



St. Timothy News September



By Pastor Yukio Hamada

Every year in the Fall, churches emphasize stewardship because historically Fall is a time of harvest in many cultures. In ancient Judaism God's faithful people also observed the time of harvest with three ritual festivals. **The Jewish harvest festivals are Passover, Shavuot, and Sukkot AND are also known as the Three Pilgrimage Festivals where Jewish people traveled to the Temple in Jerusalem in ancient times.**

We Christians know that Passover wasn't celebrated in Fall but in the Spring to mark the beginning of the barley harvest. **Passover commemorates the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt.** For Christians Passover was transformed into Easter and celebrates humanity's being freed from Sin.

The second Jewish harvest festival, Shavuot, celebrates the wheat harvest and the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai. It takes place seven weeks after Passover during the summer. As Jesus taught, the Ten Commandments can be condensed into one Great Commandment to love God and to love our neighbor. Unfortunately many Christians think the commandments are a bunch of "Thou shalt nots", but Martin Luther taught us in the Small Catechism that God gave us the Ten Commandments so that we might strive to serve God by actively helping and caring for our neighbor. **Stewardship is about helping and caring for others.**

Like most ancient cultures, Judaism celebrated a Fall harvest festival called Sukkot which is translated in our Bibles as the Festival of Tabernacles. It's a time for joyous celebrations, including building and dwelling in temporary huts to commemorate the Israelites' wandering in the desert after the Exodus and their life in tents. Sukkot is a subtle reminder that our lives are journey toward our homeland, which is God. **As Paul reminds us in his second letter to the Corinthians, this earthly life is transient, because we Christians ultimately anticipate a permanent, heavenly dwelling with God.**

So, in the ancient Hebrew understanding, stewardship is a time of thanking God for what God has given us and to offer back a portion of the harvest. **Unfortunately many Christians think that stewardship is only about money.** Some churches have tried to soften this understanding by stressing that stewardship is about Time and Talents. But, if we are true to our Jewish roots, **STEWARDSHIP IS ABOUT THANKSGIVING - thanking God for giving us certain gifts and talents that we can share with our communion of saints and sharing a portion of the financial bounty that God has provided.**

Unlike some denominations St. Timothy won't publicly post how much you give or don't give, **we simply ask that you PRAYERFULLY consider your financial commitment to help this ministry and your physical commitment to minister at St. Timothy.** And, I promise you that we won't hunt you down like the man who left his church to visit a different church on Stewardship Sunday. During the offering at the new church, the pastor announced that they needed money for a new roof and he asked for those who could donate \$100 to stand up. Then, he asked those who could donate \$50 to stand. Finally, he asked for \$10 donation. So, everyone in the congregation stood up, except for the visitor. The pastor asked him why he didn't stand and he answered, "Pastor, I make \$10,000 a week and tithe faithfully to my church every week. It's Stewardship Month at my church and that's why I'm here to avoid all this. But, I know my Pastor will find me even though I'm not there." I promise that we won't hunt you down, but hope you'll remember that, instead of just money, as ancient Jews believed, you'll consider joining others at St. Timothy to remember how God is blessing us. **Next month St. Tim will be celebrating Stewardship and, in that Jewish spirit, I trust our members will remember that Stewardship is about Thanksgiving and we will thank God by offering our Time and our Talents to be God's hands to do God's work.**

Social Concerns

Food Pantry: Our Food Pantry continues to be vibrant and very busy. We served 69 people in August. Some people come by weekly, and others have just found us. Volunteers listen to their stories and needs.

We truly are a gift to our community! On August 9th, we picked up 2000 pounds of food at Portland Food Project, and we are already out of some items. Please look at our weekly emails regarding items that are needed. We were blessed with a gift of Winco gift cards, half of which have already been spent. In this hot weather, we give water out as much as possible!

SNOWCAP: Egg cartons continue to be accepted. We collected 38 pounds of school supplies and 13 pounds of clothing, which Marie delivers.

FIFTH SUNDAY NEWS:

The Fifth Sunday offering for August was for the American Cancer Society--this was in honor of Jean Whitford's memory and others with cancer. We had \$280 in donations for Fifth Sunday and made \$99 from the treasure drawing at the picnic and on the following Sunday.

Thanks to all.

The Fifth Sunday in November will be for coats for Centennial School District. Be sure to be ready to shop and donate. More information will be provided in the October newsletter.

GWOH 2025

St. Timothy is hosting a SOLVE neighborhood clean-up on September 6th from 1:00-3:00pm. If you are interested in signing up please visit <https://volunteer.solveoregon.org/opportunity/a0CVL00002INVNy/powellhurst-neighborhood-clean-up>.



God's Work
Our Hands

Fall Craft Day!!

Falling leaves, cooler mornings, and dew droplets on the grass is a great time to join us for Holiday craft boxes! Whether you do a fall, Halloween, Thanksgiving, or Christmas box, they make a great gift or a beautiful display for personal storage.

Tentative date would be the week of October 20-24. If you have a preference for late morning (11am) or early evening (5pm) please let Twila know ASAP via text or call 206-595-1900.

Cost: Free Will Offering

Additional boxes and supplies will be available if wanting to purchase to do one on your own!



St. Timothy Lutheran Church
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Portland, Oregon 97236-2520
Office: 503-761-8202

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

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

St. Timothy Web Site
sainttimothypdx.org



Choir practice resumes on Thursday evenings from 7-8:30 pm. The first practice will be on September 11th. All are welcome!!

70TH ANNIVERSARY NEWS

I have been the person who has been addressing and mailing the invitations. It is amazing how contact with Dave and Kathy Krueger has blossomed into addresses for many of our past members. The Maiers have provided addresses, too. Invitations continue to be mailed out, we are looking forward to seeing everyone who is able to attend!



We are pleased to have Dave Krueger bring the message on Sunday, the 21st. We are blessed.

September Worship Services					
If you are unable to make your scheduled Sunday, please contact another person to take your place.					
	September 7	September 14	September 21	September 28	
Preacher	Pastor Yukio Hamada	Pastor Yukio Hamada	Pastor Yukio Hamada	Pastor Yukio Hamada	
Assistant	Sherry W.	Ray W.	Shannon H.	Sherry W.	
Lector	Lisa S.	Shannon H.	Twila R.	Cathy H.	
Usher	Allen P. & Tim H.	Steve & LeAnn T.	Gladys K. & Tim H.	Skip & Marcia E.	
Communion	Candace O. & Gladys K.	Elaine S. & Karen O.	Cathy H.	Cathy H.	
Tiny Tims	Briget D. & Monica G.	Amanda M. & Michelle G.	Briget D. & Cathy H.	Amanda M. & Cathy H.	
Video & Sound	Ray	Ray	Ray	Ray	
Counters	Candace O. & Tim H.	Elaine S. & Candace O.	Ray W. & Cathy H.	Elaine S. & Tim H.	
Music	Gary S.	Gary S.	Gary S.	Gary S.	
Care Coordinator	Karen O.	Karen O.	Karen O.	Karen O.	

Welcome our new office manager!!

Jasmine Sprague (she/her) will be in the office on Mondays and Fridays from 10am-3pm each week. These will be regular office hours—you're welcome to stop in and say hi!

Jasmine is a mom to three boys, a spouse to a wonderful human, a seminary student and already organizing in East Multnomah County with St. Timothy lay leaders.

Jasmine is currently enrolled at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (PLTS) in Berkeley, California and is a candidate for ordination in the Oregon Synod. She is on track for installation into the Word and Service roster as a Deacon.


Jasmine currently works at Covenant Presbyterian and will split her time between the two offices. She is always excited to deepen relationships and would love to meet each of you for a cup of coffee, tea or water over the next couple of months.

You may reach Jasmine by email at sainttimothypdx@gmail.com or by phone at 503-761-8202.



September 2025

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Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 10 am— 1 pm Office & Food Pantry	2 11 am- 1 pm Food Pantry	3 10 —1pm Office & Food Pantry 10 am—1:30 pm Pr. Hama- da’s office hrs	4 10am-1 pm Food Pantry	5 10 am— 1:30 pm Pastor Hamada’s office hrs	6 1—3 pm GWOH volunteer for Solve clean- up
7 Pentecost 13 9:20 am Choir practice 10 am Worship Zoom available Coffee Time After church	8 10 am— 1 pm Office & Food Pantry	9 11 am- 1 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm Council meets	10 10 —1pm Office & Food Pantry 10 am—1:30 pm Pr. Hama- da’s office hrs	11 10am-1 pm Food Pantry 7 pm— 8:30 pm Choir Practice	12 10 am— 1:30 pm Pastor Hamada’s office hrs	13 9—noon Property Work Party if weather permits
14 Pentecost 14 9:20am Choir practice 10 am Worship Zoom available Coffee Time After church	15 10 am— 1 pm Office & Food Pantry	16 11 am- 1 pm Food Pantry	17 10 —1pm Office & Food Pantry 10 am—1:30 pm Pr. Hama- da’s office hrs	18 10am-1 pm Food Pantry 7 pm— 8:30 pm Choir Practice	19 10 am— 1:30 pm Pastor Hamada’s office hrs	20 9—noon Property Work Party if weath- er permits 1-4 pm 70th Anniversary Celebration
21 Pentecost 15 9:20am Choir practice 10 am Worship Zoom available Coffee Time After church	22 10 am— 1 pm Office & Food Pantry	23 11 am- 1 pm Food Pantry	24 10 —1pm Office & Food Pantry 10 am—1:30 pm Pr. Hama- da’s office hrs	25 10am-1 pm Food Pantry 7 pm— 8:30 pm Choir Practice	26 10 am— 1:30 pm Pastor Hamada’s office hrs	27 9—noon Property Work Party if weather permits
28 Pentecost 16 9:20 am Choir practice 10 am Worship Zoom available Coffee Time After church celebrating birthdays	29 10 am— 1 pm Office & Food Pantry	30 11 am- 1 pm Food Pantry	<div></div> <div>Amanda Martinez Mary Faciona Joshua Whitford Candace Olvera</div>			

St Timothy turns 70!!!



Join us on September 20th
from 1:00-4:00pm
to celebrate!!!

Food, Fun, Fellowship.

All are welcome. All belong.



Do you have a St. Timothy memory?

Please share it with us by September 6th!

Reach out to Karen O. for more information!



09/11/2016



St. Timothy's Food Pantry needs YOU!

St. Timothy food pantry is open Monday—Thursday every week! Each week and each month we seem to serve more families than the week and the month before.

We can use YOUR help to keep this ministry alive and help keep our neighbors fed!

Food Pantry requests for the month of September;

- Rice
- Soup
- Tomato Sauce (canned tomatoes)
- Dry pasta
- Canned fruit!

If you are interested in volunteering for the food pantry, please reach out to office staff or volunteers.

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

x

Address Correction Requested

September
2025

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