

Timothy Topics

December 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-

What was Paul's occupation? Find the answer on your own or wait for the next

Timothy Topic.

Last issue's answer: Elijah

Minister's Corner: Negativity Bias refers to the psychological phenomenon where individuals tend to pay more attention to, remember, and be influenced by negative information or experiences compared to neutral or positive ones. Negative events or stimuli often have a greater impact on people's thoughts, emotions, and behaviors than positive ones. Evolutionists believe negativity bias has evolved as a survival mechanism: in ancestral environments, being more attuned to potential threats and dangers was crucial for survival. Today, negativity bias can influence various aspects of human behavior, decision-making, and perception. For example, individuals might remember criticism more than praise, be more affected by negative news, or perceive ambiguous situations as more threatening. Recognizing and understanding negativity bias is important, as it can impact how people respond to different stimuli and information. In our culture today many life aspects are victims of NB; church and God included. Pain and evil accumulate negativity against God, and in some cases those who follow him. In the parable from Matthew 25:14-30, the third servant said: "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so, I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." The servant had accumulated enough negativity against the master not only to make assumptions that did not exist, but also to miss what is there; the value and potential of what he was given for free. Fear can impact what we see and how we react to it. Fear can cripple us, or it can make us run non-stop thinking we will arrive at our desired destination faster. In this season, let us take some time to peel off all the negativity and fear in our lives and look afresh at all the gifts bestowed on us and the underlying love behind it all. God is near, He loves and provides. Let us come to Him and have our eyes opened to see the true light, so we don't bury what we have. Rev. Reine

In the rearview mirror: St. Timothy's observed Remembrance Sunday on November 5: the theme was how to remember by looking up to the Resurrection. David G. read in Flanders Fields and Nathalie Boisvert was our guest Trumpeter who with Louise T. played nice music all through the service. Amazing Grace followed the sermon by Louise & Karen A.

- The session members led the worship service on Nov.12. Following Mike's sermon, Molly O. & Mike P. performed a hymn that we all enjoyed. The highlight was the African Chorus singing joyful hymns and upbeat rhythms.
- On November 18, we had our Bazaar. Everyone worked so hard with a spirit of joy and excitement to exhibit their goodies. People from the church & community were on a treasure hunt, others were after the baked goodies, and everyone broke bread together at lunchtime. A big thank you goes out to all those who made our Bazaar a big success.
- On Nov. 19 our Children's Choir amazed us with their angelic singing.
- On Nov.28, Agape Gathering: Christmas Carols, communion & fellowship. All had a blast and lots of fun and laughs.

Looking forward: Join our many activities this Advent season and celebrate with us the coming of the Messiah.

1st Sunday in Advent Dec. 3: Lighting the Candle of Hope, Holy Communion, Singing Saints.

2nd Sunday, Dec.10: Lighting the Candle of Peace, African Chorus, Seasonal Flute Music with Cathy Baerg and Students.

Solo: Rev. Tom Hamilton. Following the service: family fun activity making gingerbread houses and having pizza!

3rd Sunday, Dec.17 - Lighting the Candle of Joy, Christmas Pageant "The Greatest Gift", Children's Choir.

4th Sunday. Dec.24 -Lighting the Candle of Love. Christmas Eve Service: Candlelight Service with Communion @ 4:00 pm.

Devotionals for Advent spirituality and music: Every Friday in Dec. @ 7 pm via Zoom.

Sunday Worship Services @10 am

In-person & Online

December 3,10,17,24

Sunday school during the service

-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.

Coming Events

In-person Bible Study Wednesdays @ 10 am

Craft Group Mondays @ 2 pm

Holy Communion & Singing Saints Dec.3 @ 10 am

Café Connections, December 8 @ 10 am

Seasonal Flute, African Chorus, Dec.10 @ 10 am

Gingerbread house & Pizza, Dec.10 @ 11:30

Coming Events

Christmas Pageant, December 17 @10 am

Christmas Eve & Communion Dec.24 @4 pm

Advent Devotionals every Friday in Dec. via zoom @ 7 pm

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

St. Tim's Pictorial



