



# ***St. Timothy Tidings***

## ***September, 2025***



### **From the Pastor**

Friends in Christ,

It's Stewardship Season! Or it will be by the time this month is over.

Beginning September 20/21, we'll start our exploration of the Christian discipline of stewardship, a way of living out our faith that sees all facets of life from the lens of "gift," and how we use gifts to participate in God's mission in the world. Our theme this year is "What We Can Do: Responding to God's Generosity." Each week as we worship, we'll explore together

"Kin-dom Investing with Worldly Currency"

Opening Our Eyes

Enough for Our Work

Gratitude > Obedience

Persisting

Change

and Curiosity to Commitment

There will be at-home devotions and journaling activities for those who want to dig deeper, some "bonus" stewardship activities around the church, games for children and youth, social media engagement, and more.

Now, of course, stewardship season is about money. We're going to talk finances, a lot more than most of us are comfortable with—myself included. It's inevitable. Did you know that, of all the topics the Bible addresses, the human relationship with money is second only to God? Jesus talks about economics more than 250 times in the gospels. So yeah, we'll talk about money, because not talking about money is not being faithful to the gospel and ignores one of God's core concerns about our wellbeing.

But stewardship is more than money! Stewardship includes physical, emotional, social or interpersonal, intellectual, and vocational wellbeing just as much as it does financial wellbeing. And it is all centered and re-centered upon our spiritual wellbeing. The waters of baptism flow throughout all aspects of our lives. There's no part Christ doesn't touch.

As we begin a season of stewardship, we embark on an intentional treasure hunt: looking for God's good gifts in our lives and how we use those gifts to bless ourselves and others. One way you may begin is by using the Wholeness Wheel Labyrinth (below) to pray, noticing what God is up to in each of these areas of your life. How can we leverage our good gifts to be gifts to others?

I'm excited to see what God is stirring in us as the community of St. Timothy, and what God might be calling us to explore as a living, growing, and thriving body of Christ in Sumner County, Tennessee.

In Christ's love,  
Pastor Amanda



## Pray the Wholeness Wheel Labyrinth

**Trace the path and prayerfully consider how you experience each dimension**

**Rest in the center, trace the cross and remember you are a child of God**

**Follow the path as it returns outward and listen for the Spirit's nudges**



## 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*

### Growing in Ministry, Growing in Gratitude

For the Beauty of the Earth (John Rutter) - <https://youtu.be/AEeHADqj8TU?si=il74pJWj-S6pENx9>

*For the beauty of the earth,  
for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies.*

*Refrain:*

*Christ, our Lord, to you we raise  
this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the wonder of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale and tree and flower,  
sun and moon and stars of light, [Refrain]*

*For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth, and friends above,  
for all gentle thoughts and mild, [Refrain]*

*For yourself, best gift divine,  
to the world so freely given,  
agent of God's grand design:  
peace on earth and joy in heaven. [Refrain]*

Over the past year, I've enjoyed watching our church's music ministry flourish. We've been able to come together for two concerts: a Christmas concert with our choir and a spring concert featuring our handbell ensemble. Members of the congregation and guests from our community experience God's presence through beautiful music.

Both performances, as well as our music in weekly worship, have been spurred by the hearts of many volunteers dedicated to ministry, as well as growth in the rosters of both ensembles. We've worked through music that is not only rich musically, but stirring spiritually.

As I've reflected on the growth and accomplishments of this ministry, I've also been reminded of the importance of our gratitude to the One who gives us these opportunities to serve. It is God who places a spirit of worship and service in us, and it is to Him that our greatest thanks must be given.

Hebrews 13:15 reminds us that through Jesus, we are to *continually offer a sacrifice of praise. Praise isn't reserved for special occasions or big moments; it's meant to be woven into the fabric of our lives.*

Recently, I came across a devotional thought that struck a chord (pardon the pun). We tend to express gratitude in reverse proportion to what we have. The more we are blessed, the less thankful we tend to be.

As a ministry leader, when I see growth, I often think, *"What more can we do?" More music, more events, more impact.* While that forward-thinking can be good, I have to pause and ask myself: Have I remembered to give thanks for what already is?

As we grow in ministry, we must also grow in gratitude. Not just for what God is doing through us, but for who He is—faithful, generous, and worthy of praise. Let every note we sing, every bell we ring, and every breath we take be an offering of worship to the One who deserves it all.

Alex Domeier, Director of Music Ministry



## Upcoming Events



### Sunshine Girls Bible Study

The Sunshine Girls are back! We will resume the study of Matthew on Tuesday, September 16. You are invited to join this group of fun and interesting ladies who meet on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month in the Community Room at 10:00am. Everyone is welcome!

### Bluebirds Meet Tuesday, September 9th

The BLUEBIRDS' next meeting will be Tuesday, September 9, 2025, 11:30 am, at O'Charlie's Restaurant, 1009 Village Green Crossing, Gallatin. See you all then!



### MONTHLY POTLUCK

We have a Monthly Potluck in Founders Hall after the Sunday morning worship service! Please join with your fellow congregants after worship to enjoy fun, food and fellowship. Watch the bulletin for dates!



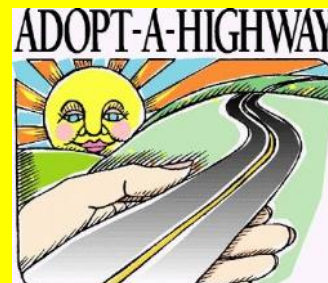
### HOLY CROSS DAY

This festival, which originated in the fourth century, celebrates the triumph of the cross. Paul reminds us that Christ crucified is the power and wisdom of God. As Moses put a serpent on a pole to be a source of healing for the Israelites, we lift high the cross as the sign of our health and salvation. Each time we make the sign of the cross we remember our baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ.

During worship on September 13/14, there will be a special blessing of crosses and crucifixes. Everyone is invited to bring crosses from home to be blessed as we "Lift High the Cross" on this special day in the liturgical calendar.

### Attention Road Warriors!

We have a road clean-up date set for **Saturday, September 20th**, and would like for you to join in and help us clean our section of Highway 31E. The rules are simple. You need to be 12 years old or older and adults should accompany ages 12 to 17. We will meet in the back parking lot at church, at 8:00am. Vests and bags will be furnished. If you have any questions, call Baker Kirkpatrick at 615-452-2903 or email at [bpkirk@bellsouth.net](mailto:bpkirk@bellsouth.net).







## THANK YOU, EMERSON EADES!

One of our young members, Emerson Eades, conducted a special book drive during the period from 8/9 to 8/24. The books collected during this drive were delivered to the Alcorn County, Mississippi Correctional Facility for the reading pleasure of inmates housed there. The books will be used to support inmate rehabilitation, in addition to the GED and adult education programs provided at the facility.

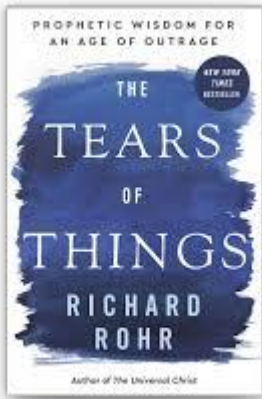
We commend Emerson on his thoughtful, caring efforts to help those who don't always receive the support and compassion they need.



**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>



## Adult Faith Formation

Here is the book & workbook we are studying for the year. Kate Thomas will have a copy of the book and workbook at Rally Day on September 7. You would need to purchase your copy of both from wherever you buy your books.

### **The Tears of Things: Prophetic Wisdom for an Age of Outrage** *Richard Rohr (Author)*

In his first major work since *The Universal Christ*, one of our most prominent spiritual voices offers a wholehearted and hope-filled model for the world today, grounded in the timeless wisdom of the Hebrew prophets.

How do we live compassionately in a time of violence and despair? What can we do with our private disappointments and the anger we feel in such an unjust world? In his most personal book yet, Richard Rohr turns to the writings of the Jewish prophets, revealing how some of the lesser-read books of the Bible offer us a crucial path forward today.

The prophets' writings reflect the full spectrum of human maturity. In almost every case, their initial rage and their accusatory words evolve into a profound pathos and lamentation about our shared human condition and the world's suffering. Through astute critiques of culture and institutions, and their journey from anger to sadness, and ultimately compassion, the prophets exemplify what Rohr calls "sacred criticism"—a distinct approach to confronting evil and injustice that acknowledges the wholeness of history, the interconnectedness of every living being, and the reality of a divine and universal love. In this, they set the stage for Jesus, who follows this identical pattern. Drawing on a century of biblical scholarship and written in the warm, pastoral voice that has endeared Rohr to millions, *The Tears of Things* breathes new life into ancient wisdom. It paves a path of enlightenment for anyone seeking a compassionate way of living in a hurting world.

Please contact Kate Thomas if you are interested, as it determines in which room we will meet. 505-412-9255 (text or call); [kateallensrose@gmail.com](mailto:kateallensrose@gmail.com)



To our church family, we thank you for all your prayers & support this past year. Through all of dad's struggles, you were with us. We are so blessed to have you in our lives. We couldn't have made it without you! We know dad is smiling and watching over us!

Janet, Melanie, Matt, Melissa, & Jacob



# Spaghetti for Scouting

A huge thank you to everyone that came out and supported the Spaghetti for Scouting fundraiser for Troop 9 (girls) and Troop 157 (boys). It isn't cheap to run a youth development program like this and St. Timothy and the larger community really showed up, helping us raise more than \$2000! We hope to make this an annual event, so even more fun to come next year! And for those who were keeping track, the Monkey Bread from Troop 157's Casanova Lam took top prize at the dessert competition (he has been working on perfecting that one at campouts for a couple years)!





# September 2025 Meetings

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Notes
Wed Sep 3	Outreach	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Zoom	Contact Melissa House for more information
Thurs Sep 4	Property	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Community Room	For more information contact Baker Kirkpatrick
Tue Sep 9	Learning	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Janel Tucker or Melanie Ortman.
Thurs Sep 18	Community Garden	6:00 - 7:00 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Ron Morgenstern
Thurs Sep 18	Stewardship/ Finance	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Zoom	Contact David Miley for more information
Mon Sep 22	Youth	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Zoom	Contact Melanie Ortman for more information
Tue Sep 23	Worship & Music	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Library	Contact Alex Domeier for more information
Thurs Sep 25	Executive Committee	6:00 - 6:30 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Ken Tsuchiyama
Thurs Sep 25	Congregational Council	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Ken Tsuchiyama







Mark your calendar and tell your friends!  
On **Saturday, October 4th at 10:30am** Pastor Amanda will be blessing the animals in Memorial Park at the shelter. Your pet must be on a leash or contained in some manner. Please join us as we bless our loved animals and celebrate God's creation.



**FROM THE STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE COMMITTEE**— This is a very serious and important season for St. Timothy as we are faced with a very expensive replacement cost for the A/C in the sanctuary. Some might consider giving an extra gift of a STOCK. Also, if you are 70 ½, age or older, here is another way to give from your investments while reducing your taxable income.

**Request a QCD (Qualified Charitable Distribution):** A Qualified Charitable Distribution allows you to donate directly to a charity like St. Timothy which counts toward your RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) and may reduce your taxable income. Here's how to submit your request to your investment firm:

**Step 1. Select the QCD Amount.** Select the dollar amount for the QCD (Maximum of \$108,000) that will be withdrawn from your account's fund.

**Step 2. Verify the Charity (St. Timothy Lutheran Church).** Your investment firm will have a database of charities for your convenience. You can verify "St. Timothy Lutheran Church of Hendersonville, TN" as the charity that you wish to receive the amount.

**Step 3. After you submit the request to your investment firm, they will mail you a check** with the primary address of St. Timothy Lutheran Church. (Usually, the check should arrive within 10 business days. Some investment firms will electronically send the amount directly to the charity.

**Step 4. If your investment firm sends you the check,** you are responsible to send the check or bring the check to St. Timothy.

**Step 5. St. Timothy will send you a receipt of your gift for proof when you file your taxes.**

# Wild Women Weekend

## March 13-15, 2026

Ladies of St. Tims (& friends)! Can you believe it? It's already time to plan for our annual pilgrimage to the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina for a retreat just for women: **Wild Women Weekend!**

Lutheridge has asked that group registrations be submitted by November 14th so I will be coordinating getting our participant registration forms beginning October 24th/25th.

### PROGRAM ELEMENTS

*Comfortable Accommodations*

*Delicious Meals*

*Bible Study*

*Small & Large Group Discussions*

*Group Activities*

*Worship*

*AND FUN!!!!*

Cost: \$265/Double \$325/Single (Scholarships Available)



Questions? Reach out to Jen Yamin at (615) 512-7806 or email [jenbyamin@gmail.com](mailto:jenbyamin@gmail.com)



# 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](mailto:sttimtidings@gmail.com). Deadline for the October 2025 issue is September 25th. Please [contact the church office](#) with any questions.



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

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The Rev. Amanda Spangler, Pastor  
Alex Domeier, Director of Music Ministries  
Gretchen Person, Accompanist  
Nancy Krieg, Church Administrative Assistant  
The Rev. Paul Frank, Pastor Emeritus