

A Message from the Pastor

CROP Walk

The last Sunday in September is customarily the date for the annual CROP Walk held on Grand Island.

The funds raised, I was told, go to stamp out hunger and poverty internationally and locally. In a moving introduction, this year's walkers were reminded that "walking" is a necessity for many who have to walk great distances to get water, firewood and food for their very survival. Those of us participating elect to walk to show solidarity with those who have to walk.

St. Timothy Lutheran Church had a strong showing. Upwards to thirty people or more walked. John and Sue Loss led the way, as they did for arranging St. Timothy's response. The youth of the parish were the largest contingency along with quite a few of their parents. I got a healthy workout walking the six mile route from Kaegebein Elementary School to Beaver Island State Park and back. Except for a brief shower, it was a very pleasant day for a walk.

The walk netted over \$3000. St. Timothy contributed \$535.

On the walk down to the Park, we passed another group of walkers going the opposite direction. They were walking to raise money for Melanoma cancer research. Conversation among several of the adults on the way down acknowledged just how many appeals citizens are faced with these days. It requires some responsible choices being made.

The choices are not limited to community appeals. They apply also to our giving through the local parish and denomination. Our money and how we spend it says a lot about who we are.

I aspire to be a generous person in all aspects of my life. The same applies to my giving. I also want my giving to grow out of gratitude to my Lord who provides it all. I want it to be reflective of my support for ministry in which I believe. I want it to accomplish goals that God has laid before me. I want it to be non-manipulative, expressing a dissent or disapproval. I want my giving to reflect God being the one I trust, not my money or wealth.

As you ponder these things in the days, months and year ahead, perhaps these remarks will be helpful to you. I would also commend for your consideration the sermon printed elsewhere in this issue of the Timothian entitled "Christian Giving." It was preached at the end of June on the text from II Corinthians 8.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Dean M. Hunneshagen