******

ST. TIMOTHY EVANGELICAL

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Vineyard Views

June 2025

**Vicar’s Corner**

Greetings in the name of Our Lord, Jesus Christ:

As I am writing this article, I chuckled to myself and thought “where my time has gone.” Deacon, Retired Banker (50 years) Seminarian, Master’s in Divinity degree, Pulpit calls, Candidacy approval from our Synod and now Vicar at St. Timothy, and this is where the rubber hits the road. What a joyful, blessed opportunity for me to be with all of you. You in my life and I in your life. God gives us wonderful gifts, and this is the biggest gift from God, for me to pastor all the sheep at St. Timothy’s.

I do not know if I am worthy to do the Lord’s work, in this capacity, but we can teach and learn from each other during my time here. IF you were to ask me what part of my job I enjoy, I would answer that this is not a job, this is a calling from Our Lord, to share the Good News to all, inside the walls of our church and outside these walls as well. My personal ministry in life and especially during my discernment years is to be prayerful, empathetic, sympathetic, and listen. “Sometimes you say more by just listening.”

I want this time that we have, to be a Community of Faith, not only during Worship, but having everyone get involved in doing what God wants us to do because it is ever so needed. Every one of us has some kind of a talent. And who gave us that talent?

Giving of our time, and not thinking about ourselves, is what God expects from us. I don’t know how you feel, but speaking as a sinner, I owe this to Our Lord, because without Him what would the world really look like? My hope is to get involved with the different ministries that are working at St. Timothy’s. My door is always open for discussion or just come in to say hello.

May the peace of the Risen Lord remain with all of you always,

Blessings from a sinner,

Vicar Robert

**Benevolence for June - Habitat for Humanity**

Habitat for Humanity International: Citrus County Florida

322 West Lamar Street

Americus, GA 31709-3543

Well known program for providing/building housing for needy families that involves the family in the construction.

THE POWER OF PRAYER IN ACTION AND INSPIRATION

“ THE OTHER SIDE OF DAWN”

By Barbara Carson

As night comes upon us and we are all in for the night, we may be glad to end the day or we hated for it to be over, but it does have to end. As we look to the next day, we may wonder what the day will bring and what is on “THE OTHER SIDE OF DAWN”. So what does the other side of dawn bring for us? Maybe scheduled things but the unknown persists as well.

First, a great way to start the day is to praise God. The Psalms are a great way. Psalm 148:1-2 “Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise him in the heights above. Praise him all his angels and praise him all heavenly Hosts. “ That will open you up to his voice and guidance throughout the day. Also with Thanksgiving and looking at the things he has created for us. We are his caretakers, and he simply wants us to do what he created for us to do. When God finished his creation he said, “this is good,” that includes us. There is beauty all around and this should remind us of his love for us. We never know sometimes what is in store for us, so it is important to keep those channels open for guidance. It is easy to live our days on our terms but live it in the light of God and His Grace.

There is a wilderness out there for us to deal with. When we begin the day, begin it knowing that Jesus is taking that walk with you keeping our focus on him and lighting the way. If we run into stumbling blocks, ask God to intercede and lead us down the right path or the right decision. As we move along in the day ask, “Am I hindering on helping God today or am I giving God’s love today?” There may be simple solutions when we work for God and with that amazing things can happen. Ephesians 2:10 – “ For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good work, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

Remember “This is the day the Lord hath made, rejoice and be glad in it.” Jeremiah 29:11 “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord. “Plans to prosper you and not harm you. Plans to give you hope and a future.”

God assures us a new day and each and every day we can start from the beginning. We are a new person cleansed by the body and blood of Christ. Each day is a promise of hope.

Remember this favorite hymn, Just a closer walk with Thee, grant it Jesus, is my plea, daily walking close to Thee, let it be, let it be. What an intimate song of comfort and reassurance.

So, “ The Other Side of Dawn “ can be one of a dark wilderness, stumpling blocks, anticipation or happiness but amazing things can happen when you have a closer walk with God.

When a new day is dawning, wake up in the light of Christ and start your day with amazing possibilities. Shine brightly! Amen

**A brief message from Pastor Dennis and Linda Koch**

“We cannot thank the congregation enough for the overwhelming outpour of love and support when our son Michael died on April 21, 2025. So many of you attended the memorial service, sent cards, and loved on us like you have known us forever! Our deepest and most sincere thanks to you.”

- Pastor Dennis and Linda Koch

**Shepard Program June 2025**

I am taking the lead in our existing Shepard Program. This program started many years ago before we were sending e-mail and computer messages. We revised it as we grew into a better information tree for our congregation. Now it has only been passing on information to those who do not use e-mail/computer for their information. There is only a small percentage of people we have on the program. I would like to revise it once again to include people that still do not use the computer or e-mail but to people in our congregation that may have special needs whatever they are and our shut-ins or those that may need to be checked on periodically. This may take a little more time from our Shepherd members but it will keep our congregation closer as a church family. We have about 4 Shepherds now that make calls when needed.

I am asking from anyone any new ideas that can help us improve a new shepherd group that can make it a more useful program to help people stay in close contact with the church family with frequent communication or any resources they may need. Our church members deserve to be heard and know that they are cared for and remembered in any instance. Any ideas will be appreciated or interested in helping. Place your ideas in my box #90 or see me or call. 352-422-8248.

Thank you Barbara Carson

**WELCA NEWS**

WELCA will be having their end-of-year luncheon on June 17th at 12:00 at the Cedar River Restaurant across the street from the  church.  All women are welcome.  We will have a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board prior to that date.

**Synod Assembly Project**

Our service project this year is with Hope Partnership in Kissimmee. The organization was formed in 2011 to meet the needs of the growing number of families and children experiencing poverty and living in hotels and motels along Highway 192. They have grown by providing a holistic community to meet the needs of the poor and homeless. If you prefer to bring items into the church to donate, please bring them in by June 8th.

Or

**Donate Items Online!**

If you prefer to shop online, you can support us through the [**Hope Partnership Amazon Wishlist.**](https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/2T7RDSXAE2I46?sourceid=1068957&emci=a6ecdb7c-baa6-ef11-88d0-6045bdd62db6&emdi=9837056f-1fd4-ef11-88d0-0022482a9d92&ceid=3604297)All items purchased through this link will be shipped directly to the organization. Thank you for your generosity!

Below is a list of some of the most needed items:

* Body wipes
* Men’s boxer briefs (M, LG & XL)
* Women’s underwear (L, XL & 2X))
* Travel-size lotions
* Unisex T-shirts ( L and XL)
* Deodorant
* Bug Spray
* Sunscreen
* Razors

For more information, email Tina Fritz at [**tinaf@fbsynod.org**](mailto:tinaf@fbsynod.org)**.**

**Please check for the following sign-up sheets**

Worship Helpers – kiosk

**DEADLINES**

**Announcements**

Please be aware that if you have entries for the weekend worship announcements you need to have them in on the Tuesday prior, as we are preparing and printing them no later than Thursday.

**Vineyard Views**

If you have submissions for the July Vineyard Views, please have them in to the office no later than the end of day on Tuesday, June 24, 2025.



**INFORMATION FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**AND YOUR TREASURERS**

Our church expenses are approximately $22,000.00 per month, so please prayerfully remember to bring or send in your offering. We are most grateful to all of you who support our programs through your offerings, time, talents and prayers.

It’s never too late to complete and turn in your Giving Card and your Volunteer Sheet. It helps all the Committees and Finance prepare for the year. Stewardship packets are available in the office.

In the hope of getting ahead of our property, liability and flood insurance costs for this year, we would like to save toward those expenses. If possible, we would appreciate it if you could make an additional donation designated “Insurance” and include it with your regular offering. Thanks so much.



**THRIVENT FINANCIAL NEWS FOR JUNE 2025**

**$$$THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS®$$$**

Thanks so much to our Thrivent Financial members and friends who direct their Thrivent Choice Dollars® to be available for activities and projects for our mission and ministry here at St. Timothy. If you are an eligible Thrivent Financial member and have Choice Dollars® available, please call Thrivent (800-847-4836) and say “Thrivent Choice®” or go online to www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice and direct your dollars…hopefully to St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Crystal River. In 2024 Thrivent distributed $33.5 million through Thrivent Choice. Since the beginning of 2025, our church has received $1620.00 through this program. Thanks to our St. Timothy friend who designated her dollars in May:

Martha L. Hoagland

**THRIVENT ACTION TEAMS**

It has been 10 years since Thrivent kicked off this program to enable Thrivent clients with membership to make a difference locally and globally. In the program’s first year Thrivent membership led about 25,000 Thrivent Action Teams. Over the past decade, interest and participation grew. In 2024 there were 174,716 Action Teams held,

$331.4 million funds raised and donated by Thrivent clients and others, 2.7 million volunteers who addressed community needs around the country and 14.9 million volunteer hours of time and talent invested in our communities.

Thrivent Action Teams make it easy for you to bring people together to make a positive change in your community! When you see a need, apply to lead a volunteer team. Once your idea is approved, a Thrivent Action Kit is delivered to your door. It’s packed with everything you need to help make your project a success. It even includes $250.00 in seed money to help get your project started. After you finish the project, you report the results on-line to Thrivent. This program is brought to you by Thrivent Financial because they believe that being wise with money and living generously go hand in hand. All your questions and requests for this funding program will be answered by going to Thrivent.com/actionteam.*\*\*\*Please note that Thrivent Financial funds accessed for all programs and activities involving St. Timothy Lutheran Church need to be approved by a Committee and the Congregational Council.* 2025 Thrivent Action Teams that have been approved: World’s Greatest Baby Shower (Citrus Bump2Baby Expo) and Easter Food Boxes.

**THE $250 IN SEED MONEY IS A GIFT FROM THRIVENT THAT WE** **CAN USE TO HELP WITH COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND PROJECTS INVOLVING OUR CONGREGATION. THESE FUNDS ARE IN ADDITION TO OUR BUDGETED AMOUNTS AND OFFERINGS AND DONATIONS MADE BY OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS.**

*Financial Representatives for answering questions and offering advice on Thrivent investments and products are:*

*Katherine Gross in Gainesville, FL Kevin Braunschweiger in Ocala, FL*

*352-505-8905 352-440-6784*

[*Katherine.gross@thrivent.com*](mailto:Katherine.gross@thrivent.com)

***Virtual Advice Team – 855-303-7402***

**SAVE THE DATE**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2025**



**St. Timothy Lutheran Church**

**1070 North Suncoast Blvd.**

**Crystal River, FL 34429**

**Pre-service Music – 9:45 am**

**Service – 10:00 am**

**A luncheon follows the Service.**

**Ruth Circle – Updated 5/20**

The Ruth Circle had its last meeting  for the summer.  We will meet again in September.  We may plan a lunch date this summer also. - Barbara Carson

**Citrus Blessings – Updated 5/15**

This outreach met on May 7, 2025 at 10AM. They packed 236 bags. This is the last blessings of the season. The program will resume in September 2025. They meet in the back building of the Chamber of Commerce. Any questions or if you are interested in participating, please contact Randy Holden.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Johnson

**Food Pantry – updated5/30**

The food pantry continues to operate on the 2nd and 4th week of every month from 9AM- noon.  We continue to inform the congregation as to the needs of the pantry via the weekly announcements.  **The current needs are macaroni and cheese, beef stew and chili**. Thanks to all who contribute food.  You can also contribute monetarily by writing out a check made out to Life Tree Church with Food Pantry in the memo line or writing out a check to Barbara Johnson and putting food pantry in the memo line, and placing it in my mailbox, #210.  We will also accept cash donations.  Please put it in an envelope in my mailbox, #210 and put your name on it so I know who you are.  If you would like a receipt, please let me know.  The next food pantry will be June 10, 2025.

**On May 27, 2025, the food pantry had 56 individual people which consisted of 114 adults and 6 children for a total of 120 people. We saw 1 new family consisting of 1 adult.  For the month of May we had 122 individual people consisting of 248 adults and 18 children for a total of 266 people.  We saw 5 new families consisting of 8 adults and 2 children for a total of 10 people.**

**Healthy Start – updated 5/8**

June needs: 7 baby lotion, 13 baby shampoo, 5 diaper cream, 6 toys or teething rings, 4 Vaseline

**MESSAGE FROM REGINA**

**Please, if you are at a church function, think about snapping a few photos for everyone to enjoy. Thank you in advance.**

**SERVING HANDS**

Serving Hands is a program created to help members of our own congregation. Serving Hands is there for you if you need some help in the following areas: a meal brought to you, driving you to an appointment, a friendly visit, doing a household chore, communion brought to you, walking your dog, or picking up food for your pet, etc. These are one-time opportunities, not forever experiences. Please contact Carolyn Fialkowski at 814-392-4281, or Jean Fowler at 586-322-8337 if you need help.

Please don’t hesitate to call. We want to serve you! Also, if you are willing to help with any of these services, there is a sign-up chart on the kiosk in the entrance way of the church or call one of these ladies.

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL ZOOM LINK**

**Topic: Sunday School**Time: Mar 16, 2025 10:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)  
        Every week on Sun, 109 occurrence(s)  
Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.  
Weekly: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZwrc-mprDMoH9YRklu1WcmVIop862c72xVO/ics?icsToken=DNtYyf2AyjKJ8eknKgAALAAAANeKLJ1ERw0Rdwz9n2O9c-ooSRMcranle3NkMoyGg3pziFDjhDi_8pRTLaY-NApBrv7byaiNGNhpgc60pTAwMDAwMQ&meetingMasterEventId=3pLv0et_SMuCQYJkMknIyQ>  
Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88640128252?pwd=asNJ6OiNGFFTNzwNA5yhkvPpmt6VCT.1>  
  
Meeting ID: 886 4012 8252  
Passcode: 898938

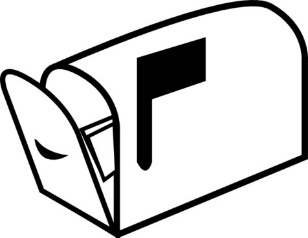
\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**AED /Medical response :**

We have a poster that is behind the kiosk across from our AED in the narthex.   An emergency incident can happen at any time, and it is good to be prepared.  The poster explains a “hands only “ CPR protocol as the first line of an emergency of that kind and is very easy for anyone.  Please take a look  and refresh yourself on the protocol.  Our AED is valuable for saving lives but initiating CPR is essential.  We do have several people in our congregation that have more detailed experience to assist as needed.  For any questions, please ask Barbara Carson.

**Instructional video on how to use the Philips AED.**

<https://youtu.be/t6GV9PAbgM4?si=dZuGq8aLjfvpFiM->

**Mailboxes**

**CHECK THEM** - even if you are not ready to return to worship, please come by during the week and check your mailboxes. We continue to try to keep everyone informed and connected, so we put things in the mailboxes – especially for folks that don’t have email addresses. SOOOO – please check your mailboxes.

**PUT MAIL IN CORRECT BOXES** - Please make sure you **only put mail in boxes that have a name under them.** If you have something for people who have left and their name has been removed from the mailbox, please use their postal mailing address.

**Just a Reminder if You Happen to Be the Last One Out of the Building**

**If you happen to find yourself the last one leaving the building – please go by one of the Lock-Up Check Lists that are located throughout the building. These are put up to help us to remember to check all the doors, restrooms, and thermostats etc. Thank You for helping us keep our building secure and our power bills down.**

**ST TIMOTHY’S WEBSITE**

Here is the St. Timothy website address: <https://www.sttimlutherancrystalriver.com/>

There are links for the weekend’s services on the homepage. Please note that the links will change every week, since this is a YouTube file address; every service has its own link. Watch for an email with the updated links when they are ready. The video links for previous weekends will still be available at the bottom of the webpage, as the links are updated each week. Please contact us if you would like a CD of any of the services to listen to. Be sure to check out our children’s artwork at the bottom of the home page. We hope to add more as they send it to us.

Here is a link to St Timothy's YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5xrMj8-8_6iyR_KxjFAwRQ/videos>

**Facebook**

See our Facebook page for information about upcoming events and Please feel free to message us with suggestions about content. - Regina

A blue sign with white text

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

[St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/St-Timothy-Evangelical-Lutheran-Church-104099901757516/?ref=page_internal)

**Icon

Description automatically generatedThe Sunshine Card Makers**

The Card Makers meet the first Wednesday of the month at 11:30, in the Fellowship Hall.

-Kathy G

**Senior Care Resources**

[Caring.com](https://www.caring.com/senior-living/assisted-living/florida) is a free resource that provides comprehensive information on topics like financial support, and care options to family caregivers seeking information as they care for aging parents by AARP, The Administration for Community Living, The National Legal Resource Center, and Forbes, as well as referenced by many governmental agencies and organizations across the internet.

<https://www.caring.com/senior-living/memory-care-facilities/>

<https://www.caring.com/senior-living/memory-care-facilities/florida>

<https://www.caring.com/caregivers/alzheimers/>

<https://www.caring.com/caregivers/dementia/>

**WE HAVE SEVERAL HANDBOOKS ON DEMENTIA IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY, IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE INFORMATION**

**Directory Updates**

**Updated 5/14 Bonomo,** Vicar Robert (Bob) #200

1002 N. Short Line Way

Inverness, FL 34453

352-220-4307

[deaconbob73@gmail.com](mailto:deaconbob73@gmail.com)

**HERE AND THERE WITH THE FOLKS OF ST TIMOTHY**

Sunday worship in the fellowship hall, due to power outage, May 4th

A group of people in a room

AI-generated content may be incorrect.A person sitting in a chair in a room with people

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Child Safety Training, May 6th

A group of people sitting at a table

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A group of people standing next to a table

AI-generated content may be incorrect.Last Citrus Blessings of 2024-2025 school year, May 7th.

Mother’s Day Weekend. Special services, led by WELCA.

A group of people sitting in pews

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**Saturday, May 10th:** Carolyn Fialkowski, Eileen Hofstetter, Barbara Johnson, Barbara Carson, Sue Nawrocki, JoAnne Ollenborger, Rosa Neth, Ginny Owen, Jean Fowler, Wendy White, Marcia Treber, Wendy Mayger

A group of women standing together

AI-generated content may be incorrect.Sunday, May 11th:

Mary Schlumberger, Judi Schutrum, Eileen Hofstetter, Lynn Dively, Kathy Geer, Debbie Colón, Patti Cyr, Barbara Carson, Debbie Lawrence, Jodie Gudorf, Andrea Mitchell.



Jodie Gudorf 6/03

Mary Fraley 6/05

Pat Krepps 6/06

Valerie Jones 6/08

Louise Blodgett 6/09

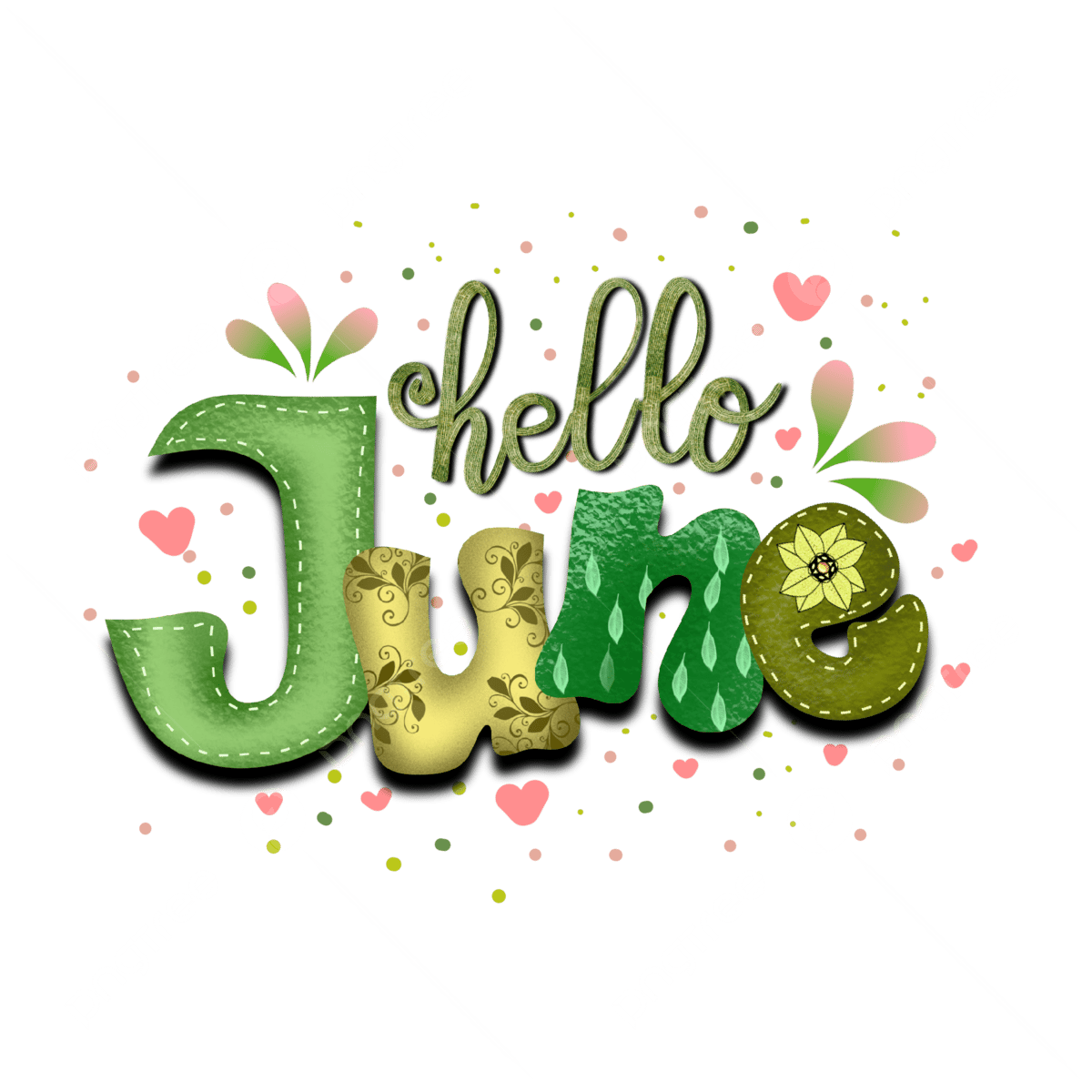
Erica Wilson 6/10

Jake Jacobek 6/19

Mary Cunningham 6/24

**Birthday Blessings!**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SUNDAY** | **MONDAY** | **TUESDAY** | **WEDNESDAY** | **THURSDAY** | **FRIDAY** | **SATURDAY** |
| **1**  **9am Worship, Children’s SS**  **10:15-10:45 Drive-Up Communion**  **10:30 Adult SS, Coffee** | **2**  **11am – Healthy Start** | **3** | **4**  **11am Card Makers** | **5**  **9:30 – Prayer Group**  **11:00 Miniatures**  **4:30pm – Choir** | **6** | **7**  **NO MOST UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**  **4pm Worship** |
| **8**  **9am Worship, Children’s SS**  **10:15-10:45 Drive-Up Communion**  **10:30 Adult SS, Coffee, Committees** | **9** | **10**  **9-12 Food Pantry** | **11**  **1pm Royal Dalton Memory Care** | **12**  **Synod Assembly**  **9:30 – Prayer Group**  **11:00 Miniatures**  **4:30pm – Choir** | **13**  **Synod Assembly** | **14**  **Synod Assembly**  **4pm Worship** |
| **15**  **Father’s Day**  **9am Worship, Children’s SS**  **10:15-10:45 Drive-Up Communion**  **10:30 Adult SS, Coffee**  **11:30 Council** | **16** | **17**  **12 WELCA Luncheon @ Cedar River Restaurant** | **18** | **19**  **9:30am Prayer Group**  **NO MINIATURES**  **1:30pm Royal Dalton**  **4:30pm - Choir** | **20**  **12pm Keith Johns Svc** | **21**  **4pm Worship** |
| **22**  **9am Worship,**  **9am Children’s SS**  **10:15-10:45 Drive-Up Communion**  **10:30 Adult SS,** | **23** | **24**  **9-12 Food Pantry** | **25** | **26**  **9:30 – Prayer Group**  **11:00 Miniatures**  **4:30 – Choir** | **27** | **28**  **4pm Worship** |
| **29**  **9am Worship,**  **9am Children’s SS**  **10:15-10:45 Drive-Up Communion**  **10:30 Adult SS, Coffee Fellowship** | **30** | **27** | **28** |  |  |  |



**St. Timothy Lutheran Church**

**Vicar Bob Bonomo**

1070 N. Suncoast Blvd.

Crystal River, FL 34429

**Phone:** 352-795-5325

**Church email:** [crsttimothy@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:crsttimothy@tampabay.rr.com)

**Website:** [www.sttimlutherancrystalriver.com](http://www.sttimlutherancrystalriver.com)

**Deacon:** Frank Hofstetter

**Director of Music:**

**Church Secretary:** Regina Mendicino

**Sexton:** William “Bill” Dexter

**2025 Congregational Council**

**President:** **Ron Roecker**

**Vice-President: Barbara Johnson**

**Secretary: Jean Fowler**

**Treasurers: Lynn Dively & Cheryl VanHorn**

**Financial Secretary: Randy Holden & Dick Kleinsmith**

**Council Members: Carolyn Fialkowski, Andrea Mitchell, Fola Long, and Marsha Gibson**

**Weekly Worship**

**Saturdays 4pm**

**Sundays 9am**

**Communion available at both services**

**Children’s Sunday School - 9am**

**Adult Sunday School - 10:30am**

**Drive-Up Communion – 10:15-10:45**

**Saturday and Sunday Services - links ONLINE**