



St. Timothy Tidings

October 2026

From the Pastor

“You’ve heard it said...!”

During the month of October, we’re exploring the various words of wisdom” we’ve heard over the years around faith and money. We all come to money—and to our understanding of the relationship between God, ourselves, church, and money—with certain learned behaviors and attitudes. Not all of those notions are helpful. As we unpack some of that baggage, I invite you to engage in the at-home practices that invite deeper reflection, either with the people in your home or with a buddy. I encourage you join me in thinking about how our use of money reflects healthy and unhealthy things we’ve heard said about faith and finances. On Reformation Sunday, October 25, I welcome your partnership as we think about putting a different frame around generosity in our giving, shedding some practices that no longer serve us and experimenting with new ones. Not only will we make promises about our estimated financial giving for 2027, but we’ll think about how we will make use of the skills and time we have been given to serve God and our community with generous hearts through our Time & Talent Carnival!

We’ll already be putting our generosity into practice. The families of St. Tim are heading out for a fun day at the zoo in honor of St. Francis of Assisi’s feast day. The sharing of time with one another provides opportunity for relationships to take root beyond the church walls. Meanwhile, we’ll be blessing animals at Memorial Park, offering a public witness to our neighbors that their furry/fluffy/scaley/feathered loved ones are dear to God. The youth will be hosting a murder mystery dinner later in the month to raise money for their participation in the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering, where they’ll meet youth from across the country who share their faith, who are excited to serve alongside their neighbors, and who welcome challenge and deep engagement with God, the Church, and the world.

The Road Warriors will gather this month to care for God’s good creation and for our community in Hendersonville as they work on roadside cleanup. Along the same vein, the Scouts are planning to work on Austin Mariott’s Eagle project, creating a haven for wildlife to rest, be nourished, and thrive in our backyard. On a completely different note, we will celebrate together with Beer & Hymns, a time for everyone to relax, sing heartily, and drink a favorite beverage. It’s a beautiful counter-witness to our neighbors that Christians can gather and have fun in public, and that joy is an important spiritual practice in our life together.

During this stewardship season, let’s keep discerning God’s preferred future for St. Tim. Let’s keep dreaming God’s dreams. Let’s work on identifying and shedding those things we’ve “heard said” which limit us, and let’s embrace God’s generosity as a call to keep passing on God’s very good gifts.

With heart,
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

No Extra Credit in the Kingdom - There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy - Calvin Hampton

<https://youtu.be/26ttkPAiuFA?si=EuzayDz65zGhHSIE>

*There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in His justice
which is more than liberty.*

*There is welcome for the sinner,
and more graces for the good;
there is mercy with the Savior;
there is healing in His blood.*

*For the love of God is broader
than the measure of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully king.*

*If our love were but more simple,
we would take Him at His word,
and our lives would be illumined
By the presence of our Lord.*

Whether it was in school or at work, most of us have had to participate in a group project at some point in our lives. And when it comes to group work, there's often that one group member who seems to disappear when it's time to get work done, contributes next to nothing, and then magically reappears just in time to share the credit. If you've ever been part of one, you know exactly the kind of person I'm talking about. Meanwhile, the rest of the group has spent hours researching, writing, and putting everything together. It hardly seems fair that everyone should receive the same grade.

We teach our children that you reap what you sow. If you put in the work, you will see the results. If you fail to put in the effort, you shouldn't expect to receive the same reward as someone who has worked hard. In many areas of life, this is a lesson worth learning. Effort matters, responsibility matters, and our actions have consequences.

But when it comes to the grace of God, the rules are a little different. In Matthew 20, Jesus tells the parable of the workers in the vineyard. Some workers begin their day early in the morning, while others are hired later in the afternoon. Yet when the time comes to receive their wages, every worker receives the same amount. Those who have worked all day are understandably frustrated. It doesn't seem fair that those who worked only an hour should receive the same pay as those who have labored through the heat of the day.

But the landowner responds by reminding them that he has done them no wrong. He has simply chosen to be generous. And that is the heart of God's grace.

When it comes to our salvation, we are not the group members who did all the work while someone else sat back and took the credit. We are all the group members who have fallen short. No matter how hard we try, how much good we do, or how faithfully we serve, we cannot earn our way into God's favor. Our salvation is not a reward for a job well done. It is a gift freely given through the love and mercy of God.

Recognizing this truth invites us into a deeper sense of humility. We are all standing on the same playing field. There is no extra credit in the kingdom of God. No one earns a better grade. No one receives a larger share of God's love because they have done more, served longer, or made fewer mistakes. We all stand in need of the same grace, and we all receive the same invitation to God's love.

And that is so freeing.

We don't have to spend our lives trying to prove that we are worthy of God's love. We don't have to compete with one another for a greater share of God's mercy. We can let go of the pressure to earn what has already been freely given.

The grace we receive from God isn't about fairness; it's about generosity. It is a generosity that meets us in our shortcomings, forgives our failures, and welcomes us into the fullness of God's love.

How beautiful is the grace we are given. How freeing is the mercy we receive. May we carry that same generosity into our relationships with others, remembering that the love we have received is not ours to ration, but ours to share.

Alex Domeier
Director of Music Ministry



Upcoming Events



Sunshine Girls Bible Study

The Sunshine Girls meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 10am in the Community Room. Join this group for lively discussion as we relate Jesus's words to our daily lives. Everyone is invited! In October we will meet on the 6th and 20th of the month.



Beer & Hymns

Where: Half Batch Brewing
154 Bonita Pkwy, Hendersonville

When: **Sunday, Oct. 11th 2:30 – 4:30**

Featuring Matt Steinhauer and "the band"

Please join us for this very fun and refreshing event!

The Hospitality Committee invites YOU to join us for a potluck! We have them every month. October's Potluck is Sunday, October 18. Mark your calendar and come to Founders Hall between the services to enjoy great food and great fellowship.



ELCA Southeastern Synod Young Adult and Youth Ministry

What lies ahead? Join us November 7-8 in Franklin, TN and let's explore together!



**Daylight Savings Time ends
at 2:00 AM on
Sunday, November 1st!
Don't forget to turn your
clocks BACK before you go
to bed on Saturday night!**

Zoo Scavenger Hunt

Calling all children, youth, and families! On Saturday, October 3, meet in the lower church parking lot to carpool/caravan to the Nashville Zoo at Grassmere for a day of exploration and learning as we follow St. Francis' example to love all of God's beautiful creatures! Sign up here:

<https://sttimothyhendersonville.breezechms.com/form/33a1e4>



2027 Stewardship Campaign

Kickoff: October 4

Ministry Moments: October 4, 11, 18, 25

**Pledge Sunday: October 25 (pledging our financial gifts,
but also our time and talents!)**



Electronic Giving!

If you give electronically and you miss putting something in the collection plate, you can use these cards that are in the pews! It is also an easy way to scan and give!



For more info you can
contact
Jen @ 615-512-7806 or
email jenbyamin@gmail.com

It's Time to Register for Wild Women! March 5-7, 2027



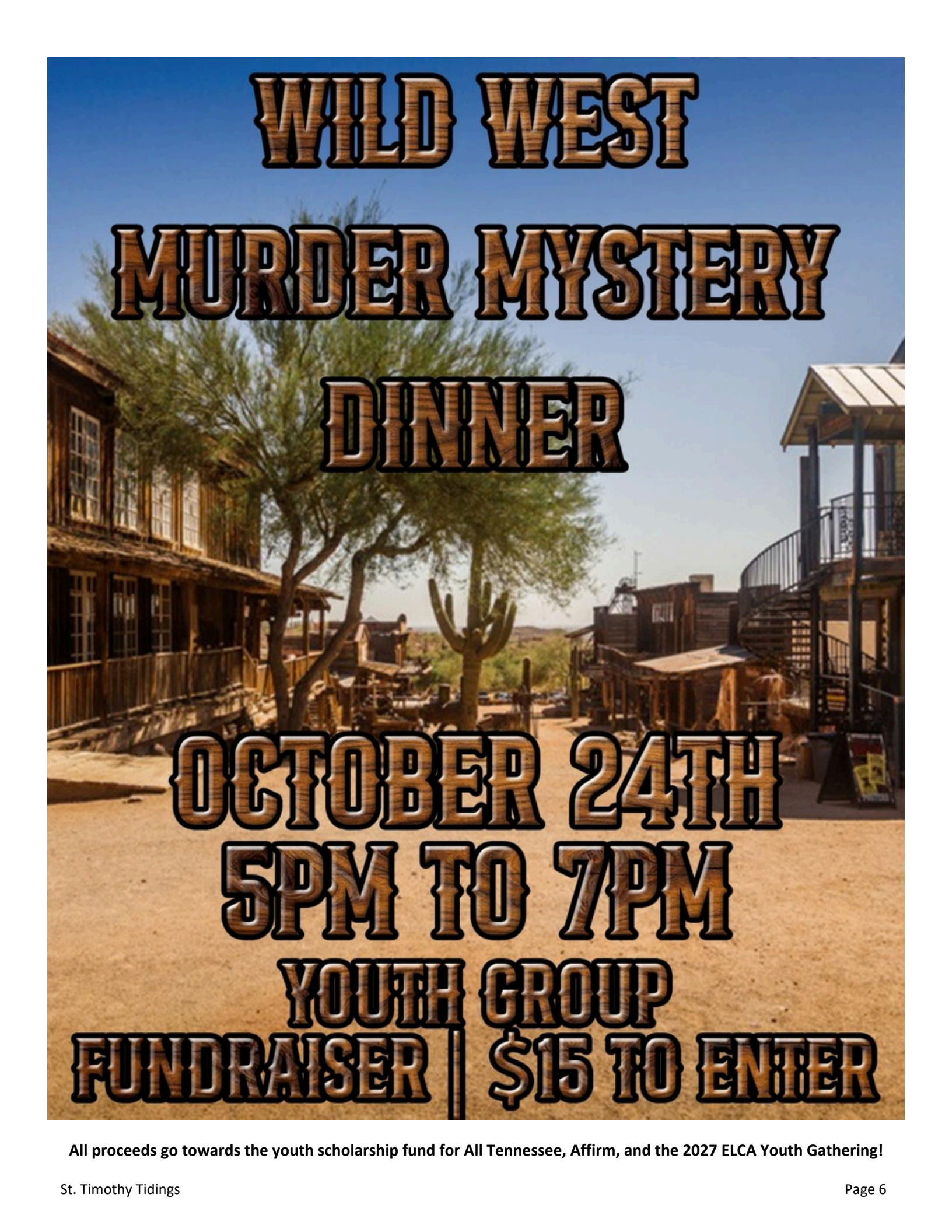
Email Jen Yamin at jenbyamin@gmail.com
for a registration form.

Please get them back to her

NO LATER than October 25th!

Registration Fee Covers overnight accommodations, meals, and programming
\$285/dbl \$327/sgl
Partial Scholarships are available





WILD WEST MURDER MYSTERY DINNER

**OCTOBER 24TH
5PM TO 7PM
YOUTH GROUP
FUNDRAISER | \$15 TO ENTER**

All proceeds go towards the youth scholarship fund for All Tennessee, Affirm, and the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering!

BLESSING OF THE PETS



What: Pastor Amanda will be blessing your pets

Where: Memorial Park at the shelter

When: Saturday, October 3rd, 10:00 – 11:30

Notes: Pets must be on a leash or contained in some manner.

Please join us as we bless our loved animals and celebrate God's creations.

Time and Talent CARNIVAL!

Sunday, October 25th following the 10:30 worship service!

A carnival-style parish event where each committee and group will host a playful booth that showcases their ministry's personality. Parishioners wander, laugh, meet leaders, and discover where their gifts might fit.

**FOOD! PRIZES! FUN FOR ALL!
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

All Committee Meeting for Chairs and Liaisons

Committee chairs (or their designees) and Council members are invited to an "all committee" meeting on Sunday, October 4th immediately following the 10:30 service. We will meet in the Community Room. On our agenda: budgets and important updates from Council. Join us!

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

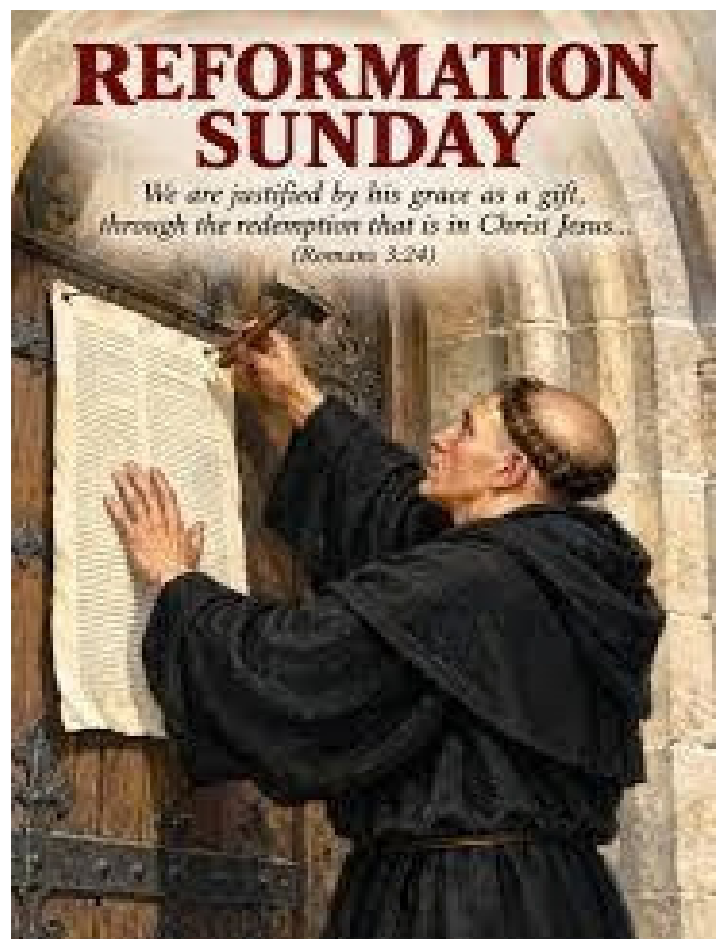
It's a proven fact that organizations with five or more reviews get seen much more frequently on Google!

Use this link: <https://g.page/r/CWZC8v0DAfGREBM/review>



October 2026 Meetings

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Notes
Thurs Oct 1	Property	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Community Room	For more information contact Baker Kirkpatrick
Wed Oct 7	Outreach	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Zoom	Contact Melissa House for more information
Tue Oct 13	Learning	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Melissa Chowning.
Thurs Oct 15	Stewardship/ Finance	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Zoom	Contact David Miley for more information
Thurs Oct 22	Executive Committee	6:00 - 6:30 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Melanie Ortman
Thurs Oct 22	Congregational Council	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Melanie Ortman
Tue Oct 27	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/>



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



St. Timothy
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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