

Timothy Topics

September 2023 newsletter
St Timothy's Presbyterian Church
2400 Alta Vista Drive,
Ottawa, ON, K1H 7N1
Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am
Do you want to meet the minister?
Rev. Reine loves to meet with you online or in-person, by appointment.
Do you want a link to participate online? Please contact the office.

(613) 733-0131
sttimsoffice@on.aibn.com
www.sttimsottawa.com

-Bible Trivia-

Which New Testament book has Jesus' Sermon on the Mount?? Find the answer on your own or wait for the next *Timothy Topic*.

Last issue's answer: 50 refers to the Jewish festival of Shavuot celebrated on the fiftieth day after Passover

Minister's Corner It's been said that the question that answers every other question is the one of identity: 'Who am I?' Identity is a sense of self and sense of worth; together they make your identity. So, where does a sense of self and self-worth come from? Achievement and merit surface quickly when we ask this question. Accomplishments, experience, and abilities set us apart from everyone else and give us a strong sense of identity. However, C.S Lewis in *Mere Christianity* says, 'We are not really proud of having money, we are proud of having money more than the next person. We are not proud that we are smart, we are proud of being smarter, we are not proud of being good-looking, we are proud of looking better than the next person.' For example, think of a violinist in a small town. He is the local star and acknowledged talent until he travels to the big city and finds that his sense of identity must undergo change. The pool he is competing with there is more competitive and exclusive. So, a merit-based sense of identity is necessary and practical, yet volatile and shaky. Any identity that is achieved rather than received is not only exclusive (you are richer and smarter than the rest of the pool), but risky as well. It can be taken away from us in the blink of an eye and puts us in tension with those around us all the time. In the Christian faith, we believe every individual possesses inherent worth and value due to their reflection of divine characteristics (the image of God). This divine imprint grants us a special dignity and a higher purpose. Karl Barth teaches that human worth and dignity are not earned but are gifts bestowed by God's love and mercy. Learning this, we don't only recognize our sense of worth but also recognize the divine worth in every individual, regardless of their background, abilities, or circumstances. So, next time you come across the question: 'Who am I?' remember Genesis 1:27: '**God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.**' Rev. Reine.

In the rearview mirror: On June 7 & 8 most of our families were present at St. Tim's for their pictures to be taken & included in our new photo directory. Thanks to all those who worked hard and were present during those days.

- On June 10, the Stewardship committee at St. Timothy's planned a Garage Sale where people from the congregation as well as the community took part in it. Yummy barbecue & coffee were enjoyed by all. A big thank you to all who put the time and effort into making this event a success.
- Church is fun & Jesus is our best friend: Sunday, June 11th was an exciting & enjoyable day at our church. The stuffies were waiting to be reunited with their friends after a long week of learning and fun! Our Sunday school kids watched a video and got to know what their stuffies were up to during that week.
- June 25 was our Youth Service Sunday. Our young people led the worship that day. A congregational BBQ followed.
- July 23rd was a special Sunday at St. Timothy's. Our congregation gathered outside under our beautiful, distinguished tree. Mike P. and Molly O. led our praise time and our talented violinist Karen Abboud presented special music. During the service, we were divided into groups and created different songs applying what we learned from the message. How wonderful to enjoy God's creation and have fun during this summer season. Fellowship and lunch were enjoyed by all.

Looking forward: WELCOME BACK BBQ - Sunday, 10 September 2023. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and corn! Join us after Worship for our Welcome Back BBQ - rain or shine - a chance to catch up after summer!

- September 17 is Mission Awareness Sunday: We are called to be Christ ambassadors in the world. This manifests itself in acts of justice and compassion. Our Mission & Outreach committee leads the service every year to remind us of all of this. Our guest speaker is Ruth Pollock. She will be talking about her trip to Palestine and the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

Sunday Worship Services @10 am

In-person & Online
September 3,10,17,24

Sunday school during the service

Coming Events

In-person Bible Study Wednesdays @ 10 am
In Person Café Connections, September 8 @ 10 am
Welcome Back BBQ, September 10, 2023 @ 11 am
Mission Awareness Sunday, September 17 @ 10 am
Youth group meeting, September 24 @ 11:45 am
AGAPE Gathering September 26 @ 10:30 am

Virtual Church Groups

'Bedtime with Jesus' every Sat @ 7:00 pm
'Café Connections' every Fri @ 10:00 am
Prayer Time: Do you have a prayer request or a prayer of thanksgiving? Please contact Rev. Reine or a member of the Pastoral Care Team.

St. Tim's Pictorial



St. Tim's new members

