story to our young children **every Sat and Sun at 7pm.** Starting in Feb, **Sunday School** and the **Not So Young Adult Group** will meet following the worship service. The **Mar 14 Annual Congregational Meeting** will be held immediately following the worship service. This is our new reality and we praise God for these opportunities to spread the Good News!

Virtual Worship Services

Sunday Worship Service..... Feb 7, 10am
Sunday Worship Service..... Feb 14, 10am
Ash Wednesday Service..... Feb 17, 7pm
Black History Service..... Feb 21, 10am
Sunday Worship Service..... Feb 28, 10am

Virtual Coming Events

Ash Wednesday
Service..... Wed, Feb 17, 7pm
Black History Service Sun, Feb 21, 10am
Annual Congregational
Meeting..... Sun, Mar 14, 11am

Virtual Church Groups

Bedtime with Jesus..... Sat & Sun, 7pm
Not So Young Adult Group Feb 14, 11am
Sunday School..... Feb 7, 21, 28, 11am
Café Connections Fridays 10am

St Tim's Pictorial

First Black History Service – Combined Choir



Who are these masked people?



