



**TIMNATH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

October 2023
Volume 8
Issue 10



The Bell Ringer October



YOUR SUNDAY INVITATION

9am: Sunday School

10am: Worship

11:00 am: Fellowship

Dear Church,

If there's one thing that always gets me in trouble it's an Indian buffet. My parents live close to a very good Indian restaurant that focuses on Tandoori cooking and northwest Indian cuisine and that, on Sundays, has a very good buffet. Every time I would make the trip back home home from college or seminary for a weekend this would often be our after-church lunch spot. And every time it was, I would often (okay, always...) eat too much. I had to try the Pakoras and Samosas...and you can't just eat Chana Masala if they also have Mutter Paneer...then there's the Goat Curry...not to mention the Tandoori Chicken...plus Naan bread to scoop up your Daal...Oh, and Gulab Jamoon *and* Rice pudding for dessert! It's an amazing, delicious feast. And one that left me feeling like I needed to go lie down for a while! I just couldn't stop eating.

That's sort of the image that comes to mind when I think of self-control. Ability (vs. my inability) to stop.

Self-control. It's the last on Paul's list of the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22. "Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness..." These are gifts that the Holy Spirit grows in our life together as he shapes us into the image of Christ, and for eight months we've been looking at each one. The last is self-control.

The image that comes to mind when I think of self-control is an image of restraining myself at the Indian buffet. But of course, it really has to do with restraining our desires in all of life.

In a wonderful prayer book I was recently given, *Celtic Benediction*, J. Philip Newell leads us to pray:

That you knitted into my senses a thirst for water and a hunger for food and wove into every living being desires for life and pleasure in their satisfaction thanks be to you. Let me be alert to the yearnings that you have placed within me and let me know what will truly satisfy the desires of my heart. Let me be attentive to the yearnings that you have placed in every human being and let me be sure of what will fulfill them. Let me be guided by your wisdom, O Christ, let me be guided by your wisdom.

Desires are good and God-given. Desire for food and life, sex and song, wonderment and wisdom. But left unchecked, these good desires can degenerate into gluttony, selfishness, lust, epicureanism, and arrogance.

(Continued on page 2)

The point though is not to deny the gifts and longings within us. It is to be prayerfully “alert to the yearnings” God has placed within us and able to control and direct them toward what will “truly satisfy”. We have to lift our hungers to God so that we are not impulsive and uncontrolled, but directed by his Wisdom.

This is why Paul calls “self-control” a fruit of the Spirit and not a fruit of the will. We don’t become self-controlled in our great hungers simply by striving, but by submitting our hungers to God and asking his Spirit to sanctify them. We confess with St. Augustine that “You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless,” yes indeed they are, “until they rest in you.” We master our hungers and passions only by first gazing upon our Lord and his passion. For he is the one who was a hungry human, like us in every way. And yet he perfectly submitted his desires to the Father and had them sanctified by the Spirit. So, he could fast in the desert and feast with sinners; he could keep close company with women (in ways taboo for his time) and retain purity of heart; he could speak with authority and be gentle; he could let people serve him and give his life as servant of all. He lived with perfect self-control, always giving himself to the right and necessary thing and not just the most pressing and desirous thing. Always giving himself to the will of the Father. And it’s this self-control his Spirit works to grow in us as we go with him.

We are all hungry in some way for a delicious feast. But that’s not a hunger that any free following of our heart (or even any Indian buffet) will ultimately satisfy. All our hungers and our longings to be full ultimately point us to our great longing for God. Only as we allow our wills to be mastered by him — only when we surrender our hungers to him — does that empty space then become a place for the Spirit to enter and teach us the self-control of our Savior. “Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of hosts” (Zechariah 4:6).

So, what are you hungry for? From what buffet lines in life are we impulsively picking from trying to feel full? (And just in case this sounds too abstract, try asking, *How do I need self-control: in my home; at work; in my appetites; through the next election cycle; while I’m driving; with my friends; when I’m _____ [you fill in the blank].*) How do we need the Holy Spirit to cultivate self-control in us, helping us to say *no* so that we can say *yes* with a passion that pursues the heart of Christ?

Grace and peace,
— Pastor Jonathan

Session Highlights

(from September 12, 2023 Meeting)

- Approved Draft #3 of the 2024 Operating Budget as compiled by the Finance Committee, pending the approval of the pastor’s salary at the October congregational meeting.
- Approved vacation time for Pastor Jonathan on Sunday, October 22.
- Approved October 15 as the date of a congregational meeting. This meeting will be to ask questions about the 2024 budget, approve the pastor’s salary packet for 2024, elect the two new elders, the new member of the personnel committee, and the new member of the nominating committee.
- Approved a building use request for a small Timnath neighborhood meeting on October 4, 2023, from 5:30 – 7:30pm to discuss a proposed residential development.



Cut from the Confessions

This column features *clippings* from our historic creeds and confessions. For the next 4 months it will focus on the Nicene Creed. The final form of this creed comes to us from 381 A.D. and seeks to confess the orthodox (i.e. true) Christian faith in a context of dispute. One major argument was on the nature of Christ's divinity. A priest named Arius was teaching that Christ, the divine Word, was *created* by God before the world. Christ's divinity was therefore *like* God's divinity, but they did not share the same essence. The great church father Athanasius and others with him opposed Arius, arguing that Jesus did share the same divine substance with God the Father, otherwise we refute Scripture's monotheistic teaching and imply that we don't fully know God when we know Christ. The creed is therefore Trinitarian in nature, with special emphasis on the second paragraph concerning the divine/human nature of Jesus. This is regarded as the most ecumenical (widely accepted) of creeds.

As you read the first paragraph, notice: 1. This is a corporate confession — “*We believe.*” In other words, this is the faith of the Church. 2. The confession affirms that there is only *one* God (not two or three). 3. This God is our “Father,” (a name we know only through Jesus, the Son). 4. This God is the one who has made “all that is”, both the physical world we can see and sense and touch, and the unseen world.

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is,
seen and unseen.

- From, The Nicene Creed, in *The Book of Confessions*, 1.1.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

“Shawls ... made for centuries universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving, God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, mother, hug, shelter and beautify. Those who have received these shawls have been uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to fly above their troubles...”

Written in 1998 by: Janet Severi Bristow Copyright ©2023

Please join the Prayer Shawl Ministry on October 14 and 28 from 9-11 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall! We'd love to have you with us for knitting or crocheting prayer shawls, or you may bring along your own craft that you enjoy. We share a devotion, spend time working on our crafts, and pray over the completed shawls. While Joan is gone, others will be sharing devotions and will be sure all the shawls are blessed.

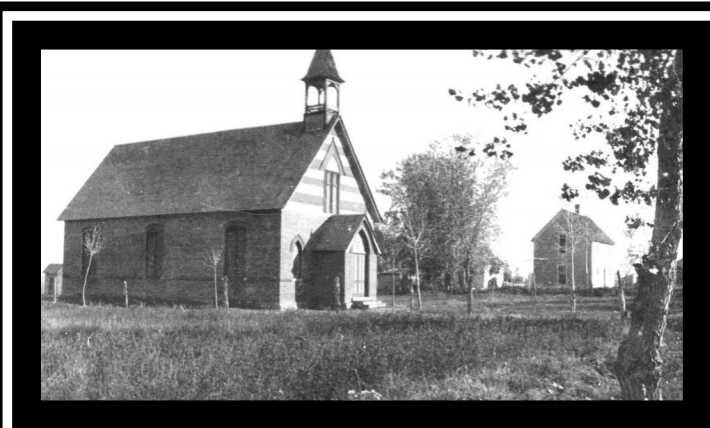
All are welcome to attend!

Prayer shawls are given to our church family and friends, and to the St. Luke's Medical Clinic for their patients. If you know of someone who might need or want a prayer shawl, please let us know. And, if you'd like to know more about the Prayer Shawl Ministry, please contact Joan at 970-482-8042 or 970-218-2614.



Join Us In Celebrating the 140th Anniversary of Timnath Presbyterian Church!

- In 1859, a log schoolhouse was built on Harmony Road, near the present town of Timnath.
- Sabbath School was held in the schoolhouse, with circuit riding preachers visiting occasionally.
- Around 1882, the new Fairview schoolhouse was built north of the railroad track; worship services and Sabbath Day classes were again held there.
- On October 17, 1883, a church was organized by the Presbytery of Denver, called the Presbyterian Church of Fairview, with Charles A. Taylor as its first regular pastor.
- In November 1883, a five-acre lot was purchase from the Union Pacific Railroad for the total sum of \$40.
- A parsonage was built on the northwest corner of the lot in January 1884, at a cost of \$800.
- A Post Office was established for the area, and the Reverend Taylor was made Postmaster.
- It was Mr. Taylor's duty to name the new town, and he found it in the Bible, where Samson was associated with a town of Timnath (Judges 14:1-5).
- In 1888, the church building was built at a cost of \$3,500.



Presbyterian Church of Timnath, around 1890

Please plan to join us for a special Fellowship Time following worship on Sunday, October 15, to celebrate this milestone in the life of our church!

Poinsettia Orders



Poinsettia Orders will be taken until October 29. Each plant will be \$10 and you can choose red, white, or pink. We will also offer Fantasy poinsettias for \$15. Plants can be picked up after the Christmas Eve service. Order forms are in the pews and completed forms with payment can be placed in the offering plates. Questions? Please contact Pat Alger.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
Sunday, October 15th
immediately following worship

Bell Ringer Items Due

Please send your written submissions to: staff@timnathpres.org or place them on the admin's desk in the church office by **Sunday, October 15.**

Outreach Ministry

Snack Drive:

Over 500 individually wrapped snacks were donated. Thank you!

Book Donations: The recipients of the book donation money will be the First Responders Trauma counselors. The First Responder Trauma Services is dedicated to supporting the lives of professional and volunteer first responders, including firefighters, law enforcement officers, EMS, emergency room staff, physicians, criminal justice service workers, park rangers, District Attorney's staff, rescue teams, 911 communications and Military participating in first response capacities. They have specialized counseling for emergency services personnel and their family members related to their work and home life and the variety of stressors that affect them - including but not limited to post-traumatic stress injury, anxiety, addiction, depression, and grief. First Responder Trauma Services also provides peer support training as well as training to clinical advisors and supervisors of peer support teams.

Exciting News from Melissa Johnson

Melissa Johnson, our mission co-worker to Zambia, in her fall letter, relates how much progress has occurred for the new rural health center in the Phalaza Community.

After several years of slow progress, the Lexington Presbyterian church in Lexington, VA has provided a new burst of funds by applying to CCAP Health Department of Zambia for a Thank Offering grant. These funds will allow for the completion of staff houses and also for the Ministry of Health to provide healthcare workers for the Phalaza Center.

Remarkably an anonymous donation from the Lexington community will allow for construction of the mother care shelter and a kitchen that the Thank Offering award did not fund. This is wonderful progress for the Phalaza community!

Timnath Presbyterian Church contributed to Zambia through Melissa's work by way of our King Soopers awards program.

Melissa says, "I cannot thank you all enough for the love, care, and support you continue to provide to the CCAP Health Department and the people of Zambia."

Thank you for supporting this program to help with this mission.



Melissa and husband, Charles Johnson. Charles retired as a Mission Co-worker in September 2020.

Melissa Johnson, Development Specialist/Health Education Programs, Mission Co-worker serving in Zambia. Serving at the invitation of the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP), Zambia Synod



An Invitation

In Exodus 35, Moses tells the Israelites, “See, the Lord has chosen Bezalel and He has filled him with the Spirit of God,....with knowledge and with all kinds of skills-to make artistic designs for work in gold and silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood and to engage in all kinds of artistic crafts”. Even today, Christians most often credit the Holy Spirit for granting us with creative and artistic talents and skills. In that case, the Spirit has been especially busy with many of the members and friends of Timnath Presbyterian Church; there is an abundance of talent here.

In order to celebrate and showcase those talents, on November 18th from 9:00 to 3:00 the church will hold what is believed to be the 4th Annual Craft Show and Sale. If you have art or craft items that you have made and would like to offer for sale to the public, you are invited to participate in this event. There is no booth fee but you are asked to donate 10% of your sales which will in turn be donated to the Timnath Elementary School art program. If you have any questions or would like to reserve space, please talk to Russ Skinner, Gil Fisher, Clarence Sitzman or Gene Boling.

If you have not yet discovered your visual arts talents or the Spirit has blessed you in some other fashion, you are invited to come and delight in the work of your brothers and sisters in Christ, buy something special for yourself or as gifts, enjoy a lunch (menu to be determined) cooked up by the 4H Club and try to resist the temptations in the bake sale booth organized by Phylis Sitzman (resistance is futile; this is one booth almost guaranteed to sell out).

As a bonus, this event has proven to be very popular with the community. Perhaps we can see it as an opportunity, as Joseph Moore suggested at the pot-luck, to establish and build on friendship beyond the church walls.

Circle of Fellowship

**Note: Circle has a new name; Circle of Fellowship. At TPC, we have a women's bible study group, called Circle of Fellowship, that meets once a month, (from September through May), and usually on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 in the evening. If you are interested in joining Circle of Fellowship, please contact Paula Matney at 970-689-7250. We would love to have you join us.

Circle of Fellowship will meet on Tuesday, October 17th at 7:00pm at MacKenzie Place. We will be discussing Lesson Two from *Sacred Encounter: The Exorcism in Gerasa*.

Practicing the Way | The Prayer Practice

Do you hunger for a deeper life of communion and communication with God? Or do you simply have questions about God and prayer and you need a space to wrestle with them? *Practicing the Way: The Prayer Practice* is a 4-week journey designed for those very things. Over the weeks you learn and practice *talking to God, talking with God, listening to God, and being with God*. Sign up now for the Sunday October session — starting October 15th (9-person limit) — or talk with Pastor Jonathan for more information.



Young Children & Worship | Update

On September 10th we started our fall session of Young Children & Worship (a Montessori-styled children's church that takes place during the sermon, affirmation of faith, and prayers of the people). There our children have begun learning the stories of Scripture in a slow and deliberate way, appropriate to their age level. You'll perhaps have noticed that they are later escorted back into the sanctuary during the Doxology for the close of worship with their families.

A few important notes:

- **4th Family Sundays** — every fourth Sunday of the month there is currently NO Young Children & Worship. Children are invited to remain in the sanctuary for the entirety of the service, rather than going to their worship station. This will help them learn to worship by observing what adults do and allow all our YC&W leaders a week off. (*Some extra resources will be made available for children on these Sundays*)
- **We still need...**
 - *Story Materials* — there is a master list of things still needed. Please talk with pastor Jonathan or Karen Thomas
 - *Greeters/Assistants* — We could use 1 or 2 more assistants in the worship space.

We are so grateful for the adults who are helping to make this ministry to our children viable, leading them to know the Lord and his Word. If you are interested in assisting with this ministry (or in discipling our children in the 9am Sunday School class) please speak to pastor Jonathan or someone on the Christian Ed. team.

Thank You for Study Leave

Every year I am allotted two weeks of study leave as your pastor. For the past eight years I have spent one of those weeks with a group of pastors on retreat. Together we are part of a study seminar through the Foundation for Reformed Theology (foundationrt.org). We spend the week in daily morning and evening prayer, eating together, resting and discussing rich theology that nurtures our work in pastoral ministry every morning and afternoon. This September the group joined me here in Colorado and we headed up to Highland's Presbyterian Camp & Conference Center where we spent our days amazed by God's creation and by our focus this year on Reformed Spirituality. Our reading/conversation list this year included chapters from:



- John Calvin — *Institutes of the Christian Religion*
- Karl Barth — *Evangelical Theology*
- Hughes Oliphant Old — "What is Reformed Spirituality?"
- John H. Coe and Kyle C. Strobel, ed. — *Embracing Contemplation*
- Belden Lane — *Ravished by Beauty*
- Ronald Rolheiser — *The Fire Within*

Thank you for giving me the time to do this! Through these relationships and studies I continue to be shaped as a more faithful pastor.



October Volunteer Schedule

Thank you volunteers!



	Head Usher (H)/ Usher	Liturgist	Children's Sermon	Nursery	Refreshments	Counters
10/1	Leann Starlin (H) & Jill Doyle; Donna Button-McEwan & Mary Lou Zacheis	Gil Fisher	Karen Thomas	Greg Starlin & Robin Pacheco	Mike & Bev McBride	Paul Jacobs & Jean Johnson-McCulla
10/8	Gil (H) & Pam Fisher; Laurene Aldrich & Doug Porter	Clarence Sitzman	Phylis Sitzman	Doug Porter & Steve Pacheco	Steve & Robin Pacheco	Bill Fisher & Jim Zacheis
10/15	Mike (H) & Bev McBride; Clarence & Phylis Sitzman	Gene Boling	Clarence Sitzman	Linda Porter & Laura Mitchell	Doug & Linda Porter	Jim Zacheis & Phylis Sitzman
10/22	Mark (H) & Jayne Sears; Bob Letcher & Claudia Masters	Karen Thomas	Rev. Jonathan Ytterock	Phylis Sitzman & Bethany Benitz	Marilyn Pitcher & Jayne Sears	Paul Jacobs & Jim Zacheis
10/29	Lyndel (H) & Joan Saxbury; Kevin & Karen Bothwell	Donna Button-McEwan	Dianne Stapleton	Clarence Sitzman & Robin Pacheco	Scott & Chris Cusic	Jean Johnson-McCulla & Jim Zacheis
11/5	Gil (H) & Pam Fisher; Jim & Deanna Addleman	Gail Burger	Edie Brooks	Laura Mitchell & Steve Pacheco	Clarence & Phylis Sitzman	TBD
11/12	Leann Starlin (H) & Doug Porter; Scott Cusic & Mary Lou Zacheis	Mike McBride	Gail Burger	Greg Starlin & Linda Porter	Lyndel & Joan Saxbury	TBD
11/19	Mike (H) & Bev McBride; Laurene Aldrich & Donna Button-McEwan	Mary Lou Zacheis	Ida Tieman	Doug Porter & Phylis Sitzman	Greg & Leann Starlin	TBD
11/26	Lyndel (H) & Joan Saxbury; Jill Doyle & Paul McDill	Laurene Aldrich	Greg Starlin	Bethany Benitz & Clarence Sitzman	Jim & Deanna Addleman	TBD

October 1st Communion Servers: Jean Johnson-McCulla, Paul Jacobs, Pam Fisher, & Jim Zacheis.

If you are unable to serve, please arrange for a substitute, then notify the church office so changes can be noted in bulletin. Thank you!

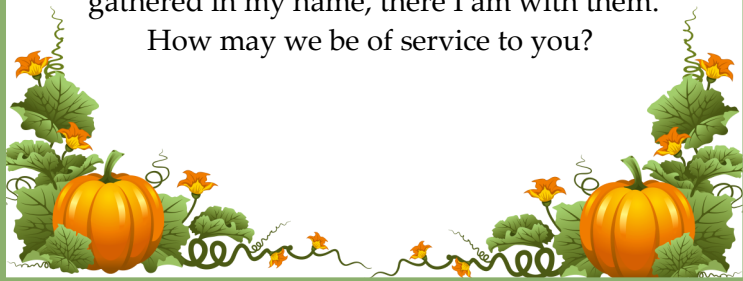


Concerns Committee

The Concerns Committee is a source of care, sympathy, compassion and comfort within the church. If you are going to be in the hospital or rehab, please let us know so that we may come visit with you and pray with you.

If you prefer no visitors during your time at the hospital or rehab, it's ok, just let us know, we can still pray for you. Also, if you have a prayer request, please let us know as we currently have over 63 prayer warriors lifting up prayers for each prayer request. Matthew 18:20; For where two or three gathered in my name, there I am with them.

How may we be of service to you?



Funeral Receptions		
#1	Marilyn Pitcher	970.460.0682
#2	Linda Porter	970.227.8370
TLC Meals		
#1	Elise Cameron	970.231.6266
Prayer Chain		
#1	Paula Matney	970.689.7250
#2	Church Office	970.493.8996
Cards		
#1	Patsy Hutcheson	970.222.8073
Hospital Flowers		
#1	Bunny Goshorn	970.482.7849
#2	Church Office	970.493.8996
Hospital Visits		
#1	Nancy Greenwood	970.691.7999
#2	Bev McBride	970.231.1203

MINISTERS

All Members Of The Church

STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Jonathan Ytterock

Clerk of Session

Phylis Sitzman

Treasurer

Pam Fisher

Director of Youth Ministry

Diane Stapleton

Administrative Assistant

Shelly Lemmo

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(970) 493-8996
www.timnathpres.org
staff@timnathpres.org

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Thursday
9 am - 4 pm

ELDERS

2023

Pam Fisher
970.217.1011

Phylis Sitzman
970.484.7612

2024

Jim Zacheis
970.581.4789

Paul Jacobs
724.421.6197

2025

Bill Fisher
970.690.8068

Jean Johnson-McCulla
970.226.1310

COMMITTEES / ORGANIZATIONS

Buildings & Grounds Committee

Bill Fisher

Christian Education Committee

Paul Jacobs

Concerns Committee

Phylis Sitzman

Finance Committee

Pam Fisher

Memorial Garden Committee

Phylis Sitzman

Memorials

Jim Addleman, Chr

Outreach Ministry

Pam Fisher

Nominating Committee

Jim Zacheis
Bill Fisher

Personnel Committee

Jean Johnson-McCulla

Worship Committee

Jim Zacheis



October 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 9am-Sunday School 10am-Worship 11am-Fellowship 11:15am-Youth Confirmation 2pm-Bridal Shower	2 9:30am-2nd Mile	3 8:30am-Caring Creations 11am-Prayer Time	4 5:30pm-Neighborhood Mtg	5 6pm-Cub Scouts 6pm-Outreach Ministry 7pm-Choir	6 10am-Sonshine Ladies Bible Study	7
8 9am-Sunday School 10am-Worship 11am-Fellowship 11:15am-Youth Confirmation	9	10 8:30am-Caring Creations 11am-Prayer Time 7pm-Session 7pm-4-H Mtg	11	12 7pm-Choir	13	14 9am-Prayer Shawl
15 BELL RINGER ITEMS DUE 9am-Sunday School 10am-Worship 11am-Fellowship 11:15am-Congregational Meeting 11:15am-Youth Confirmation	16 9:30am-2nd Mile	17 8:30am-Caring Creations 11am-Prayer Time 7pm-Circle of Fellowship	18	19 12pm-CHILL, LLC 6pm-Cub Scouts 7pm-Choir	20 10am-Sonshine Ladies Bible Study	21
22 9am-Sunday School 10am-Worship 11am-Fellowship 11:15am-Youth Confirmation	23	24 8:30am-Caring Creations 11am-Prayer Time	25 12:30pm-Christian Education Committee	26 7pm-Choir	27	28 9am-Prayer Shawl
29 9am-Sunday School 10am-Worship 11am-Fellowship 11:15am-Youth Confirmation	30	31 8:30am-Caring Creations 11am-Prayer Time				