



St. Timothy Tidings

March, 2026

From the Pastor



It is March, and we are in the thick of Lent. Days are lengthening and the sun's attention awakens us from winter dormancy. Or at least it does me: I find myself stretching, taking deeper breaths, and moving with more energy (and it isn't just the coffee). Letters are flying between pen pals, daily devotions are calling us to move *and* be still with God, and midweek meditations invite us to sit in the desert wilderness with ourselves and meet Christ.

There is something about Lent that sharpens our faith. The intentional focus on the cross puts us in the dust next to Jesus. We walk beside him, considering the world from his perspective. We remember why we are Christian, and what it means to be disciples. We inhabit the identity of "little Christs," following our Teacher and Friend, and discovering again that God-is-with-us. And we are called forth to be with God to whatever end, though we know and trust that End is Love.

This month we keep our gaze focused on Jesus as we follow him to Jerusalem. On March 29th we will wave palm branches high in welcome at the beginning of worship—and shout "Crucify him!" at the end. During the evening on Holy Wednesday, a prayer labyrinth focused on the "I AM" statements of Christ will be available to walk in Founders Hall.

On Maundy Thursday (April 2), we will break bread together over a simple supper, celebrate Holy Communion, and witness the stripping of the altar. With the disciples, we flee into the night in silence.

The Good Friday (April 3) services have us keep watch at the foot of the cross and bear witness to the ways evil attempts to silence Love incarnate. We depart again in silence to bear the strain of the tomb's occupation.

Then, at sunset on Saturday (April 4), we gather again. The third day begins, a new fire is lit, and the first glimmers of hope come forth from the cracks around the tomb. We hear a few of the stories of salvation, the stories of how God draws close to us over and over again to bring healing, reconciliation, and salvation. We move from story to story, hope building, until we arrive in the nave and the first worship shouts ring out!

Christ will rise, and so will we.

But first: we walk beside Jesus in the dust toward Jerusalem.

Blessed journey.

+ 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

The Crown, for Our Souls

What Wondrous Love Is This (arr. Robert Scholz) - <https://youtu.be/DsVnvN3EVxY?si=O0tRscON-KDwKie2>

*What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.*

*When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, O my soul!
When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.*

*To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb who is the great "I AM,"
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme, I will sing.*

This winter, many of us in Tennessee experienced something we do not often see: not just a gentle blanket of snow, but a relentless ice storm. Roads became impassable. Tree limbs snapped, which led to downed power lines. For many, the lights were out for days—more than a week in certain areas.

And yet, in the midst of the cold and uncertainty, something the community came together.

Neighbors opened their homes. Those with four-wheel drive offered to help rescue trapped individuals. People ran errands for those who could not leave. Food was shared. Warmth was offered, and comfort was extended. This was sacrificial love in action—people putting others before themselves.

While Jesus teaches us to exhibit this kind of love, it's also a love that feels radical in our world. It demands that we place someone else's well-being above our own comfort. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus consistently embodies a love that disrupts expectations.

Romans 5:8 reminds us that God demonstrates His love not when we had everything together, not when we were righteous or deserving—but "while we were still sinners."

Before repentance and before gratitude, Christ died for us. And it is with this example that we are given a standard for how we love others.

We often rush toward Easter morning. We long for the celebration of the resurrection, and for the triumphant "He is risen!" But we cannot skip Good Friday. We cannot fully celebrate the empty tomb without first standing at the foot of the cross, and looking up at the wondrous love displayed before us.

During that ice storm, love looked like warm meals, borrowed generators, and open guest rooms. It looked like people rearranging schedules and sacrificing convenience.

Lent calls us to reflect not only on Christ's suffering but on the heart behind it. The cross was not simply endured—it was embraced for our sake.

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. No preparation is required. It helps to read the Bible chapter to be discussed. Most people buy an informative text Matthew for Everyone Part 2 by N. T. Wright.

Join this group for lively and sometimes humorous discussion as we relate Jesus's words to our daily lives. Come as you are.

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!



MONTHLY POTLUCK

For the last several years, St. Timothy has been committed to having a Monthly Potluck - a time after the Sunday morning worship service to gather for delicious food and fun, informal fellowship. March's Potluck will take place on Sunday, March 22nd. Everyone is invited and you don't want to miss it!



Daylight Savings time 2026 BEGINS
at 2:00am on Sunday, March 8th!
Don't forget to turn your clocks
AHEAD ONE HOUR
before going to bed on March 7th!

Shrove Pancake Brunch

Thank you everyone for supporting the Pancake Brunch! We hope you all enjoyed it as you prepare for Lent. A huge thank you to all who helped in making it a success: Kathy Graham, Steve Glor, Matt Chowning, Cheryl Tsuchiyama, Janet Ortman, Melanie Ortman, Sharon Adkins, Reid Yamin, Claire Fisher, The Taylor Family, The Grant Family, Austin & Aubrey Marriott, Layton Tucker, and Jennifer Taylor Howard! Thank you, thank you!

We had a very good turnout! This event was sponsored by the Youth Group and Hospitality Committee. Reid and Claire did a wonderful job of decorating and the youth helped serve and cook pancakes! There was also a Blessingway for Baby Brown and family, offering prayers, and blessings and they were given prayer beads from congregation members.



The 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering is more than an event — it's a movement where young people and leaders come alive in faith, grow in hope and move with purpose. This is where the church comes to life.

The main event will take place June 28—July 2, 2027. Plan now to be a part of the event.



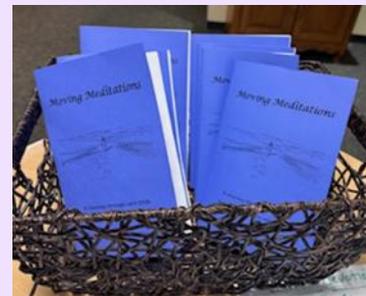
Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Thanks to everyone who donated food items for the Room in the Inn men's sack lunches. The Outreach Committee prepared the lunch bags which were overflowing with food and love.

Moving Meditations

(our Lenten devotions)

The Outreach Committee would like to say a big ***"Thank you"*** to everyone who helped make this devotional journal come to life. We could not have completed this without the countless writers and Pastor Amanda for her hours spent editing and formatting.



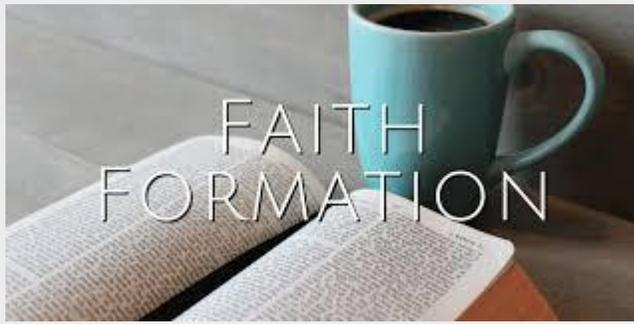
Thanks to everyone who donated eyeglasses for the Hendersonville Rotary's mission trip. The Rotary was super appreciative of the glasses. Thanks for your generosity.

Thank you to everyone who offered beads and a prayer to the Brown family on February 15th! Here are our prayers for them, all strung together.



Easter Breakfast is Back!

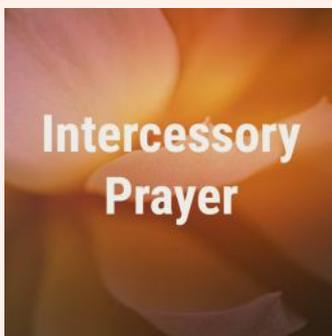
The Men of St. Timothy (MOST) are serving Easter breakfast once again this year. Please plan to join us for Easter breakfast between the two services on April 5. More details are forthcoming and we will post a sign-up sheet soon in the Narthex. Thank you!



The Adult Faith Formation class is looking for a teacher. The class is discussion oriented and there are lots of opinions. Please join us Sunday morning March 1st at 9:00 in the library and we can tell you all about it!

GARDEN MINISTRY COORDINATOR NEEDED

Our church garden ministry is a beautiful expression of service and fellowship. Each year, dedicated volunteers grow fresh vegetables in the garden behind the church, sharing the harvest with neighbors in need of food assistance. As we look ahead to the coming spring planting season, we are seeking a volunteer Garden Coordinator to help lead this ministry. The coordinator's role includes planning for the season, coordinating volunteer schedules, and ensuring a weekly rotation of helpers to nurture and harvest the garden. You will not be stepping into this role alone—our long-serving coordinator, who recently retired, has graciously offered support, guidance, and training during the transition. If you are interested, please contact Brad Jones at president@sttimothycouncil.com or 615-239-4519. We invite you to prayerfully consider being part of this life-giving ministry.



St. Timothy Intercessory Prayer Committee

For those of you who are new to the church, you may not know about this small group of people who regularly pray for you and your loved ones upon request. This includes prayer requests that you want to be public to the church community, as well as those you would prefer to be kept in the confidence of the prayer group. If you have prayer requests, you may contact Donna Burnett by text or phone at 808-284-8437 or Sue Peterson at 615-585-9524. You may also use the Prayer Request cards in the back of the pews and at the Usher's table in the Narthex and place them in the offertory plate during church service.



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!



March 2026 Meetings

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Notes
Wed Mar 4	Outreach	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Zoom	Contact Melissa House for more information
Thurs Mar 5	Property	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Community Room	For more information contact Baker Kirkpatrick
Tue Mar 10	Learning	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Melissa Chowning.
Thurs Mar 19	Stewardship/ Finance	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Zoom	Contact David Miley for more information
Mon Mar 23	Youth	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Zoom	Contact Melissa Chowning for more information
Tue Mar 24	Worship & Music	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Library	Contact Alex Domeier for more information
Thurs Mar 26	Executive Committee	6:00 - 6:30 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Ken Tsuchiyama
Thurs Mar 26	Congregational Council	6:30 -7:30 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Ken Tsuchiyama





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



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

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Gretchen Person, Accompanist
Nancy Krieg, Church Administrative Assistant
The Rev. Paul Frank, Pastor Emeritus