



St. Timothy Tidings

April 2024

From the Pastor

Dear Beloved Congregation,

As we journey through the seasons of life together, we often find ourselves confronted with moments of transition. These moments, though often tinged with bittersweet emotions, carry within them a profound opportunity for reflection and growth. Today, I wish to reflect with you on the holiness of saying goodbye, a sacred act that we, as a community of faith, are called to embrace with grace and dignity.



In the tapestry of human experience, goodbyes are threads that weave together the chapters of our lives. From bidding farewell to cherished friends departing for distant shores, to parting ways with beloved colleagues at the end of a chapter, each goodbye marks a transition from one chapter to the next. In the midst of these transitions, we are invited to recognize the sacredness inherent in the act of parting.

As Christians, we find guidance and solace in the words of Scripture. In Ecclesiastes 3:1, we are reminded that “for everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.” Within this divine framework, goodbyes are not merely moments of separation, but opportunities for renewal and growth. They provide us with the chance to reflect on the blessings of the past and to embrace the promise of new beginnings.

In the life of our faith community, goodbyes serve as reminders of the interconnectedness of all God’s children. Each farewell is an affirmation of the bonds of love and fellowship that unite us, transcending the boundaries of time and space. Through our shared experiences of joy and sorrow, laughter and tears, we are bound together in a tapestry of divine love that knows no end.

Moreover, goodbyes offer us the opportunity to embody the teachings of Christ in our interactions with one another. In John 13:34-35, Jesus commands us to love one another as he has loved us, declaring, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." In bidding farewell with love and compassion, we bear witness to the transformative power of Christ's love in our lives.

So, as we navigate my own farewell that punctuates our journey together as I served as your pastor these past few years, let us do so with hearts full of gratitude and hope. Let us cherish the memories we have shared and embrace the new beginnings that lie ahead for us all. And let us remember that, in every goodbye, we are held in the loving embrace of our Creator, who promises to be with us always, even unto the end of the age.

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

With love and prayers,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Jennifer S. Michael". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Dear St. Timothy family,

What a joy it has been to be part of this faith community for almost 9 years! Tammy and I felt welcomed from the very beginning and St. Timothy became our church home. Our coming here was truly providential as I felt genuinely called to this place of ministry.



Yet, here we are at a crossroads where God has led us to another place of service. To the choir, handbells, Worship & Music Committee, congregation, and all committees - thank you for your constant support and encouragement as we have all worked together for the good. God has indeed blessed us. St. Timothy will always hold a special place in our hearts. We will cherish the memories and will be forever grateful for the impact you have made on our lives.

Keith & Tammy Christopher



Upcoming Events



During April we say goodbye to not one, but two of our staff members, Pastor Jennifer Michael and Organist/Choir Director Keith Christopher. While we are sad to see them go, our prayers and best wishes go with them both.

Please plan on being with us on Sunday, April 7th as we say goodbye to Keith and Tammy

Christopher after the 10:30am service. April 7th will be Keith's last day with St. Timothy, and while we have been blessed by his talents, we are excited for the new possibilities coming to both Tammy and Keith.

Later in the month, join us as we say goodbye to our pastor, Rev. Jennifer S. Michael on Sunday, April 28th after the 10:30 service. Pastor Jennifer's last day with St. Timothy is April 30th. This sendoff will be your chance to say goodbye as we wish her God's richest blessings as she explores new areas of ministry.

Bluebirds meet on Tuesday, April 9

The Bluebirds will meet at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, April 9, in Founders Hall. We'll be having a **Game Day**. We're always open to playing new games, so don't hesitate to bring along your favorite to share with the group. Should you choose to stay for lunch, please **bring a sack lunch**. **Dessert** will be **provided**. RSVP to Marilyn Elbert by Sunday, April 7th, if you can come. Please call or text me at 615-712-5987.



For those of you who are new to St. Timothy, here is a brief description of our Bluebirds group:

Bluebirds is a St. Timothy fellowship group and welcomes participation from all adult congregational members. Our main objective is to meet once a month to have a fun morning out and, in doing so, get to know our fellow congregational members better. We may meet at a local restaurant for lunch or meet in Founders Hall to listen to a speaker followed by a catered lunch. We meet the second Tuesday of each month. We'd love to have you join us!



Upcoming Events

Let's Chat...

- What:** OPEN FORUM to ask questions and have discussion
When: During APRIL ONLY our Let's Chat discussion will be on the SECOND weekend of the month, April 13-14 (after the worship services)
Who: Council representatives will moderate the questions & answers
Why: To help keep us all informed of ongoing church business



Sunshine Girls Bible Study

The Sunshine Girls meet every 1st & 3rd Tuesday in the Community Room at 10:00am. If you would like to study the Bible and meet with a wonderful group of women, join us!

Created to Shine Like Stars

Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever. Daniel 12:3

Dear Sisters in Christ,

A gathering of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (WELCA) The King Cluster #8 will be held on Saturday, April 27th, 2024 at Faith Lutheran Church, 1655 W Main Street, Lebanon, TN 37078. Time is 10:00 am to 3:00 pm A Registration Fee of \$15.00 will be taken upon sign-in at the door. This fee covers reproduction, incidentals, and food expenses. Any surplus from the Registration Fees will be sent to the Synod Women's Organization.

We are looking forward to a fulfilling and spirit-led gathering. All women in The King Cluster which encompasses Lutheran churches in Middle TN, the Memphis area and Tupelo, MS are welcome. We will be electing new leadership and ask you to consider volunteering to help grow our cluster. We are one in the Spirit, and together we can shine like stars. Please encourage women from your congregation to attend. And bring a friend or two who you think would be interested. We look forward to embracing new friends and renewing past friendships. If ever there was a time....it is now! We work best together so that we may shine brighter than ever before as we serve our Lord and Savior, each other, our community and the world. Please RSVP via email (secretary@faithlebanon.org) so that we have a head count for craft and food preparations. You can prepay on-line using this link: <https://givingtools.com/give/1231> Looking forward to welcoming all!!

Bridget Radford, The King Cluster Coordinator



Upcoming Events

All Youth & families K-12 are invited!

Sunday April 7, 2024

Noon - 2:00pm



Join us at Hendersonville Strike & Spare Family Fun Center after the 10:30am service. Pizza & bowling included! Invite your friends!

Bowling Alley located at 90 Volunteer Dr, Hendersonville

Made with PosterMyWall.com



Upcoming Events



Save the Date *Spring Fling* *Celebrating our Gifts from God*

*Dinner, drinks, dessert contest, and a variety show ...
this is your time to shine!*

Founders Hall
Saturday, May 4, 2024
Doors Open at 5:00PM
Dinner at 5:30PM

Adult tickets: \$15 Kids tickets: \$5
Family tickets (4 or more): \$40



Council Corner

At our March council meeting we regrettably accepted the resignations of Pr. Jennifer Michael and our Organist & Choir Director, Keith Christopher. Pr. Jennifer's last day is April 30th, Keith's is April 7th. While both will be missed, we send them off with prayers of godspeed and well wishes.

Our treasurer, Steve Hansen, reported that our trend line of giving versus spending is concerning. We are several thousand dollars short in giving for the months of January and February. However, during this same period \$820.00 was collected towards debt reduction and that was applied towards our mortgage principal. More information will be given during announcements at our April 7th worship service.

Our committees and ministries have been active. Did you notice the street sign that the Outreach Committee had made with information on our Easter services? We will be able to use this sign every year and it's a wonderful way to let our surrounding community know that we are here and to let everyone know all are welcome.

The Property Committee has been working diligently with our volunteer property managers, Carol & Bob Willis and Thomas Aben, on drafting a "job description" which works for this position. We are so grateful to Carol, Bob, and Thomas for being willing to serve in this capacity. The Learning Committee recommended that a wall be removed which separates classrooms 1 & 2 in the education wing so that space can be converted into a Maker Space area for our youth. Council was very excited to hear about this and we voted unanimously in favor of supporting this program.

We realize this uncertain time in the life of our church can be concerning but we have always weathered storms together and been stronger coming out the other side. Please don't hesitate to reach out to any member of council with your ideas, concerns, or thanksgivings.

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God.

I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10

Melissa House	Council President Outreach Committee	melissahh91@gmail.com	(615) 218-3904
Ken Tsuchiyama	Council Vice President Property Committee	khtsuchiyama@gmail.com	(289) 579-0583
Steve Hansen	Treasurer Stewardship & Finance Committee	sttmtreasurer615@gmail.com	(615) 431-9481
Jen Yamin	Council Secretary	sttmtreasurer615@gmail.com	(615) 512-7806
Laureen Greathouse	Worship & Music Committee	laureen.greathouse@gmail.com	(615) 339-7284
Sarah Mariott	Hospitality Committee	sarah.mariott@yahoo.com	(281) 536-9828
Melanie Ortman 	Learning Committee	rxsouthpaw@sbcglobal.net	(832) 326-3360



IT'S GARDEN TIME!!

Who likes helping the hungry?
Who likes being healthy?
Who likes exercising?

Did you know that St. Timothy can answer all of those questions with our Community Garden?

Our garden provides our community with fresh vegetables. While maintaining our garden you will make new friends and get exercise which leads to a healthier you. And it's fun because you get to play in the “dirt”.

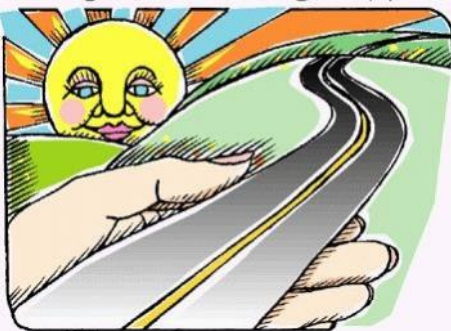
If you are interested and would like to be a part of St. Timothy's garden group please contact Ron Morgenstern, at kansas49@comcast.net, or (615)613-3517.

Mother's Day Weekend May 11 & 12

Look for our Mother's Day
“Photo Booth” in the Narthex
to capture your family pictures!



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY



It is Springtime and time for our first Adopt-A-Highway road cleanup of the year. Our work day, April 6, coincides with the “Keep Hendersonville Beautiful” city-wide litter cleanup. Our group will meet in the church back parking lot at 8:00am for assignments. Volunteers 12 years of age and older can participate. Contact Baker Kirkpatrick at 615-452-2903 or bpkirk@bellsouth.net if you have questions.

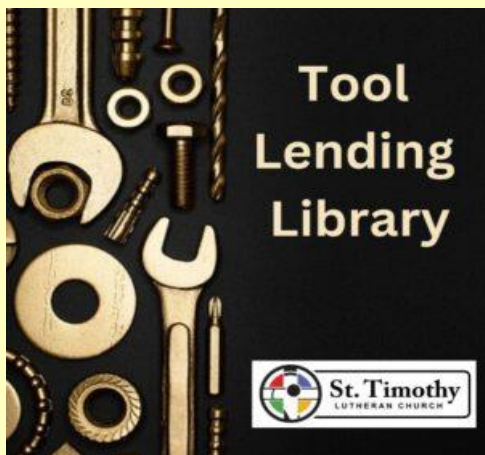
Greetings from Stewardship & Finance

The bad news is that we still have a \$1.4 million mortgage. This costs us over \$8,000 a month. The good news, we have begun a real debt reduction campaign. In the pews, you will find new envelopes for debt reduction.



To make this campaign interesting, we will have an enlarged floor plan on a grid. For every \$100 donation a square will be filled in. If you love our hospitality committee and all the great meals and potlucks and fellowship they provide, put on the front of the envelope or on a note enclosed in the envelope Kitchen or Founders Hall. Maybe you're a choir or handbell fan, designate your donation to the choir room. Undesignated money will fill in squares in the sanctuary.

Now, to be honest, all the money will be going to Thrivent to pay down our mortgage principal but a little competition to see who can get their favorite room colored in can make this a little more interesting. Plus, it will serve as a monthly report of how much we have raised to date. We want you to know that Stewardship & Finance Committee take this campaign most seriously. We hope that you will pitch in to help St. Timothy thrive. Honestly, we can't do it without you. Thank you.



THE TOOL LENDING LIBRARY is open for business – Saturdays from 9am – 11am. Membership is free and there is no rental charge. Doing spring cleaning and gardening? We just might have the tools you need, carpet steamer, power washer, rototiller, weedwhacker - come check us out.



Don't forget to review St. Timothy Lutheran Church on Google!

It's a proven fact that organizations with five or more reviews get seen much more frequently on Google!
Use this link: <https://g.page/r/CWZC8vODAfGREBM/review>



Blessing Box Buzz

First, a big thank you to our youth for taking care of the Blessing Box during Lent. Your service is truly appreciated. Also, another big thank you to the Property Committee. They have become great partners in this ministry and are always thinking of ways to improve it. And last but not least, a most heartfelt thank you to all who donate – large and small. Between the youth and the Property Committee and our donors, we are rich in ways

that go beyond money. Having members of all ages to be such willing servants in this ministry is a reminder of what we are but often lose sight of – we are church and we are better together.

We need everything – except toothbrushes. The top needs are canned chicken and tuna, spam or Vienna sausages, peanut butter & jelly (in plastic containers). There is a critical needs list on the bulletin board in the narthex and on our Friends page on FB. For those interested in helping out, there is a sign-up sheet on the narthex bulletin board. We will be holding a show & tell – “Everything you want to know about the Blessing Box and how you can help” sometime in early May. Stay tuned.

Stewardship

Discipleship

Justice

CREATED TO SHINE LIKE
STARS

36th Annual Convention of the Southeastern Synod

Women of the **ELCA** 

September 20-22, 2024
Huntsville, Alabama



April 2024 Meetings

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Notes
Wed Apr 3	Outreach	7 - 8 pm	Zoom	Contact Melissa House for more information
Thurs Apr 4	Stewardship/ Finance	6 - 7 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact David Miley
Thurs Apr 4	Property	7 - 8 pm	Community Room	For more information contact Baker Kirkpatrick
Sat Apr 6	Learning	8:30 - 9:30 am	Community Room	For more information, contact Janel Tucker or Kathy Graham.
Thurs Apr 11	Congregational Council	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Library	For more information, contact Melissa House, Council President
Thurs Apr 18	Community Garden	6 - 7 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Ron Morgenstern
Mon Apr 22	Youth	7 - 8 pm	Zoom	Contact Melanie Ortman for more information
Tues Apr 23	Worship & Music	7 - 8 pm	Library	For more information, contact the church office





Resources

Here are a few resources to help guide you as you continue your faith journey!

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

<https://elca.org/>

Southeastern Synod ELCA

<https://www.elca-ses.org/>

Reconciling Works

<https://www.reconcilingworks.org/>

Living Lutheran Magazine

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/>

ELCA Daily Bible Readings

<https://elca.org/Faith/DailyBible/>

Luther Seminary God Pause Daily Devotion

<https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/>



We'd love to get to know you better! Click the QR code to the left or scan it with your phone to fill out our digital connect card!



To make a donation on our website, click the QR code to the left or scan it with your phone. We give thanks for all those gifts that help us further the glory of God's kingdom in a world in need.



The Tidings, the newsletter of St. Timothy Lutheran Church, is published monthly. Articles, story ideas, and comments can be emailed to sttimtidings@gmail.com. Deadline for the May 2024 issue is April 25th. Please [contact the church office](#) with any questions.



A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

650 E. Main Street
Hendersonville, TN 37075
Phone: 615-824-6244
Office email: info@sttimothyhendersonville.org
Website: www.sttimothyhendersonville.org

Reverend Jennifer S. Michael, Pastor
Keith Christopher, Choir Director/Organist
Nancy Krieg, Church Administrative Assistant