



St. Timothy Tidings

April, 2026

From the Pastor



Lent is winding down, and Holy Week is days away. As I write, we've just heard the reading from Ezekiel: bones in the desert, bones of the Jewish community in exile, receiving the word of the Lord. Those bones were a people tired from their long captivity in a foreign land, a people who had lost hope of ever returning back to Jerusalem. These dry, dry bones withered away in the scorching heat, devastated by conquest. And still, the word of God comes to them.

Rattles them.

Snaps them back together, stiches them with sinew and muscle and flesh.

And then God *breathes* into them. And these bones *live*.

At the beginning of this month we'll walk the final distance into Jerusalem and run the gamut of human experience: joy and celebration and hope, comfort and friendship and family, betrayal and fear, pain and death, the loneliness of hard choices and the silence of the tomb. And then Christ will arise. And we rise with him, breathing with new life.

What are we going to do with this wild, beautiful, new breath from God?

Some will march with other Christians around Middle Tennessee on Palm Sunday, raising their fronds high and praying that our communities reflect in an active witness God's love for all the world. Some will gather to plan AFFIRM, the synod summer camp for 6th graders through persons two years post-high school. Others will register to attend AFFIRM and other camps and activities to learn more about God, themselves, and how faith is made real in the world.

Some will feed the hungry, and some will make worship accessible for all people, and some will make phone calls and write cards to those who are lonely. Some will shepherd young people through Scouting challenges and others will prepare make an Affirmation of Baptism or take their First Communion. Some will sit with a relative who is struggling, or hold the hand of someone who grieves, or laugh with a new friend, or soothe a sick pet.

All of you will bring new life into the world in one way or another, because you are Little Christs, Christians, into whom God has breathed resurrection.

This month, synod staff are offering a Revival Day for all of us dry bones who are awakening to new life. I invite you to join me at St. John's Lutheran Church (3259 McGavock Pike, Nashville) on Saturday, April 25th, at 9 a.m. We'll meet with other Middle Tennessee Lutherans, worship together, participate in three learning labs (Reviving Worship, Reviving Discipleship: Surviving to Thriving, and Reviving Hospitality: New Ways of Welcome), and gather practical tools to carry this breath of new life forward here at St. Timothy. Sound intriguing? Talk to me, and I'll help you get registered.

Walking with you in this resurrected life,

Pastor Amanda



From Our Music Director

"Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through music." - Martin Luther

Even the Servants Need a Savior

My God, My God, Why Have You Abandoned Me (Francesca LaRosa)

<https://youtu.be/KEbWJJCv72s?si=aRySurFE9OUOV078>

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Each year, Christians journey together through Lent, into the intensity of Holy Week, and ultimately to the joy of Easter morning. It is a season rich with reflection, repentance, and renewal—a time when many experience a deep and meaningful connection to God.

Unless, of course, you work for a church.

For pastors, music ministers, accompanists, lay leaders, and office staff, this sacred season often looks very different. While others are invited into stillness and contemplation, church workers are called into a period of cultivation and preparation. Every hymn selected, every bulletin printed, every rehearsal led, and every detail refined so that the congregation might fully experience the story of Christ's passion and resurrection.

It is holy work—but oh boy can it be exhausting.

It can also come at a greater cost.

There is a quiet irony in what we do. Like a chef who carefully prepares a delicious meal, we spend hours crafting something meaningful, only to place it on a table before others. Certainly, the act of preparation can be fulfilling in its own way, but it is often the recipients—the congregation—who get to savor the final course. Meanwhile, we church workers keep moving, ready to move on to the next set of worship services.

In the midst of all this, it is possible to feel a kind of spiritual distance. The weight of preparation can become so heavy that it distracts us from the very presence we are trying to help others encounter.

Serving God in these ways does not automatically guarantee a sense of closeness to Him.

Scripture reminds us that this feeling is not new. King David, experienced moments of deep anguish and distance. In Psalm 22, he cries out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" It is a striking question. Nearly a thousand years later, those same words were spoken by Jesus on the cross, in a moment of profound suffering and apparent separation.

To feel distant from God, especially in seasons that are meant to draw us closer, can be deeply unsettling. And yet, it is often in these very moments—when we feel the weight of our limitations, our exhaustion, or our fear—that we are reminded of our need for Him. The feeling of being "forsaken" does not mean that God has left us; rather, it can draw us into a deeper dependence on His presence and grace.

For those of us who serve the Church during this time, that reminder is especially important. Our work matters. It creates space for others to encounter the Gospel in powerful ways. But we, too, are in need of that same Gospel. We, too, long to experience the hope, peace, and joy that this season proclaims.

So as you walk through Holy Week—whether in the pew or behind the scenes—I invite you to pray not only for your own spiritual journey, but also for those who are helping to lead it. Pray that pastors, musicians, and all who serve might find moments of stillness amid the busyness. Pray that we would not lose sight of Christ in the details of our work, but that we, too, would experience the depth and beauty of God's presence in this holy season.

Alex Domeier
Director of Music Ministry



Upcoming Events



Sunshine Girls Bible Study

Please join us on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 10 a.m. in the Community Room. The dates for April are April 7 and April 21. Join this group for lively and sometimes humorous discussion as we relate Jesus's words to our daily lives. Everyone is invited!

Bluebirds Meet Monthly

The BLUEBIRDS is an adult fellowship group which meets monthly on the second Tuesday of the month. We gather at various local restaurants to enjoy food, fun and friendship. Everyone is invited to join us! Watch the bulletin for information on where we will be meeting each month!



EASTER BREAKFAST

This month, instead of our Monthly Potluck, we invite you and your family to the Easter Breakfast on Easter Sunday, April 5th. The Men of St. Timothy (MOST) will be serving breakfast between the 2 services on Easter Sunday morning (9:00am—10:30am). The menu is pancakes, scrambled eggs, ham, sausage, fruit, biscuits and gravy, juice and coffee. We hope you'll join us in Founder's Hall on April 5th as we celebrate our Savior's resurrection!

Join Us for Beer & Hymns Sunday, May 3rd

Where: Half Batch Brewing,
154 Bonita Parkway, Hendersonville

When: Sunday, May 3rd from 2:30 – 4:30 pm
Featuring Matt Steinhauer as our hymn leader

Please join us for this very fun and refreshing event!





Woven Together...Forward in Faith



REVIVAL DAY

Synod

"Will you not revive us again, so that your people may rejoice in you?" (Psalm 85:6)

REFRESH & REVIVE YOURSELF & CONGREGATION!

Join us for Synod Revival Days to jump start a revival through the church, for the life of the world! God is breathing life into us for global renewal, community transformation, for the flourishing of all!

Learning Labs will offer fresh ideas and tool kits to revive congregational ministries and community collaboration.

SCHEDULE

- 9:00-9:30 AM - Registration & Coffee
- 9:30-10:00 AM - Welcome & Keynote
- 10:00-11:00 AM - Learning Lab 1
- 11:15-12:15 PM - Learning Lab 2
- 12:15-1:00 PM - Lunch
- 1:00-2:00 PM - Learning Lab 3
- 2:15-3:00 PM - Closing Worship

[Register Now!](#)

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GOAL:

5+

people from each church

WHO IS INVITED?

- Congregation Members
- Lay Leaders
- Rostered Ministers
- Young Adults
- Confirmed Youth

DATES & LOCATIONS

JANUARY 24

Bethel Lutheran
Biloxi, MS

FEBRUARY 21

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran
Birmingham, AL

MARCH 14

Messiah Lutheran
Knoxville, TN

APRIL 25

St. John's Lutheran
Nashville, TN

LEARNING LABS

- Reviving Worship
- Reviving Discipleship: Surviving to Thriving
- Reviving Hospitality: New Ways of Welcome



Upcoming Events

THE HUNT IS ON
JOIN US FOR AN



**SUNDAY,
APRIL 5th
at 9:30 AM**

KIDS OF ALL AGES

**MEET US IN THE
LOWER LEVEL
PARKING LOT**

**BRING YOUR OWN
BAG OR BASKET**



Registration is now open!
AFFIRM 2026: See the Unseen
June 14-19, 2026
LaGrange College, LaGrange, GA



**APPLY TODAY to serve on our
2026 AFFIRM Staff!!!**
Staff Training Weekend: June 12 - 14

Want to change a life next summer?
(And maybe have yours changed too?)
AFFIRM staff applications are now open!



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Wednesday, April 1, 2026

5:00 - 7:00 pm, Indoor Labyrinth Walking Meditation

Maundy Thursday, April 2, 2026

Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion at 6:30 pm
The altar will also be stripped.

Good Friday, April 3, 2026

Good Friday Worship Services will be at
noon and 6:30 pm in the St. Timothy Sanctuary

Easter Vigil, April 4, 2026

Easter Vigil service will take place at 6:30 pm

Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026

All are welcome at our 8:00 am and 10:30 am worship services
Easter breakfast will be offered between services
(9:00 am – 10:15 am) in Founders Hall
For the children, we will also have an Easter Egg Hunt at 9:30 am.



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/CWZC8v0DAfGREBM/review>

Wild Women Take on Lutheridge!

Seventeen Wild Women from St. Timothy (& friends) packed up their snacks, their sass, and their holy laughter and headed to the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina for a joy-soaked weekend at Lutheridge. With the theme “**So She Laughed,**” we dove into the spirituality of joy through Bible study, creative workshops, and the kind of belly-laugh fellowship that can only happen when Wild Women gather.

Between mountain views, shared stories, and moments of sacred silliness, we were reminded that joy is not just a feeling—it’s a spiritual practice. And goodness, did we practice. (Did you see the video of our synchronized swimming on our *Friends of St. Timothy* FB page??)

And because one weekend of laughter is never enough...

Mark your calendars now: Wild Women Weekend 2027 is happening March 12–14!

Registration information will be sent out in September.

Curious what Wild Women Weekends are all about?

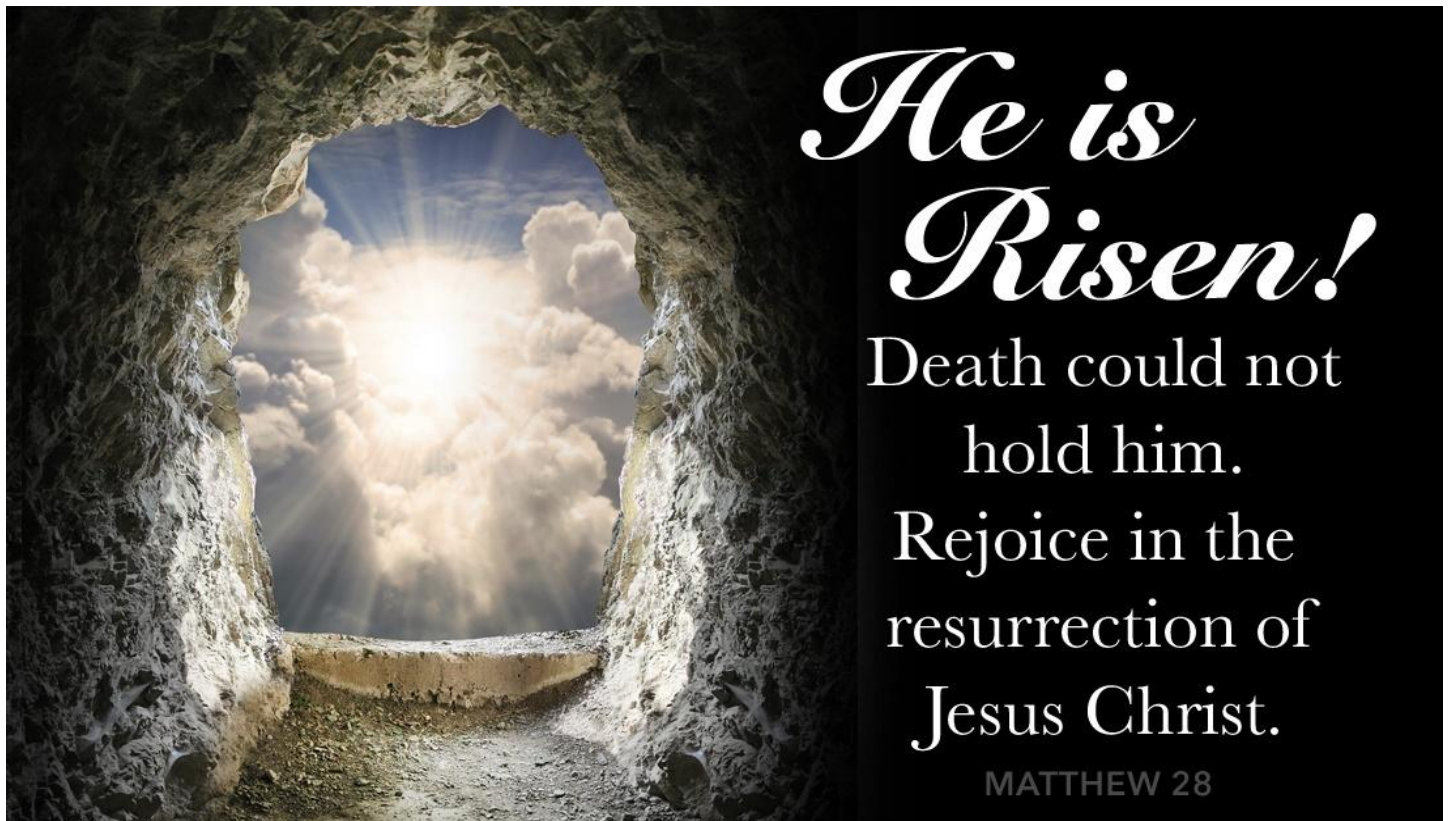
Reach out to **Jen Yamin** at jenbyamin@gmail.com—she’ll happily fill you in!





April 2026 Meetings

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Notes
Wed Apr 1	Outreach	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Zoom	Contact Melissa House for more information
Thurs Apr 9	Property	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Community Room	For more information contact Baker Kirkpatrick
Tue Apr 14	Learning	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Melissa Chowning.
Thurs Apr 16	Stewardship/ Finance	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Zoom	Contact David Miley for more information
Thurs Apr 23	Executive Committee	6:00 - 6:30 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Bradley Jones
Thurs Apr 23	Congregational Council	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Bradley Jones
Tue Apr 28	Worship & Music	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Library	Contact Alex Domeier for more information





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/>



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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 2026 issue is April 25th. Please [contact the church office](#) with any questions.



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

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