

# St. Timothy News MARCH 2026

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throughout its northern and western regions, eventually serving as a bishop. By the seventh century, he was revered as Ireland's patron saint.

St. Patrick's Day, his traditional feast day, is observed on March 17, the recorded date of his passing.

As with many traditional festivals, the American observation of St. Patrick's Day has become largely secular, characterized by green beer, parades, and corned beef. However, in Ireland, it remains a significant religious and cultural holiday.

As we move through the season of Lent, it is fitting to remember saints like Patrick, whose devotion to God compelled them to share the message of divine love with others. Lent should not be viewed as a period where we must sacrifice or "give up" things merely to appease God. When our focus remains on our own deprivation, we risk centering the season on ourselves rather than on worship. Jesus taught that the Greatest Commandment is to love God with all our heart, soul, and mind, and the second is to love our neighbors as ourselves. Our true Lenten offering is this outward-reaching love.

Instead of defining Lent by what we relinquish, Christians can view this season as a time to offer ourselves to God—dedicating time to serve others, donating to food pantries, or visiting the isolated. If you feel compelled to "give something up" just to prove your devotion, it may be a time to examine your motivations.

In his first letter, St. John wrote: "This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."

**A**s we celebrate St. Patrick's Day this month, many remain unfamiliar with the man behind the myths. According to his own writings, Patrick was captured at sixteen by Irish raiders from his home in Britain and forced into slavery in Ireland. He labored as a shepherd through his youth before escaping and reuniting with his family. After his ordination, Patrick returned to Ireland to spread Christianity

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

**St. Timothy Web Site**  
**[sainttimothypdx.org](http://sainttimothypdx.org)**

Throughout history, many have mistakenly reversed this order. God's love is the primary action; we do not need to perform or "earn" that affection. We simply respond to it.

Lent is an invitation to love God in return, which manifests in many forms:

- Prayer and Worship
- Service and Witnessing
- Silence and Meditation

We must remember that if we feel "obligated" to love, it isn't truly love at all. St. Patrick and the saints who followed him didn't merely discuss love; they embodied it.

As St. Paul famously taught in 1 Corinthians 13: "Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends... And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love."



**St. Timothy Church Council meets the  
second Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm.  
March's meeting:  
March 10th at 6:30pm  
Contact a council member  
for more information.**

### **Council 2026:**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS:** Please check your mailboxes. Remember that there is a Council retreat on March 7th from 9am to 12pm.

**Council assignments:** Please consider taking a look at the bulletin board and consider talking to the council contact to help with mission and ministry here at St. Timothy Lutheran Church.

## Lent and Easter 2026

**LENT:** Midweek Lenten Worship services are at 11:30am. These midweek services will continue on March 4th, March 11th, March 18th and March 25th.

**HOLY WEEK DATES:** March 30th through April 4th.

**Maundy Thursday** service at 6:30pm on Thursday April 2nd.

**Good Friday** service at 6:30pm on Friday April 3rd.

**April 5th** at 10:00am Sherry W will lead flowering the cross and decorating the entry for Easter.

**Easter Sunday** will begin on Sunday April 5th at 10:00am. Easter worship will be followed by a potluck brunch. Please consider bringing a dish to share. Cheryl, Fellowship Chair, will have signup sheets available as we approach Holy Week.

During brunch, St. Timothy Lutheran will host Easter activities for the youth including an egg hunt! For more information please reach out to Sherry W.



Tom Strutz  
Colton Reilly  
Alithia Sam  
Addison Markwart

Ricky Sam  
Ryan Standley  
Don Reberry

# March 2026

Sunday Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:20am Choir Practice  10am Worship	<b>2</b> 10 am-1pm Food Pantry  Office Hours 10am-3pm	<b>3</b> 11 am-1pm Food Pantry	<b>4</b> 10 am-1pm Office & Food Pantry  11:30 Lent Midweek Service	<b>5</b> 10am-1pm Food Pantry  7—8:30pm Choir Practice	<b>6</b> Office Hours 10am-3pm	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:20am Choir Practice  10am Worship	<b>9</b> 10 am-1pm Food Pantry  Office Hours 10am-3pm	<b>10</b> 11 am-1pm Food Pantry  6:30pm Council Meeting	<b>11</b> 10 am-1pm Office & Food Pantry 11:30 Lent Midweek Service	<b>12</b> 10am-1pm Food Pantry  7—8:30pm Choir Practice	<b>13</b> Office Hours 10am-3pm	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:20am Choir Practice  10am Worship	<b>16</b> 10 am-1pm Food Pantry  Office Hours 10am-3pm	<b>17</b> 11 am-1pm Food Pantry	<b>18</b> 10 am-1pm Office & Food Pantry  11:30 Lent Midweek Service	<b>19</b> 10am-1pm Food Pantry  7—8:30pm Choir Practice	<b>20</b> Office Hours 10am-3pm	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:20am Choir Practice  10am Worship	<b>23</b> 10 am-1pm Food Pantry  Office Hours 10am-3pm	<b>24</b> 11 am-1pm Food Pantry	<b>25</b> 10 am-1pm Office & Food Pantry 11:30 Lent Midweek Service	<b>26</b> 10am-1pm Food Pantry  7—8:30pm Choir Practice	<b>27</b> Office Hours 10am-3pm	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:20am Choir Practice  10am Worship PALM SUNDAY	<b>30</b> 10 am-1pm Food Pantry  Office Hours 10am-3pm	<b>30</b> 11 am-1pm Food Pantry				

# EASTER JUBILEE

Sunday, April 5th

Worship at 10:00am

Easter Brunch and children's activities (including an egg hunt) will begin at 11:30am

**FREE**



*If you are interested in assisting with youth activities or have ideas for more, please reach out to Karen O.!*

# East County Ministry Alliance

## FEEDING MINISTRY SCHEDULE

MONDAY

St. Timothy Lutheran 10a-1p  
Zarephath Kitchen 11a-1p

TUESDAY

St. Timothy Lutheran 10a-1p



WEDNESDAY

St. Timothy Lutheran 10a-1p  
Zarephath Kitchen 11a-1p

THURSDAY

St. Timothy Lutheran 10a-1p  
Zarephath Pantry 10a-1p

FRIDAY

Centennial Christian Church 2-4p  
Zarephath Kitchen 11a-1p



SATURDAY

East County Food Pantry 10a-12p

# Mark Your Calendars!

**Midweek Lenten Worship services:** 11:30am on March 4th, March 11th, March 18th and March 25th.

**Church Council:** Retreat on March 7th! This retreat is for *current council members only*.

**March 8th: DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS - SPRING FORWARD!!!**

**Church Council:** March 10th at 6:30pm in the basement

March Worship Services If you are unable to make your scheduled Sunday, please contact another person to take your place.					
	March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
Preacher	Pastor Yukio Hamada				
Assistant	Sherry W	Shannon H	Karen O	Ray W	Sherry W
Lector	Lisa S	Twila R	Mary F	Sherry W	Lisa S
Usher	Steve & LeAnn T	Steve & LeAnn T	James G & Jayce	Skip & Marcia E	Jeff S & Tim H
Communion	Candace O	Karen O	Candace O	Karen O	Candace O
Tiny Tims	Daniel R	Briget D	Michelle G	Karen O	Amanda M
Video & Sound	Ray W				
Counters	Tim H & Candace O	Ray W & Jeff S	Tim H & Shannon H	Ray W & Mary F	Tim H & Jeff S
Music	Gary S.				
Care Coordinator	Karen O.				

## Social Concerns by Sherry Willmschen

**Snow-Cap:** We delivered clothing, egg cartons, and diapers from overflow given to us by PFP. We very infrequently have requests for diapers.

**Cultivate Initiatives:** We plan to do service projects for this organization following Lenten worship and lunch.

**Opportunity to have a dialogue regarding Gaza follow-up:**  
Help for Gaza: Thoughts about Paul Reid presentation on February 11th. I was emotionally overwhelmed with the information and challenges he shared re the Flotilla to Gaza last summer (no news that I saw). Food and medicine was loaded on boats in Europe with volunteers manning the boats. Incidents occurred on the way to Gaza and when they got close Israeli soldiers took control of the boats and arrested all the volunteers and tortured them. Needless to say food and medicine did not get to those in need in Gaza. Another larger flotilla is planned for the end of March.

50  
years



**Fifth Sunday in  
March**

March's 5th Sunday special offering will support Lutheran World Relief for Hunger. Roughly 1 in 11 of our neighbors face chronic hunger, while nearly **2.4billion** are considered food insecure.

Please consider giving generously to our 5th Sunday collection to fight hunger worldwide.

## Fellowship Notes with Cheryl N.



Coffee hour is a busy time. Fellowship helpers make set up and clean up easy. Many thanks to Ernie, Twila, Shannon, Candace, and Georgia for their help.

You are more than welcome to participate in Fellowship activities and enjoy the fun! Fellowship is more than about serving food, eating food, and cleaning up after food. Not everyone is standing in line to do that, although the help would be appreciated. You can create sign up sheets for some of the events, you can participate by decorating the Fellowship hall for the church events, holidays, birthdays, seasons, etc, or you can help with the planning and publicity of the event.

The ideas are endless. Hope you choose to join in Fellowship activities.

The year is going by so fast! Next up on the Fellowship agenda is the Easter Brunch on April 5th after church services. The brunch will be Continental Style with baked goods, breakfast casseroles, fruit, coffee, tea and juice. There will be sign up sheets available in a few weeks, most likely March 22 and March 29th .

Also, Lenten services and potluck on each Wednesday are fun and rewarding times. I hope you can come!



# FOOD IS LOVE

RESERVE YOUR SEATS TODAY!

SnowCap invites you to join us for our Annual Auction

Saturday, March 14, 2026

Embassy Suites Portland Airport

5 PM Silent Auction, 6:30 PM Dinner & Live Auction

Reserve your seats at [fundraiser.support/SnowCapAuction2026](https://fundraiser.support/SnowCapAuction2026)

\$95 per guest/\$950 per table of 10 before February 14th

\$105 per guest/\$1,050 per table after February 14th



**SnowCap is in need of food and gently used clothing for neighbors in need.**

**We especially need:**

- Hearty Soups / Chili / Stews
- Peanut Butter
- Canned Fruit & Vegetables
- Canned Fish and Poultry
- Dessert Mixes
- Cooking Oils
- Dried and Canned Beans
- Rice
- Pasta
- Men's clothing
- Kids Clothing (Boys & Girls 5t-16 sizes)
- Shoes



**Donations gratefully accepted:**

17788 SE Pine St., 97233

Monday-Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

For more information, click [here](https://fundraiser.support/SnowCapAuction2026) or email [info@snowcap.org](mailto:info@snowcap.org)



### **Council Committees and Responsibilities**

During our retreat on February 7th the new council welcomed David Vecsi and Mary Fasciona as well as new President Ray Whitford and Cathy Henderson. We discussed our constitutional and bylaw requirements for committees. Below is the list of committees with brief definitions and contact person:

Worship: Oversight and planning for worship life of congregation including music, liturgy, and worship service  
Council LAISON: Marie Robinson Other council members, Tim H, Karen O, Dave Vecsi  
Staff: Gary Shannon

Evangelism: Oversight of outreach activities to the community within and around St. Timothy.  
Council Liaison: Candace and Pastor Hamada

Youth/Education: Coordinate Sunday School and Plan events for youth  
Council Liaison: Mary F and Karen O

Stewardship: Oversight of gifts of time and tithes including budget  
Council Liaison: Cathy Henderson and Karen Ropar

Social Concerns: Coordinates services internally and externally especially St Tims Food Pantry  
Council Liaison: Sherry W, David V and other volunteers (Heather)

Property: Oversight of church facilities and grounds including upgrades and agreements with partners using facilities. Council Liaison: Ray Others Skip, Ernie, Cheryl

Fellowship: Encourage members to get to know each other and welcoming others including coffee hours, special events, etc. Council Liaison: Cheryl and others Shannon, Mary, Twila, Karen O

Health Ministry: Provide oversight of health (physically and emotionally) in the church with the Parish Nurse and Prayer chain  
Council Liaison: Karen O Parish Nurse, Candace, Sherry, Tim J and Gladys

Personnel: Executive Council act as the hiring and job description/annual review of employees. Pastor is included in annual review of employees other than his/her review.

Endowment: Provide oversight of endowment funds and accounts.  
Council Liaison: Shannon, Sherry, Cathy Karen R, Jan Ruppert

Nominating: Duties are to elicit nominations beginning in October for the following year.  
Council Liaison: Sherry (VP) and 2 members

Audit and Mutual Ministry are not active at this time. Council will provide a plan.

Council Leadership/Liaison in these areas welcome conversation with anyone interested in being involved in a committee including one time help. Please chat with appropriate person or sign up in the narthex.

The

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

People of Lent

Across

- 2. Thirty pieces of silver were given to this person to betray Jesus.
- 3. The feet of Jesus were anointed by this person.
- 5. This person was freed at the Passover Feast instead of Jesus.
- 9. By the time the rooster crowed 3 times, this person denied knowing Jesus.
- 12. This person helped Jesus carry his cross.
- 14. This person was the high priest who organized the plot to kill Jesus.
- 15. While Jesus prayed in the Garden, these people slept instead of keeping watch.
- 16. Jesus raised this person from the dead in Bethany.
- 17. This person helped take Jesus from the cross and prepare him for burial.

Down

- 1. This prefect of Judea washed his hands of Jesus' conviction.
- 4. These people whipped Jesus and divided his clothes.
- 6. Jesus had his final meal with these people.
- 7. This person used his tomb to place Jesus in.
- 8. This person wiped the face of Jesus while he carried his cross.
- 10. Jesus was taken down from the cross and placed in the arms of this person.
- 11. This tetrarch hoped to see a miracle of Jesus, but ended up mocking him.
- 12. Jesus visited the house of this person, where dinner was hosted.
- 13. This person was the first to find the empty tomb.