

### Timothy Topics

October 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.

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### -Bible Trivia-

**Philip was instructed by an angel to go south from Jerusalem along a road that led to what other city?** Find the answer on your own or wait for the next *Timothy Topic*.  
 Last issue's answer: Matthew

**Minister's Corner** It is so easy to criticize others...Our life rhythm might be too intense to allow us to make friends with our neighbors, but we are never too busy to single out their downfalls. On the other side of the fence, grace is the only thing greener – if that! When we criticize others, we criticize personality or character. We blame with no focus on improvement. Our way -we think- is the only “right way” to do things. Our words and attitude can be belittling. The truth of the matter is that criticism is an easy form of ego defense. We don't criticize because we disagree with a behavior or an attitude. We criticize because we somehow feel devalued by someone's behavior or attitude and criticism sounds like a quick fix. As the Irish poet and playwright Oscar Wilde used to say: “Criticism is the only reliable form of autobiography.” It tells you more about the psychology of the critic than the people he or she criticizes. It starts on a low key and escalates over time. This is why we have to reflect on and do something about it before it gets out of hand.

When we read our bible, there might be many things that need further explanation, but the easiest thing to see and understand is the fact that Jesus was a people person. He loved them and served them. He saw their needs before their downfalls. He showed true interest in their person, this is one of the main reasons they followed him from one place to the other. In John chapter 8 for example, Pharisees & and Scribes brought a lady who was caught in the very act of committing adultery. However, for Jesus who she is (a beloved child of God) was more important than what she did. Jesus was keen to find what's good in people and not what is wrong with them. When Jesus said: **“Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again”**, Jesus showed her profound grace, God's grace. Today, think of someone to whom you can show grace as Jesus did. It can change their life! Rev. Reine.

**In the rearview mirror:** Sunday, September 10, St. Timothy held its annual Welcome Back Sunday. It was a fun-filled day and the BBQ was delicious. Big thank you to the Fellowship Committee for organizing and planning this wonderful celebration.

- Mission Awareness Sunday was celebrated on September 17th: Our Mission & Outreach committee led the service, and our guest speaker was Ruth Pollock, who is an Elder at Morewood Presbyterian Church, ON. She shared with us her mission trip story to Palestine/Israel with a focus on justice and raising awareness of the conflict there. It was great to have Ruth with us and enjoy the fellowship with her after the service as many were interested in learning more and asking questions related to her topic.

-A big Thank you to David G. & board of managers for the repairs to St. Tim's parking lot. It is a MEGA JOB.

#### Looking forward:

-In preparation for celebrating Thanksgiving, we are encouraged to start the month of October till Thanksgiving Day by writing a daily journal reflecting on how God was present in the ordinary/small things in our lives.

- St Timothy's Prayer Book: An Anniversary Project hoped to be completed by our anniversary in the spring. Families are asked to write an informal prayer to be put into a book so we can have our very own St. Timothy's Prayer Book. These do not need to be elaborate or long but from the heart. Please send your prayers to Rev. Reine or to the office.

#### 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
Craft Group Mondays	@ 10:30 am
World Communion Sunday, October 1	@10
Thanksgiving Sunday, October 8	@10 am
In Person Café Connections, October 13	@ 10 am
Youth group meeting, October 22	@ 11:45 am
AGAPE Gathering October 31	@ 10:30 am

#### Virtual Church Groups

'Bedtime with Jesus' every Sat. @ 7:00 pm  
 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*

*Congratulations to Anna &  
Kelvin Lee*





### ***St. TIMOTHY'S CELTIC CROSS***

***St. Timothy's, along with many other Presbyterian churches, displays a Celtic Cross on the Communion Table, while others display the Celtic Cross on an interior or external wall. Our brass replica was a gift by Mrs. Lois deBeaupre in memory of her mother, Mrs. Norma McPhail, one of the first members of St. Timothy's, who moved her membership from St. Andrew's, Ottawa, to St. Timothy's when the new congregation was formed. The late Rev. Garry Morton, a former minister at St. Timothy's, advised that this cross is based on a replica of St. John's cross standing in front of the tomb of St. Columba at the Iona Abbey, Scotland, the birthplace of Christianity in Scotland. The elephants on the top are from an artist's impression of the remnants of the St. John's Cross displayed in the Abbey Museum. The base is thought to be from a marble quarry on Iona, now mined out and closed.***

***Submitted by David Gowdy  
Picture taken by Kelvin Lee***

