

# St. Timothy Newsletter

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 1, 2019

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Upcoming Events
- Announcements
- Children's Ministry
- Youth Ministry
- Music Ministry
- Women's Events
- Men's Events
- Birthdays/  
Anniversaries
- And more!



## December Worship and Event Schedule

Sunday, Dec. 1	8:00 & 10:45 AM 9:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School and Adult Bible Class
Monday, Dec. 2	5:30 PM	Advent by Candlelight in the Life Center
Wednesday, Dec. 4	11:30 AM 6:15 PM 7:00 PM	Mid-day Advent Worship & Service project, meal served at 12:15 PM Family Advent Worship Service Evening Advent Service, meal served at 5:30 PM
Saturday, Dec. 7	9:00-11:00 AM	Children's Christmas Train Ride Event
Sunday, Dec. 8	8:00 & 10:45 AM 9:30 AM 12:00 PM 2:00 PM	Worship Sunday School and Adult Bible Classes Annual Voter's Assembly Meeting Tree of Remembrance Service in RM 102/103
Wednesday, Dec. 11	11:30 AM 6:15 PM 7:00 PM	Mid-day Advent Worship & Service project, meal served at 12:15 PM Family Advent Worship Service Evening Advent Service, meal served at 5:30 PM
Thursday, Dec. 12	11:00 AM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM	JOY Senior Adult Christmas Luncheon Bright Beginners' Christmas Program Service of Prayer and Healing
Saturday, Dec. 14	4:30-7:00 PM	Jr. High Christmas Party
Sunday, Dec. 15	8:00 & 10:45 AM 10:45 AM 5:30-8:00 PM	Tamale delivery / Collection of the LINC Christmas Tree Toys Christmas Cantata Services in the Sanctuary Contemporary Worship in the Life Center Sr. High Christmas Party
Wednesday, Dec. 18	11:30 AM 6:15 PM 7:00 PM	Mid-day Advent Service, meal served at 12:15 PM Family Advent Worship Service Evening Advent Service, meal served at 5:30 PM
Sunday, Dec. 22	8:00 & 10:45 AM 9:30 AM	Worship Sunday School Adult Bible Class
Tuesday, Dec. 24	10:00 AM 3:00 PM 5:00 PM	Classic Christmas Eve Candlelight Service in the Sanctuary Christmas Eve Candlelight Service in the Life Center Christmas Eve Candlelight Service in the Life Center
Wednesday, Dec. 25	10:00 AM	Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion in the Sanctuary
Thursday, Dec. 26		Bright Beginners and Church Offices closed
Sunday, Dec. 29	8:00 & 10:45 AM 9:30 AM	Worship Sunday School and Special Adult Bible Class
Tuesday, Dec. 31	6:00 PM	New Year's Eve Service with Holy Communion
Wednesday, Jan. 1		Bright Beginners and Church Offices Closed

**CHRISTMAS  
PARTY**

2019

# Advent Worship

## **Sundays, December 1, 8, 15, and 22 at 8 and 10:45 AM**

Advent is about looking back and forward. We look back to remember that Jesus came as God's gift at Christmas as our Savior. His plan involved calling real people to be part of His divine plan of salvation. Each Sunday in Advent we will see God's call to Zechariah, Mary, and Joseph. God's call to them was life-changing! The call of Jesus today is also life changing! Please join us each week as we respond together to follow Jesus until He comes again in glory!

The **CALL** of  
**CHRISTMAS**

## **Wednesdays, December 4, 11 and 18th at 11:30AM, 6:15 PM, and 7 PM**

The theme for our Wednesday Advent Services this year is **#PicChristmas**. This year, in addition to our traditional services at 11:30 am and 7:00 pm, we are adding a Family Advent worship service at 6:15 pm. It is a 30-minute worship service that allows families with young children to have an opportunity to worship TOGETHER (and get home early). This service will provide a meaningful worship experience *for all* to participate.

Each week we will look at the "pictures" of Christmas we have in our mind and discuss how they relate to the reality of Christmas that the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ creates. Families will receive a special gift to take home and enjoy through the season. In addition, we will post pictures daily that tie into the theme of the week including a devotional thought that you can discuss together as a family.

### **December 4 – HOME:**

It all starts at home: family, songs, lights, trees, traditions. We all have pictures in our minds of how our home at Christmas "should be" - a home that is filled with laughter and singing. Too often the homes in our imaginations fall short. *But true meaning of home at Christmastime is the home that is created by Jesus our Immanuel, God with us.*

### **December 11 – CHRISTMAS TREE:**

Christmas trees are a staple of the season - there probably isn't a home without one of these evergreens. Some trees look like they came from time square and others like Charlie Brown's Christmas tree. As beautiful or meaningful as they are, very soon after Christmas you will see piles of dead Christmas trees waiting to be picked up by recycling. The green fades, the needles drop. *The blessing of our eternal Savior dwelling with us is that He invites us into eternity with Him.*

### **December 18 — LIGHTS:**

The lights of Christmas range from simple to extravagant. Some of us aspire to have so many decorations and lights it can be seen from the moon! Christmas lights and candles flashing with colors help to get us in the Christmas spirit, but it is the true light of Jesus Christ that comes into the world and truly transforms. *His light transforms Christmas and our entire lives as well.*

We hope that you will join us in worship this Advent season!

## Christmas Worship

### **Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship**

**Tuesday, December 24 at 10:00 AM (Sanctuary), 3:00 & 5:00 PM (Life Center)**

### **Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion**

**Wednesday, December 25 at 10:00 AM (Sanctuary)**

### **New Years' Eve Service**

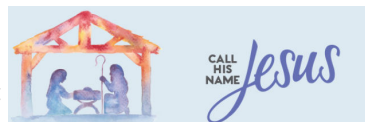
**Tuesday, December 31 at 6:00 PM (Sanctuary)**

## **2019 Advent Devotional - "CALL HIS NAME JESUS"**

In *Call His Name Jesus*, Lutheran Hour Ministries' Advent devotions for 2019, we encounter an oft-told story in fresh, new ways. During the Christmas season, we focus our thoughts on that moment in time when God became one of us. This miracle of miracles—this most unlikely story—begins with the Christ Child—God in the flesh—who was born poorly, humbly, vulnerably into this world of sin and darkness.

*Call His Name Jesus* offers excellent messages to complement a family or group Bible study. They can be received as an e-mail subscription throughout the holidays, or they can also be read online and listened to as well. Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, Speaker for **The Lutheran Hour**, will read them. These devotions are also available in Spanish as *Le pondrás por nombre Jesús*. Reflection questions help users ponder the text and provide a jumping-off place for group discussion.

**Limited printed devotional booklets available at the Welcome Desk or visit [www.lhm.org/advent](http://www.lhm.org/advent) to download your copy.**



# Children's Ministry

**Sundays in December will be filled with Christmas!** If you are 2 years old through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, you won't want to miss it! Meet us at 9:30-10:30 AM in the Children's Ministry building. **Nursery for children birth – 3 years will be available during the Christmas Eve services.**

Follow us on Instagram  
**@sttimothylems**  
 for daily updates about our  
**Family Advent Services**  
**#PicChristmas**



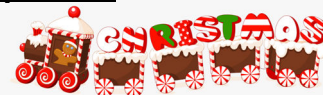
## ALL ABOARD FOR CHRISTMAS FUN!

**Saturday, December 7th 9-11 AM**

**Come ride a train around St. Timothy! Stops will include Hot Cocoa, Popcorn, Crafts and the Christmas Story!**

**ADMISSION: Canned Food that will go to local food pantries.**

*Sponsored by St. Timothy Student Ministry*



## Toys for Joy Drive - Tis' the Season to Give!!

St. Timothy is collecting gifts for Manantiales and the churches of LINC. Your gifts will be distributed as a way to help these church communities tell of God's extravagant grace and love for us. **You may pick out gift tags from the tree in the Gathering Area beginning Dec. 1st. Gifts are due by Sunday, Dec. 15th.**

### Donation Guidelines:

- donate toys that are new and cost \$15-\$20
- wrap toy
- label toy with **gender** and **age range** age groupings: infant - 1, 2-4, 5-7, 8-10, 11-12, 13+ (gift cards preferred)
- tape a sticky note on the back of the package with info about the toy
- no bows (please)
- pray for the recipient of the toy...that they may know JESUS, the greatest gift!

Cash, checks, gift cards and online donations accepted and appreciated.

Donate here: <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/toysforjoyhouston>

Feel free to contact Dorinda Werner at [dorinda@linchouston.org](mailto:dorinda@linchouston.org) with any questions!



### Tree of Remembrance Service

**Sunday, December 8th**

**2 PM RM 102/103**

We will decorate the Christmas trees with personalized ornaments for those whom have gone to be with our Lord. If you purchased an ornament in 2015, you may pick yours up at the Welcome Desk after Dec. 8th. The 2016-2019 trees will be in the hallway during December.

## Annual Voter's Assembly - Dec. 8th

On Sunday, December 8 after the late service, we will hold our Annual Voter's Assembly to elect 2020 Board of Directors, vote on the 2020 proposed budget and Building Plan. A soup and sandwich lunch will be served. Please join us for this important meeting.

Information packets will be available from Ushers and at the Welcome Desk on Sunday, December 1st as well as on the members page on our website at [www.stlhouston.org/2020cc](http://www.stlhouston.org/2020cc)



# Women's Ministry



*We pray you enjoy Advent by Candlelight Monday, December 2nd at 5:30 PM.*

**The Women's Book Club Christmas Party will be Wednesday, Dec. 11th at 10 AM.**

For more information about the book club, email Pat Neal at [pneal36313@comcast.net](mailto:pneal36313@comcast.net)

# Student Ministry

## YOUTH MISSION FUNDRAISER

Famous Balderas Tamales are on sale by St. Timothy Youth group.

**Beef, Chicken, Pork and Spicy Pork are available for \$13/dozen.**

Tamales sales continue through Dec. 8th and the **pick up will be December 15th.** Get your order form in the Gathering Area.



## 2020 Sr. High Mission Trip REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

We will be going to **Hutchinson, Kansas** to help restore and remodel homes for the elderly, disabled, and those in need. This is a week long summer trip from **July 10-18th**. The cost is \$700 before fundraising with a \$50 deposit (payable now) and the spots will be filled on a first come basis. Interested in going? Contact Dan Parker.

**Jr. High  
Saturday  
Dec. 14 at  
4:30-7 pm**

**STUDENT  
CHRISTMAS  
PARTY**

**Sr. High  
Sunday,  
Dec. 15 at  
5:30-8pm**

### Jr. High and Sr. High Christmas Parties

Jr. and Sr. High students are invited to celebrate our Savior at the Youth Christmas Parties!

- Meet in the High School Youth Room
- White Elephant Gift exchange (\$10 max)
- Friends welcome!

**FUEL** is our Sr. High Gathering 6-8pm every Sunday. Join us for food, fun and Bible study as we grow our relationship with each other as well as our God. We also use this time on occasion to have fun off campus bowling, mini golf, etc. Bring a friend! **FUEL WILL NOT MEET Sunday, December 22 and 29**

For more information on Youth Ministry events contact Dan Parker at [Dan@STLHouston.org](mailto:Dan@STLHouston.org)



**#GIVINGTUESDAY™**

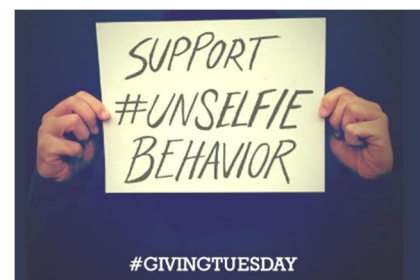
Support our local mission on Giving Tuesday, December 3rd, with **Giving TOMAGWA**, a special fundraiser that empowers you to provide local families in need with health care this holiday season and beyond.

### 3 Ways You Can Get Involved on December 3rd

- #1. Sponsor a patient for \$100
- #2. Share our donation page with family and friends
- #3. Post an "UNSELFIE" telling your friends why you support us (An "unselfie" is just like a selfie, but with a generous twist. Take a photo of yourself holding a sign that tells your followers who you're supporting for #GivingTOMAGWA and why.)

These awesome initiatives to support TOMAGWA HealthCare ministries and families in our community will be launched closer to Giving Tuesday. Stay in the loop on all the exciting happenings at TOMAGWA HealthCare Ministries by keeping tabs on our Facebook page.

[tomagwa.org/givingtuesday](https://tomagwa.org/givingtuesday)



Your generous financial support makes it possible for TOMAGWA and its partners to provide care, offer hope, and restore dignity to those most in need of quality medical care in our community. Please use the form below to give a tax-deductible, online gift today.

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Support your charitable organization by starting your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

**amazon smile**  
You shop. Amazon gives.

# Senior Ministry



The Senior's Bible study group, Just Older Youth (JOY), Christmas luncheon is **Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM**. Plan to be treated to an Italian lunch served by the St. Timothy staff in the Life Center. On the menu will be lasagna, chicken alfredo, sides and desserts. Suggested donation is \$8 per meal. Please bring a dessert to share.

**RSVP by Thursday, December 5** to the church office at 281-469-2457, bring a friend!



Upon arrival, please pull under the porte cochere in the front entrance of church to be treated to valet parking by Pastors Steve and Brad, Dan Parker, and Pat Blake.

## CANTATA PRESENTATION Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>

Invite friends and family to join us for our Christmas Festival Worship service, featuring the St. Timothy Festival Choir and Orchestra presenting "O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is" at 8:00 and 10:45 in the Sanctuary. Our regular Contemporary Worship Service will be held at 10:45 in the Life Center.



## Christmas Eve Worship

Bells and Choir will lead our 10:00 AM worship service in the Sanctuary.

Instrumentalists and our Praise Band will lead our celebration of the birth of Jesus at 3:00 and 5:00 PM in the Life Center.

## ST. TIMOTHY MUSIC LESSONS

If you are looking for private music violin lessons, look no further! St. Timothy is offering music lessons Monday - Thursday afternoons by a group of great instructors! Times and forms are available on the church website under the Music Lessons tab. Fill out the forms and return them to the church office or via email to Craig Harmann at [Craig@STLHouston.org](mailto:Craig@STLHouston.org).

*Music lessons make a great Christmas gift!*

## Adult Bible Class at 9:30 AM through December 22

### ITS NOT SUPPOSED TO BE THIS WAY

#### Women's Only Class

What went wrong? Why did God let this happen? Reality often ends up so very far from the life we long for, doesn't it? We often deal with daily disappointments and life-altering loss. By walking through valleys we will discover that in God we can find unexpected strength as we wrestle between our faith and feelings. This Bible study offers a safe place to share your disappointments, fresh biblical insight to get you through painful situations, and life-giving perspectives for living in between Eden and eternity. Led by Heather Harmann in RM 104



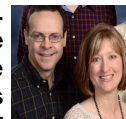
### EPHESIANS

In studying the book of Ephesians, we will take a step out into eternity and see how God's plan was developed before time as we know it and ultimately implemented. We will explore how this plan and the Gospel story affects believers' every-day lives. God the Father planned throughout history for Jesus to create a multi-ethnic community of followers. Comprised of Jews and non-Jews, these followers form the family God promised to Abraham. They live in unity as one body in their families, neighborhoods, and churches because of God's grace. Led by Jeff Sjurseth and Pastor Steve in RM 201



### THE CASE FOR CHRISTMAS

Even when he was an atheist, Lee Strobel enjoyed the Christmas season – the gift-giving, holiday parties, and being with friends and family. But after his wife became a Christian, Lee started to investigate the real meaning behind all those nativity scenes outside of churches. In this study, Lee reveals what he discovered as he sought to separate the holiday from the holy day, the facts from the fantasy, and the truth from the tradition. In each session you will explore: What the Bible actually says about Jesus' birth and how you can know it is accurate; Whether the Christmas story actually happened or developed from the myths of the day; The Bible's claim that Jesus was born of a virgin and why it is important to your faith; How Jesus—and only Jesus—fulfilled hundreds of Biblical prophecies about the Messiah. *The Case for Christmas* invites you to look beyond the traditions of the season, challenge you to examine the evidence for yourself, and consider why Christmas really matters. Led by David and Leah Smith in RM 102/103



Special Adult Bible Class Dec. 29th

# MEN'S MINISTRY

On the second Tuesday of each month, a group of men gather at Willie's Icehouse on 249 at Cypresswood to plan events, visit, and enjoy food and beverage together. They meet at 6:45PM at Willie's. If you are interested in joining this group, just stop on by or contact Mike Steele. **Come December 10th!**



## Men's Bible Study Saturdays 7-8 AM

Come in for an early start to your weekend and experience teaching from God's Word and encouragement from other men as they seek to live as men of God. Meet in the Church Office Conference Room. No meeting Dec. 22 and 29th.

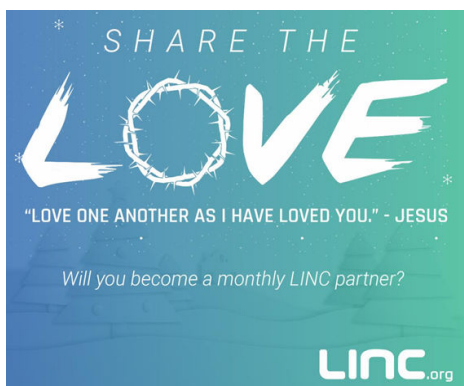
If you would like to be included in an email with updates from Men's Ministry on their planned events, please contact Mike Steele at [mes@reagan.com](mailto:mes@reagan.com).

## WINNERS OF NOVEMBER'S CHILI CONTEST

Paul Rhoades — Most Original Chili

The Blues — Hottest Chili

Drayton Hatcher — Best Overall Chili



## LINC's Holiday Season Campaign "Share the LOVE"

LINC Houston Partners "share the love" with local leaders by financially ensuring their training pathways are fully funded. **Would you consider sharing the love by becoming a monthly LINC Houston Partner today?** Your monthly gift raises local leaders, helps plant churches, starts new ministries, encourages Pastors and makes sure no leader walks alone. The Father's love for us through the gift of His Son Jesus Christ is at the heart of what we do at LINC Houston together with you. Through intentional discipleship, we are seeing God do amazing things here. We do not and cannot do this without faithful LINC Houston Partners like you. Thank you for sharing the love!

Visit [LINCHouston.org](http://LINCHouston.org) to learn more.



Thank you to all who supported Samaritans Purse "Operation Shoebox" this year! We collected 233 boxes to send overseas to foreign countries. The children made 87 boxes in just one Wednesday evening! Thank you again for your boxes filled with toys and donating money to ship the boxes!

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine you did for me." Matthew 25:40

Serving Him,  
Susan Benton

# December Birthdays & Anniversaries

## 1st

Scott Barton  
Elizabeth and Mark Leitko\*  
Jay and Pat McReynolds\*  
John Samuel Ravikumar  
Gloria and Bill Ruppel\*

## 2nd

Karissa Kroll

## 3rd

Nicole Blowey  
Carol Erickson  
Justin Gonzales  
Megan Herbrich  
Kathy Horn  
Gina Williams

## 4th

Dorothy Hugo  
Landry Mobley  
Larry and Kari Montgomery\*

## 5th

Katie Ellington  
Logan Haidle  
Debbie and Bruce Jackson\*  
Rhonda and Brad Szymiczek\*  
Kevin Winoske

## 6th

Danielle Falkenberg  
Travis Guy  
Eric Honeycutt  
Aaron Krolow  
Caroline Otterstrom  
Jane Pustka  
Jason Richardson

## 7th

Dave Baden  
Catherine Casey  
Jay McReynolds  
Lynn Mobley  
Judy and Herb Newhouse\*

## 8th

Chris and Charles Brezenger\*  
Betty Jo Angell  
Patty Martin

## 9th

Kelly Burk  
Karen Busse  
Aidan Dulevitz  
Sara Dulevitz  
Kookie and Randy Peardon\*  
Ashley Pelton

## 10th

Liz Friedrich  
Susie and Darwin Hyatt\*  
Steve Ilten  
Sonya LaVay

## 11th

Will Abrams  
Carol Baker  
Doug Goerner

## 12th

Robert Walker

## 13th

Aaron and Kara Meyer\*  
Paul Miller  
Kristina Otterstrom  
Greg Shivok  
Ve'a and Shelby Tauaese\*  
Julie Vance

## 14th

Sherri Botker  
Don and Jackie Jeanes\*  
Marcelle Martin  
Danielle Smith

## 15th

Marilyn Dickerson  
Nolan Norman  
Jeri Volk

## 16th

Karen Blake  
Jonathan Doss  
Carrie and Daniel Schamerhorn\*

## 17th

Ronald Halk  
Caleb Smith  
Pat and Marty Zanotti\*

## 18th

Johnny Blake  
Zach Huwyler

## 19th

Angie Knaute  
Ruth Holter

## 20th

Doug and Dee Dretke\*  
Cora Horn

## 21st

Elaine Brown  
Kari Huwyler  
Jamie Kirsch  
Pat and Jay McReynolds\*  
Blake Schmeling  
Liz Walker

## 22nd

Lee Brooks  
Phyllis and Roger Rucker\*  
Doug Stewart

## 24th

Jake Brown  
Randi Dodson

## 26th

Kyla Aschenbeck  
JoAnn Broeder  
Hayden Parks  
Pamela and John Thompson\*

## 27th

Donna Blowey  
Craig Miller  
Anne and Dave Moeller\*  
Don Sanderson  
Carolyn and Don Williams\*

## 28th

Owen Blake  
Jordan Cline  
Jeremy Friedrichs  
Benjamin Rohan  
Margarita Schellberg

## 29th

Ava Barckholtz  
Diana Dogotch  
Pastor Brad Jurischk

## 30th

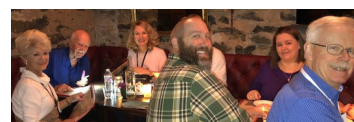
Kurt Bullinger  
Kerry and Ken Siegert\*

## 31st

Carol and Jerry Hohenstein\*  
Ron Kleb



Carol Baker, Dan and Margo Frederking, Craig Harmann, Valerie Hill, Kathy Horst, Patti Schatte and Cathy Spangler participated in the "Christmas Evergreen" performance directed by Joseph Martin at Carnegie Hall in New York on Sunday, Nov. 17, 2019



Cub Scout Pack 1926 camped out at St. Timothy November 15-17! Mini-rockets were launched, warm camp fires made yummy s'mores and boys and girls enjoyed a local campout. For more info about Scouts, contact Tom Swisher [swishntx@gmail.com](mailto:swishntx@gmail.com) or call 713-594-3068



## Financial Report

### October

### Year-To-Date

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Over/(Under)</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Over/(Under)</u>
Church	\$109,947	\$135,949	(\$26,002)	\$1,253,637	\$1,311,436	(\$57,799)
Bright Beginners	\$96,620	\$95,273	\$347	\$942,570	\$905,284	\$37,286
Total	\$205,567	\$231,222	(\$25,655)	\$2,196,207	\$2,216,720	(\$20,513)



St. Timothy Lutheran Church | 14225 Hargrave Rd., Houston, TX 77070  
 281.469.2457 Fax: 281-469-2921  
 Bright Beginners Preschool and Infant Care | Contact Kim Jurischk: 281.469.2913  
 General Email: [ContactUs@STLHouston.org](mailto:ContactUs@STLHouston.org)