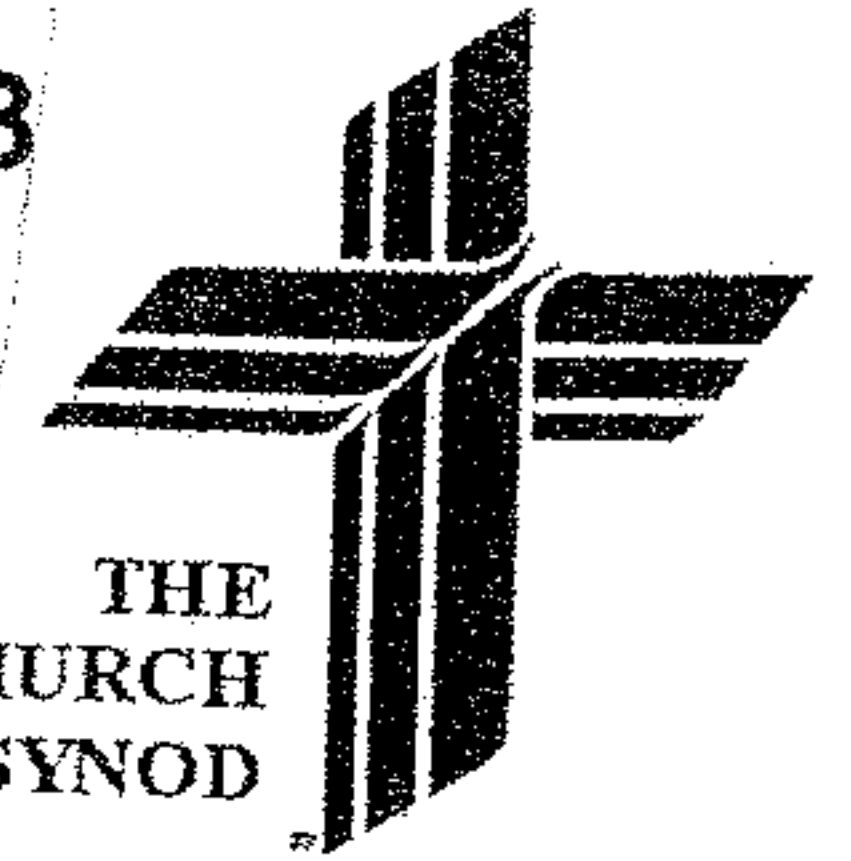


NEWSLETTER

ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL
5124 164th Street SW, Edmonds, WA 98026 Telephone: (425) 743-2323
December, 2010

THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD



Thoughts From The Pastor

My eyes saw it way before Halloween - "Christmas" displays and merchandise. But now in mid-November my ears are hearing it - "Christmas" music in stores as background noise.

I put "Christmas" in quotations because most of the stuff we see and most of the music we are hearing now really has nothing to do with the birth of Jesus the Savior, Christ the Lord. I think most of us have gotten used to that, even if we don't like it or think that it's not right. But that's just the way it is in our free society.

Music, though, has always been an important part of the worship of the Lord God's people. For instance, after the Lord God defeated of the Egyptian army in the Red Sea and as their bodies washed up on the shore, Exodus 15 records a song of thanksgiving to the Lord by Moses and the people of Israel for His deliverance.

Music and singing can be used in conveying information, history, an idea, a cause, a mood, even silliness. God's people use the Lord's gift of music and singing in many different ways - from prayer to telling a story; from praising to sharing of the faith; from the depths of despair to proclaiming forgiveness. We take to heart the Word of God, and we make it our own, which says: "I will sing and make melody to the Lord" [Psalm 27:6] and "I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord forever" [Psalm 89:1]

Our theme verse for Advent is: "Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness: [Christ] was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory" [1 Timothy 3:16]. We will be using the following Advent and Christmas songs from our hymnal to help us reflect upon this verse on the first 3 Wednesdays in December [1st, 8th, and 15th] and on Sunday December 19th.

"A Great And Mighty Wonder"

"Of The Father's Love Begotten"

"Oh, Come All Ye Faithful"

"It Came Upon The Midnight Clear"

We will take time at the beginning of each Wednesday service [both at 12 noon and 7 p.m.] to sing hymns which the worshippers request from our hymnal.

This year let us approach the celebration of the birth of the world's Savior with songs on our lips, melodies in our hearts, and thanksgiving in our lives because the Christ Child is our Savior!

"Glory to God in the highest!"

May the love of the Lord Jesus always be in your hearts!

Pastor Flath

Preschool Happenings

December 2010

As we come to the end of November we are thankful for families who have put their children in our care, and for the St. Timothy family who has supported the ministry of this preschool and the staff's efforts to include the preschool families in our church home.

Each week there is a new Bible lesson that we teach the children. Our year began with lessons of God's Promises to Adam, Noah, Abraham, and Jacob. The promise focus continued in November with lessons about Moses as God's servant from his birth to receiving the Ten Commandments.

These promises are the focus of our Christmas celebration. "God's promises are true, for me, and YOU!" is the chant you will hear from the children on December 5th during our Christmas Program. This day will be a time for our preschool families to interact with the family of St. Timothy before, during, and after our service.

The month of December we will focus our teaching efforts on the celebration of Christ's birth with projects and a field trip to Fairwinds ~ Brighten Court for some caroling and hot chocolate with the residents. Our last day of classes for 2010 is on December 17th. We will return to school on January 3rd.

Enrollment continues to remain at 17 children, with 9 in the Prekindergarten class and 8 in the Preschool class. We have the ability to double enrollment should the Lord provide us with more families. Please share our Preschool ministry with folks you know or meet who might have children or grandchildren. You never know where that family is until you ASK and TELL.

Please consider the \$25 investment in an Entertainment Book. The book is full of coupons for restaurants, travel, and retail. You easily redeem your costs the first or second time you use a coupon. Your purchase will help raise extra funds to provide extras for the children of our Preschool. Please see me or Miss Becky to GET YOUR BOOK today!

We are still collecting used ink cartridges to recycle for office supplies. Please save your spent ink cartridges and leave them in the white basket at the top of the stairway.

If you're feeling really "green", you can bring in all brands and sizes of chip bags, candy and cookie wrappers; any plastic pens, marker, highlighters, and mechanical pencils; 6 & 32oz wide-mouth yogurt containers; and "butter" spreads tubs & lids for the *Teracycle* project. You bring it - we will sort it and recycle it.

In Our Lord's service,


Cindy McEntire
Preschool Director

LADIES GUILD NEWS

The Ladies Guild purpose is to provide women of St. Timothy Lutheran Church an opportunity for increase in knowledge of our Savior, and in fellowship and service.



Remember to bring your Mission Mites to Church on the fourth Sunday of each month.

CAMPBELL'S LABELS

Please save the UPCs (bar codes) on Campbell products for Good Shepherd Homes. Please cut carefully, so barcode and points are intact for they will not accept damaged ones.

For a current list of eligible products visit Campbell's web site: www.labelsforeducation.com.

COFFEE HOUR

You are invited to host coffee hour after the worship service on Sundays. A sign up sheet is in the narthex on the bulletin board.

The hostess would be responsible for bringing and serving cookies or breads, and clean up of coffee pot, hot water pot, and any utensils that need washing, and the general clean up after hosting, including putting everything back where it belongs. Thank you!!

The coffee is made before Bible Class by a volunteer.

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SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS
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Thanks to Lois Mueller who has also helped with the quilt making. (Other ladies helping announced last month's newsletter).



WANTED:

Two young women, ages 22-35 to attend the LWML National Convention in Peoria, Illinois, the weekend of June 23-26, 2011!

Apply for your chance to receive:

- Four days and three nights in beautiful Peoria, all expenses paid!
- A way to see our National LWML first-hand!

Deadline to apply December 10, 2010

(See Liese Whitfield)

LADIES CHRISTMAS PARTY

DECEMBER 12, 2010

5:30 p.m.

All ladies are invited to attend.

Sign up on the sheet in the narthex under what item you will bring for the meal.

Instead of a gift exchange, bring a non-perishable item for the food bank.

There will be a program and singing to enjoy!

Bring small fabric stocking filled with dimes to the party.

DECEMBER MISSION POST

December is the month of Christmas stockings.

There will be a BIG stocking hanging to put socks in for the homeless. All kinds, colors and sizes for men, women and children.

The mesh stockings we started collecting money in last January – putting something in each month as we remember God's continual blessings to us.

We can bring the mesh stockings the 1st and 2nd Sundays in December to collect for a special Christmas project

The Ladies Guild have had a small fabric stocking to fill with dimes and can bring them to their Christmas party on December 12.

Christmas time is an opportunity for loving, caring and sharing. THANKS to everyone!

ST. TIMOTHY'S ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR, 2010

Thank you to all who contributed items for the Bazaar and thank you to all who shopped and purchased items.

Total amount earned was \$1,329.00.

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COMING IN JANUARY...

Ladies Breakfast on January 22, 9:00 a.m.

Put this on your calendar, so than you can enjoy fellowship with the ladies and hear a guest speaker, to be announced later.

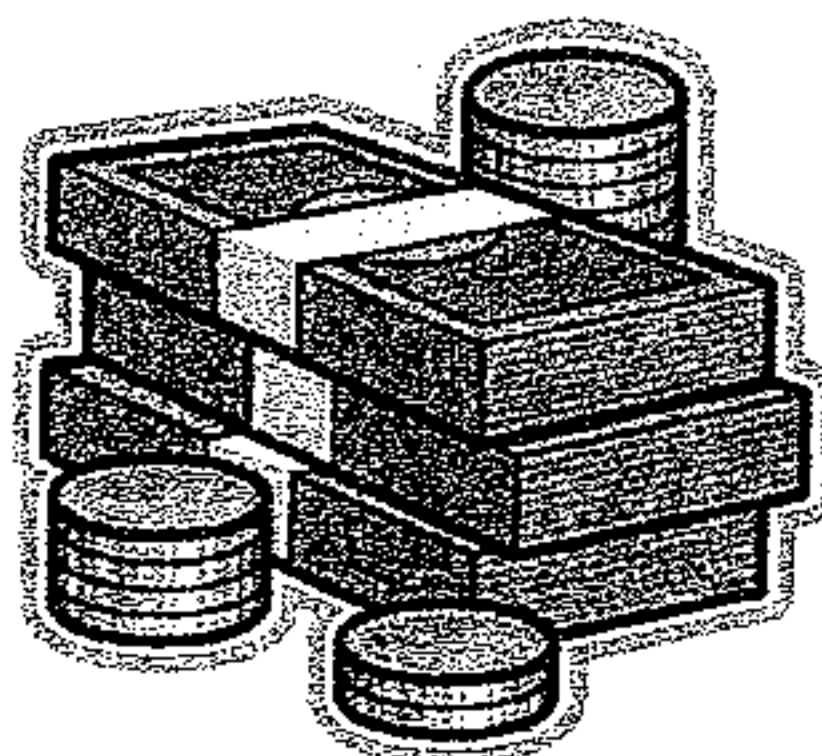
Messages from Your Council — Mel Suelzle



Our November council meeting was attended by council members Tom Smithson, Gary Eneberg, Janet Anderberg, Patsy Simon, Kim Reinig, Mel Suelzle and Pastor Flath. Also attending was Fred Starck and Cindy McEntire. The meeting was opened with a prayer followed by an agenda. Key agenda items are summarized below.

Financial System Review - Kathy Lassman attended our meeting and reviewed her findings and presented a summary report to the Council. In summary her report was very thorough and covered the important areas of our financial system. She made several suggestions for areas we should review but in general found that our procedures and accounts were much improved when compared with her review in 2005. Some of the more significant issues have been addressed. The Financial Committee will be reviewing her full report and make appropriate changes to our procedures. A complete copy of her report is available on the website, anyone that would like a hard copy of the report should contact Brenda Gonzalez. Kathy Lassman waived her normal fee for this review. In appreciation for her assistance, she was presented with a gift certificate for The Olive Garden.

Treasurer Report Tom Smithson distributed financial reports and reviewed the summary of our income/expense performance for October. Income for the month was \$17,333 which was almost 5% above our plan for the month of October and 2.49% of our year-to-date plan. Monthly expenses were 94% of our plan so our month net income was about \$1753 more than budgeted. Year-to-date our cash position improved by \$12,472. More information on our financial performance for October is reported separately in this newsletter.



Elders - Gary Eneberg and Fred Starck updated the council on Elder activities. Gary requested approval to purchase additional "Other Song Books" for use in Sunday services. Karl Simon has accepted a nomination for an Elder position and will be confirmed during the next Voter's meeting.

Preschool - Janet Anderberg and Cindy McEntire reported that we have 16 preschool students registered and classes continue to go well. A fire drill is planned for November 15th and a visit by the local fire department personnel is arranged to present information to the students and to review our procedures. The Lunch Bunch program has started with 2 students.

Social Ministry - Pat Jones filed a report that she plans to promote the "meals in a bag" donation program in November. The sock donation program is also planned for December. Members are encouraged to bring their stockings that have the monthly cash contributions to Services on December 5th. Council will determine the use of these contributions during the meeting on December 14th. Members are reminded that food donations are always needed., especially during the holiday season.

Pastor Report - Pastor Flath reported on his recent activities. He plans to attend the circuit meeting in November and is planning for our Advent activities.

Elections - The nominations process continues to be a problem. Those willing to serve are already overloaded and are unable to take on more. Those presently not serving are not inclined to do so. We are rapidly approaching a critical decision point in order to maintain functionality at St Timothy. Our next Voter's meeting will be the deadline to determine how we continue critical leadership positions.

Pastor Flath

St. Timothy welcomed **Pastor Richard Flath** as our new vacancy pastor on the first of October 2010. Pastor Flath is not a stranger to our church as he was one of our supply pastors from the end of Pastor Schuessler's time in January 2008 until Pastor Patterson assumed the position of Intentional Interim Pastor in June of 2009 for one year.

Pastor Flath grew up in Portland, Oregon. He graduated from Concordia College in Seward, Nebraska where he met Sandy. After college he was drafted into the US Army in 1970. Pastor and Sandy were married in Sandy's hometown of Boise, Idaho on December 30, 1970. After completing his two year obligation with the military, he entered Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri, graduating in 1976. In his first parish he became an Army Reserve Chaplain. He has served in the Army Reserve and National Guard as a chaplain for over 30 years, 20 years with the Washington Army National Guard. His longest pastorate was at Zion Lutheran Church in Snohomish where he served from May 1986 through December 2007.

Sandy Flath has been a school teacher for many years. She teaches all day kindergarten in a public school. She enjoys the little ones. She also has a strong interest in vocal music.

Pastor and Sandy have **four adult children**. Oldest daughter Kimberly is married to John. They have two daughters: 9 year old Emily and Katy just born October 10. Next is Christopher who is a pilot and is married to Jennifer. They have a son Andrew Prescott who was born in July. They live in Vancouver, Washington. Their third child is Nathan, who is engaged to Elizabeth- they are planning an April wedding. Nathan is a fire fighter, working for the National Forest Service in the summer and with Snohomish the rest of the year. Sarah is their youngest child. She is a preschool teacher with Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Everett.

When Pastor Flath was asked what has been his guiding call in serving the Lord, he said that he did not have a Martin Luther experience. [Luther was caught in a terrible storm and promised God that he would become a priest if God saved him.] Rather, he said that he felt the Lord's guiding to serve Him as a pastor. He also said that the Lord's faithfulness and goodness has been with him all his life. We are thankful for his faithful service to us here at St. Timothy.

Patsy Simon reporting

Pastoral Leadership Institute - Multiplying Missional Leadership

The Pastoral Leadership Institute is a unique continuing education experience for pastors in The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. Through a process of mentoring and networking, less experienced pastors learn in congregational settings from more experienced church leaders. In this four year learning experience, PLI pastors acquire advanced knowledge skills to lead and administer their congregations in ministry growth and outreach to their members and their communities.

You can help train pastors to lead the congregations of today and tomorrow. Your gift will underwrite conference expenses, provide expert presentations, train mentor pastors, send a pastor and his wife to an overseas mission experience, purchase books and materials, or provide scholarships.

To learn more about this institute or to get a donation folder, please talk with Karen Haase Herrick, 425-745-3421 or KarenHerrick@msn.com, or visit the PLI website at www.PLIInstitute.org. Karen is one of ten members of the Board of Directors for the PLI. The board consists of 5 clergy and 5 lay members from across the US; all Board members are active LCMS members.

A FISH STORY

There was a man who always seemed to bring home a boatload of fish. It was uncanny, and people wondered how he could be so successful. The game warden heard of this man's great success and asked to go with him. The two men started early one morning and went across the lake to a secluded area. The warden noticed that the fisherman did not have a fishing pole, just a net and a rusty old tackle box. When they got to the appointed place, the fisherman opened the box and pulled out a stick of dynamite, lit it, and tossed it into the water. It blew up and the fish rose to the surface. The fisherman began dipping his net into the water and putting the fish in the boat. The warden then reached back and revealed from his hip pocket the credentials of a game warden! Calmly, the fisherman opened the tackle box again, got out another stick of dynamite, lit the fuse and handed it to the game warden. Then, as the fuse burned down, the fisherman asked, "Are you going to fish or are you just going to sit there?"

Perhaps now is the time to get involved rather than merely being a spectator or a critic.

PRAYER TEAM

Those who indicated they wanted to be on the Prayer Team are as follows:

- Carol Hauge (425) 743-9430
- Brenda Gonzalez (425) 245-3452
- Shirley Howell (425) 778-8391
- Laura Washabaugh (425) 741-0517
- Delores Sparks (425) 743-4388
- Pat Jones (425) 379-7077
- Patsy Simon (425) 670-3354
- Kim Reinig 206-542-8050

Church families are encouraged to contact any of the members of the Prayer Team to request prayer support. Confidentiality is maintained and prayer requests can be limited to one prayer or shared with the team. We seek to uphold all needs, short term and long term of the Church body. There is not a need to small or answered prayer too little, to neglect to mention to the Heavenly Father.

Patsy Simon (425) 670-3354 to begin the prayer.

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." Romans 12:12.

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**THE
2 CHRONICLES 7:14 GROUP**

A Prayer group will meet every Sunday promptly at 8:24 AM in the "Meeting Room" (blue room). We are seeking God's guidance for our church and country and our individual lives. Everyone interested in participating in prayers for St. Timothy and our community is welcome to join us.

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WELCOME

We welcome into our church family Tristan Kaiman Kunsmann, who was baptized on October 31, 2010. Tristan was born July 31, 2010 in Edmonds, Washington.

Tristan's parents are Erik Wolfgang Kunsmann and Mary Colleen Ramos

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LUTHERAN HOUR

Lutheran Hour broadcasts in the Seattle area:

- KIXI AM 880 (Bellevue) @ 6:30 a.m. on Sundays
- KRKO 1380 AM (Everett) @ 7:00 a.m. on Sundays
- KLAY 1180 AM (Tacoma) @ 9:30 a.m. on Sundays

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A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS & CAROLS

NORTHWEST BOYCHOIR

Saturday, December 18, 7:30 p.m.

at

Trinity Lutheran Church
6215 196th Street SW

Tickets: \$22 Adult, \$17 senior, \$12 student
Reserved seating
Advanced tickets encouraged.

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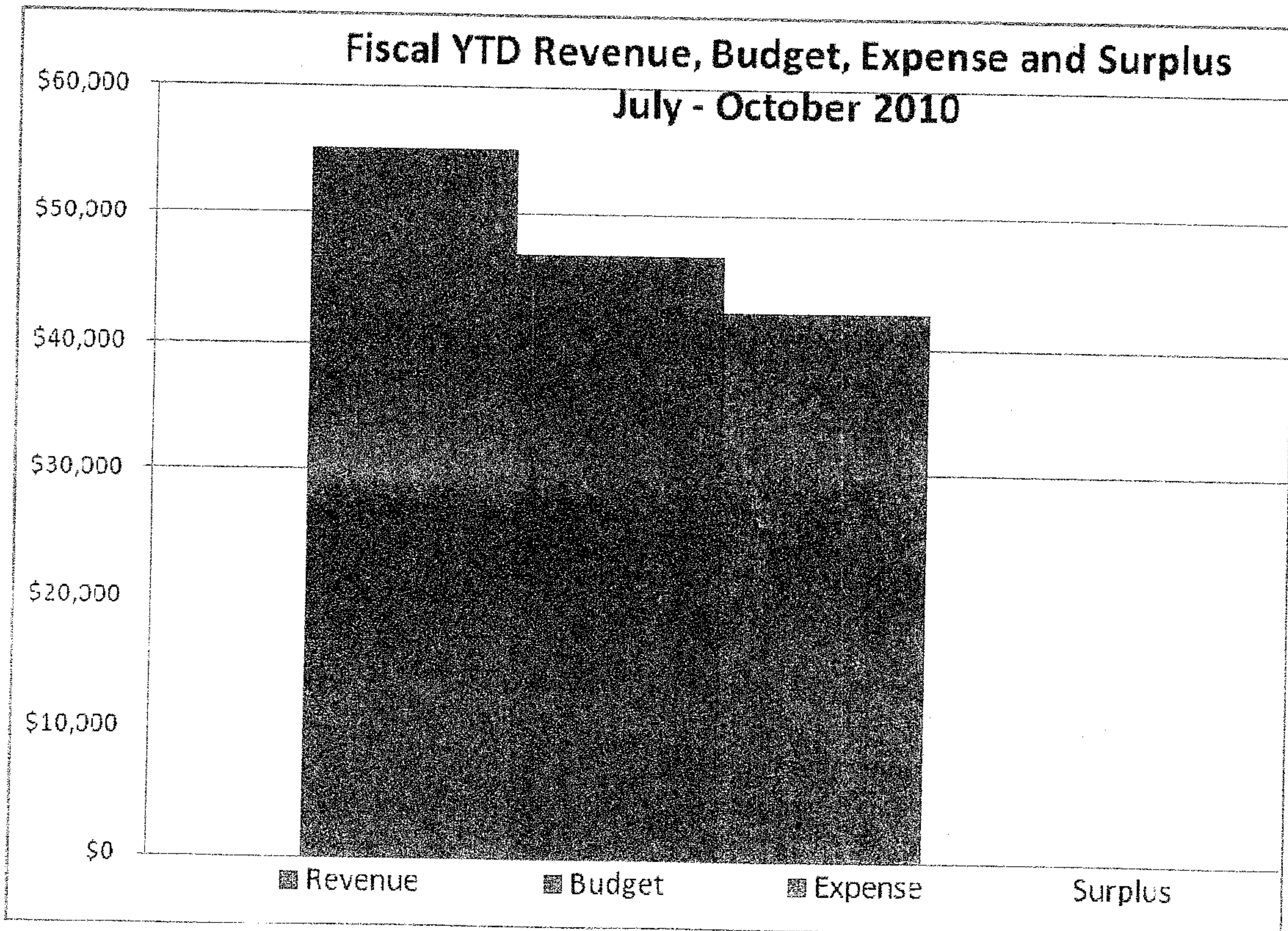
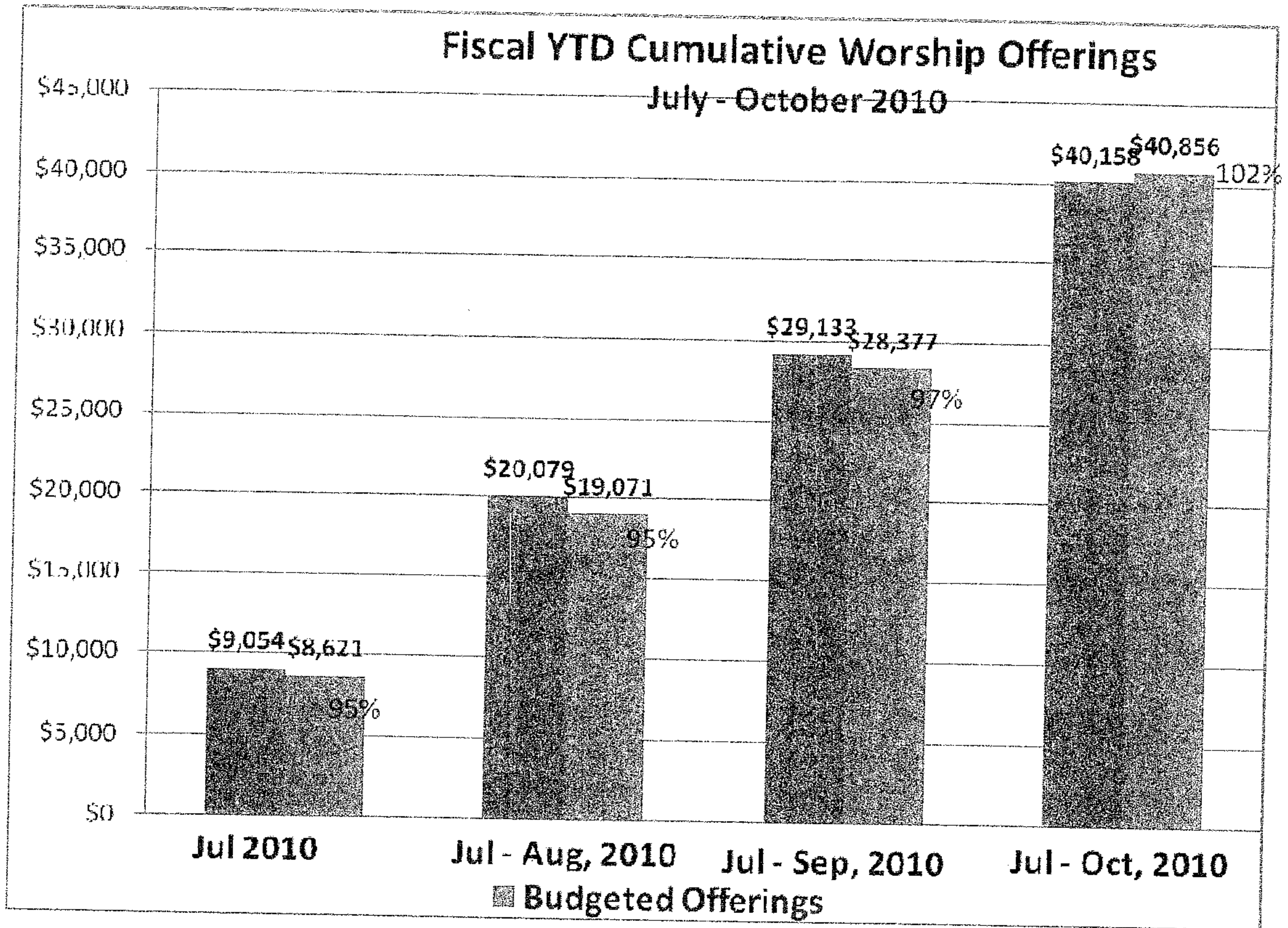
BIRTHDAYS FOR DECEMBER

- December 2 Carolyn McLaughlin
- December 12 Gertrud Schulz
- December 13 Craig Skrede
- December 16 Shirley Bodenstab
- December 18 Tim Nichols
- December 23 Orville Bodenstab

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October Financial Report



Parishioner News of St. Timothy

Fred and Shari Starck celebrated 50 years of married life on October 21st. They were married in Coronado, California at the Resurrection Church LCMS, while Fred was in the Navy Air service. They had been high school sweethearts back in Wisconsin, which is where they settled and started raising their four children. On October 31st the four children of the Starcks hosted a 50th Wedding Anniversary reception for their parents in our Fellowship Hall. Daughter Katheleen came from Wisconsin and joined her brothers Steve, David and Paul. Four of the Starck's eighteen grandchildren were able to attend.

An update on **Lisa Anderberg** is given by her father with good report of her adjustment in the capitol area of Vientiane, Laos. Lisa is with the Mennonite Central Committee serving as an English teacher. She lives with a Laotian family and teaches several classes with 20-50 students each from grades 7-12. She even has made a point to keep up her running at 6:30 in the morning when the temperature is cooler. She has an internet blog that friends are welcome to read. The blog is lisainlaos.blogspot.com. On the blog she is pictured in front of her school, Nita School. The weekly chronicle of her life in Laos is very interesting.

On October 31st **Tristan** Kaimana Kunzmann was baptized by Pastor Flath. Proud parents are Erik and Colleen. The sponsors were Colleen's boss Ruth Ann and Erik's brother-in-law Daniel Bruhn. Recently Erik's mother came to meet Tristan as well as attended Erik's graduation on Nov. 23 from the King County Police Academy. Congratulations on both accounts.

On November 7th the **veterans** were honored in church service. It was informative to see how many in our congregation have served in various branches of the military, from WWII to the Korean War to Viet Nam and in peace time service.

Our oldest veteran is **Glen Kulas**, who turned 90 on November 4. He enlisted in the army the day after Pearl Harbor on December 8, 1941. He served in New Guinea from 1941-1945. He also served in the Air Force during the Korean War. Bonnie met Glen when he was assigned to Paine Field in Everett. They married and had three children, all of which were confirmed at St. Timothy. The two sons live in Snohomish County. The middle child **Cheryl** has been involved as a youth director in churches and as a chaplain. She graduated from Lutheran Bible Institute, University of Washington and most recently from the Chaplaincy Program at Evergreen Hospital. In September she accepted a position with the Tri-Cities Chaplaincy and lives in Richland, Washington. She serves as a Chaplain with area hospitals, hospices, jails and schools. God's blessings on her service.

Karen Haase-Herrick has been traveling to meetings with the Pastoral Leadership Institute three times this year. She has provided more information on this national LCMC missions group for your consideration.

Please note that any news that parishioners desire to have shared in the monthly St. Timothy **newsletter** is welcome. Contact Shirley Bodenstaab or let the office know.