



By Pastor Yukio Hamada

**W**e hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights...

These immortal words recall the vision that America's founding fathers saw when they dared to declare independence from the tyranny of unjust taxation and oppressive rule. It's sort of ironic that some of the signers of this declaration of independence were slave owners and lived in a society that oppressed men and women from Africa to work under oppressive conditions. Nevertheless, **despite that sad circumstance, latter-day Americans expanded these words and that dream to finally emancipate those Black slaves to be American in 1863.**

St. Timothy Lutheran Church  
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WORSHIP WITH US ONLINE any  
Sunday at 10 am, online at [Zoom.us](https://zoom.us/j/84695867893)  
[meeting 846 9586 7893 code: 307128](https://zoom.us/j/84695867893)

Newsletter E-mail  
[sainttimothypdx@gmail.com](mailto:sainttimothypdx@gmail.com)

Newsletter Deadline is the Wednesday  
before the last Sunday of the month.

But, we all know that the Black dream is still not a fulfilled reality because, even in our lifetime and today, **we know that prejudice still exists.** Martin Luther King Jr's dream of seeing his Black son walking hand-in-hand with a little White girl has not come to fruition. And, even though there have been laws passed to institute an integrated society, **the dream still remains elusive.**

In some ways **what exists in our sinful world is not what Jesus envisioned.** Jesus saw a world in which love eclipsed power and oppression. So, as we celebrate American independence, **in such a time like this, it is important and crucial that Christians take seriously our Christian freedom.** In his Treatise on Christian Liberty Martin Luther wrote that, when Christians are by our love for God and others, we would devote our lives to service. **Luther asserted that our freedom is not license to do whatever we please, but a liberation to live a life of joyful obedience and service to God and our neighbor.**

We live in a diverse and multifaceted culture and it seems that **God is challenging us to see the world in new ways, to appreciate the kaleidoscope of color, race, and ethnicities.** Jesus certainly saw his world differently than the religious legalism of his time and he welcomed the outcast, the sinner, and excluded. **Who are we challenged to welcome?**

In the current political climate, it seems that much of humankind has distanced ourselves from God and the fruit of that God-less spirit has resulted in division, futility, frustration, and hopelessness. God doesn't want this. **God wants the world to be free.** God wants the world to know that God loves the world. **God**

**wants the world to have the fruits of his Spirit: love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.** When the world produces that kind of fruit, then we will have real freedom. Martin Luther said in his treatise that Christian freedom means, "A Christian is the most free lord of all... A Christian is most dutiful servant of all, and subject to everyone." God is calling us to serve. **God is calling us bring light into our present darkness. In the words of the Prophet Micah, God is calling us to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God?...**

## Social Concerns

**Sherry Willmschen**

**Food Pantry:** St. Timothy has seen continuous increases in participants coming by for assistance. We served 231 in June, some visitors come weekly. We had 1100 pounds received from Portland Food Project and enormous support from members. Food is flowing out of the pantry. It is especially important to have water and other beverages on hand for the heat. We have handouts on the heat, other pantries close-by, Cultivate Initiatives for the houseless, and summer activities for families, especially parks. I am so thankful for consistent and caring volunteers in the pantry. Also, thank you to our shoppers for helping purchase food when the shelves are low on food.

**Snow-Cap:** We continue to collect clothes and empty egg cartons for them.

**Cultivate Initiatives:** We are planning Gods Work Our Hands in September at their facility.

**JUNE 5TH SUNDAY:** The recipient is Lutheran Community Services of the NW. Staff came to visit to tell us about their services including counseling and helping refugees/immigrants. This organization is a blessing to all of us.

**AUGUST 5TH SUNDAY:** Our Fifth Sunday recipient for August is the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. We have supported this organization for many years and had a team to walk when Relay was more active. This year we want to dedicate our August 5th Sunday in honor of Jean Whitford who was always there to participate and support this event. So many others in our community have confronted cancer.

The funds raised are used for research and services to people and their families with cancer. Please consider and pray about your donation and consider donating a treasure to the drawing to be held during the church picnic. Let's support the American Cancer Society.



## Fellowship

**Cheryl Nelson**

The Coffee Hour set up is a busy time. I am so thankful to Marie, Twila, Shannon and Candace for their help! Many hands make easy work, plus we share laughter, too!

The labeling of the cabinets and drawers has helped us find stuff. The instructions for the coffee hour set up have been posted on the board by the door. This should make it easy for people to know what to do each Sunday. The Brain Book for Fellowship is almost done – just a few more tweaks and it will be ready to be left in the kitchen for use, probably by the microwave.

For Father's Day, the celebration with

strawberry shortcake and other berries, was a good success! Yum!  
 The memorial for Janet Shannon was wonderful! The tributes and music were so inspiring. Gary and his family did most of the work and supplied the food. Many thanks to the congregation members for their participation in set up and clean up.  
 Would you like to participate in Fellowship activities? You are more than welcome and there is plenty to do. The activities include coffee hour and potluck set up and clean up, as well as other church activities throughout the year such as the various holidays and the church picnic – the fun never ends. Speaking of the church picnic, there will be a sign up sheet out soon so you can let us know what you would like to bring to add to the festivities.  
 On Sunday, July 6th, come to coffee hour to enjoy the red, white and blue shortcake dessert. You fix it yourself so

it is always how you like it. As a side note, on any Sunday, you can bring any refreshments you would like to share.

### **Property Ray Whitford**

The property committee is asking the congregation if there are individuals or families that would consider adopting a flowerbed/plot of land at the church to maintain and beautify nine months out of the year. Contact Ray @ 503-936-7439 (text please).

## **July Worship Services**

If you are unable to make your scheduled Sunday, please contact another person to take your place.

	<b>July 6</b>	<b>July 13</b>	<b>July 20</b>	<b>July 27</b>
<b>Preacher</b>	<b>Pastor Yukio Hamada</b>	<b>Pastor Yukio Hamada</b>	<b>Pastor Yukio Hamada</b>	<b>Pastor Yukio Hamada</b>
<b>Assistant</b>	<b>Sherry W.</b>	<b>Ray W.</b>	<b>Shannon H.</b>	<b>Sherry W.</b>
<b>Lector</b>	<b>Shannon H.</b>	<b>Lisa S.</b>	<b>Cathy H.</b>	<b>Twila R.</b>
<b>Usher</b>	<b>Gladys K. &amp; Greta C.</b>	<b>Steve &amp; LeAnn T.</b>	<b>Skip &amp; Marcia Engeler</b>	<b>James Gurganus &amp; Jayce</b>
<b>Sunday Sch. Helper</b>	<b>Amanda M. &amp; Michelle G.</b>	<b>Briget D. &amp; Cathy H.</b>	<b>Amanda M. &amp; Michelle G.</b>	<b>Briget D. &amp; Cathy H.</b>
<b>Communion</b>	<b>Elaine S &amp; Gladys K</b>	<b>Elaine S. &amp; Karen O.</b>	<b>Cathy H.</b>	<b>Candace O &amp; Gladys K</b>
<b>Video &amp; Sound</b>	<b>Ray W.</b>	<b>Ray W.</b>	<b>Ray W.</b>	<b>Ray W.</b>
<b>Counters</b>	<b>Ray &amp; Candace O.</b>	<b>Elaine &amp; Candace</b>	<b>Ray &amp; Tim H.</b>	<b>Elaine &amp; Cathy H.</b>
<b>Music</b>	<b>Gary S.</b>	<b>Gary S.</b>	<b>Gary S.</b>	<b>Gary S.</b>
<b>Care Coordinator</b>	<b>Karen O.</b>	<b>Karen O.</b>	<b>Karen O.</b>	<b>Karen O.</b>

## **STEWARDSHIP**

### **Shannon Holley, Karen Ropar**

The Stewardship Committee met on June 11th. We are preparing for Stewardship Sunday on October 12th.

We are looking for two more people to share their personal story for why they donate their time or money. If you are interested in sharing your story please contact Shannon or Karen Ropar.

The next Stewardship Committee meeting will be Wednesday, Sept 10th at noon. Please feel free to join us.

**Our First Fruits** has many meanings. It means we are acknowledging God as the source of our blessings. First fruits refers giving the best and earliest of ones income or resources to God as an act of worship. Our giving shows our gratitude to God for these blessings. First fruits is not only giving of money, it is also giving of your time and talents. Next Sunday, as you walk through the door look around. You will find many people donating their time and talents as we prepare to worship our God. If you are one of those donating your time and talent, thank you.

#### Year-to-Date Offerings

Jan 1 - June 30th, 2025

Regular Envelope Offerings	\$46,078.07
Loose Plate Offerings	9,208.00
5th Sunday Offerings	11,959.96
Special Dedicated Offerings	19,340.00

Shannon Holley, Financial Secretary


**70th Anniversary**—The next planning meeting is on July 27th, during the coffee hour.



LeAnn Tobias  
Mary Sam  
Megan Pinedale  
Ashley Nhun  
Greta Christensen  
Cheyrl Nelson  
Twila Reis  
Anthony Willmschen

# July 2025

St. Timothy News July 2025

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 11 am-1 pm Food Pantry	<b>2</b> <b>10 —1pm Office &amp; Food Pantry</b> 10– 1:30 pm Pr. H.'s office hrs	<b>3</b> 10am-1 pm Food Pantry	<b>4</b> <i>4th of July</i>	<b>5</b> 9—noon Property Work
	<b>6</b> 9:20 am Choir practice <b>10 am Worship</b> Zoom available Coffee Time After church	<b>7</b> <b>10 am—1 pm Office &amp; Food Pantry</b>	<b>8</b> 11 am-1 pm Food Pantry  <b>6:30 pm Council meets</b>	<b>9</b> <b>10 —1pm Office &amp; Food Pantry</b> 10– 1:30 pm Pr. H.'s office hrs	<b>10</b> 10am-1 pm Food Pantry	<b>11</b> 10 am—1:30 pm Pr. Hamada's office hrs
	<b>12</b> 9—noon Property Work Party <b>12:30 pm PDX Food Project: bags from cars to pantry</b>					
	<b>13</b> 9:20am Choir practice <b>10 am Worship</b> Zoom available	<b>14</b> <b>10 am—1 pm Office &amp; Pantry Organize pantry</b>	<b>15</b> 11 am-1 pm Food Pantry	<b>16</b> <b>10 —1pm Office &amp; Food Pantry</b> 10 am—1:30 pm Pr. Hamada's office hrs	<b>17</b> 10am-1 pm Food Pantry	<b>18</b> 10 am—1:30 pm Pr. Hamada's office hrs
	<b>19</b> 9—noon Property Work					
<b>20</b> 9:20am Choir practice <b>10 am Worship</b> Zoom available Coffee Time After church Education Meeting during coffee hour	<b>21</b> <b>10 am—1 pm Office &amp; Food Pantry</b>	<b>22</b> 11 am-1 pm Food Pantry	<b>23</b> <b>10 —1pm Office &amp; Food Pantry</b> 10 am—1:30 pm Pr. Hamada's office hrs	<b>24</b> 10am-1 pm Food Pantry	<b>25</b> 11 am— <b>4th Friday potluck lunch &amp; bingo</b> 10 am—1:30 pm Pr. Hamada's office hrs	<b>26</b> 9—noon Property Work
<b>27</b> 9:20 am Choir practice <b>10 am Worship</b> Zoom available Coffee Time After church July Birthdays <b>70th Anniversary Meeting during coffee hour</b>	<b>28</b> <b>10 am—1 pm Office &amp; Food Pantry</b>	<b>29</b> 11 am-1 pm Food Pantry	<b>30</b> <b>10 —1pm Office &amp; Food Pantry</b> 10– 1:30 pm Pr. H.'s office hrs	<b>31</b> 10am-1 pm Food Pantry		

# *Summer Time Celebrations*

Fourth of July



**On the Road**  
**Enjoying nature**  
**on vacations**



**During Coffee Time at Saint Timothy**  
**Celebrate July Birthdays**  
**on July 27th**



**Visiting family and friends**

St. Timothy Lutheran Church  
14500 SE Powell Blvd  
Portland OR 97236

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Address Correction Requested

**July**  
**2025**