

# TIMOTHY TOPICS

St Timothy's Presbyterian Church  
2400 Alta Vista Drive, Ottawa  
Sunday Worship Service @ 10:00 am

June, 2026 newsletter  
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Bible Trivia: Finish the verse: Be strong and take heart...  
Last issue's answer: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17

## Guest Reflection: *Love what is in front of you!*

Sometimes, perhaps even often, loving what's in front of us means love and gratitude for what is in front of us rather than the thing that is not in front of us, which we wish was in front of us. There are myriad examples we could all think of, no doubt, from the rusty 1997 Toyota Corolla we drive to the child who is still living at home to our old laptop that groans and sputters on startup—there is easily and often and perhaps for many of us always a wishing for the thing not in front of us. That other thing would be easier to love! That other life would be easier to love and embrace and celebrate than the life in front of me. One morning a couple of weeks ago it was Yellow-rumped warblers that were frequently in my back yard—and I was like, why not something other than yellow-rumped warblers. You may know that we are at the peak, or just past the peak of warbler migration, and I am an amateur bird photographer, which just means I have a camera and like taking pictures of birds among other things. And it's that, at that point in warbler migration, I had already managed to get several good photos of that gold-buffed bird—actually it has yellow on its sides and on its head and on its rump. In any case, at that point I just wanted a clear shot of the Norther Parula with its chest of burnt sponge-toffee yellow and its mossy-green back. Or the Golden-crowned Kinglet, which I can hear but which is almost impossible to capture given that it never, ever sits still. Or wouldn't it be nice if a Blackburnian warbler just came and paused long enough in the neighbour's Oak tree for a nice photo!? Ok, I do like the Yellow-rumped warbler, but even with all of the beauty and goodness and song and colour of that day when I was out on the back deck with camera in hand, I wasn't quite satisfied—wasn't nearly satisfied—with what was in front of me. I kind of loved what is in front of me, sure, but... you know... Something else would be nice. I'd had enough of what was there in the back yard. The question, the rebuke, the correction implied is that I am not always able to love what is in front of me. The bird-watching question is whether I can glory in the Yellow-rumped warbler as long as it stays and hasn't yet flitted off further north? Can I receive its song and its feathers and its colours and its perching and flying and its feeding on aphids and little green caterpillars and spiders? Is it enough? No, that's wrong, is it absolutely more than enough? The call to love is the call to love what is in front of me—the life in front of me, the person in front of me, the community in front of me, the bird in front of me, the flowers in front of me, the seemingly less than beautiful scene in front of me. Can I love what is in front of me rather than pining for some other, some utopia, some world, some scene that is not in front of me? In a way it's not even the question of whether I can love what is in front of me. It is the question of whether I can love. **Rev. Dr. Roland De Vries.**

**In the Rearview Mirror:** - On May 10, we celebrated Christian Family Sunday and Mother's Day in a joyful service led in part by members of our church families. Rev. Reine preached a sermon titled "Grace Makes a Home", reflecting on God's grace, love, and the importance of family in every season of life. The children shared messages and presented carnations to the women of the congregation. We also took a moment to honour Phoebe Gowdy for her faithful care and service, presenting her with a thank-you plant. Following worship, a time of fellowship continued with a coffee hour hosted by Sunday School, and later, a group of women gathered for lunch together in celebration and friendship.

**Looking Forward:** - Save the date! Saturday, June 6, 2026 from 9am-1pm is St.Tim's Garage sale. Got items to sell? Tables are available for \$50.00. It will be great if you donate baking, preserves or other items to support St. Timothy's table. Don't miss our yummy barbeque. Come one, come all! Everyone needs to bring their donations by May 31st to church and have everything priced.

-Don't miss the Young Adult Service on June 14, led by the young adults who will lead the entire worship. The time will include special music. A barbecue outside will follow, offering a time of fellowship and gathering for the congregation. - Our traditional outdoor service will once again gather us beneath the beautiful tree this July. Date to be determined.

Mission Project Update: Thank you for your generous support of the Ridgemont Food Program. So far, we have collected \$1,245.00 toward our goal of \$2,000.00. We invite you to continue supporting this important mission as we work together to reach our goal and help those in need.

**Sunday Worship Services** 10:00 am.  
**Sunday school** during the service.  
**A special program for young adults**, including Bible study and fun activities.  
If interested, please contact Bertha.

**Coming Events**  
Garage Sale June 6 @ 9 am  
Holy Communion June 7 @ 10 am  
Café Connections June 12 @10:30 am  
Young Adult Service &BBQ June 14 @ 10 am

Father's Day service June 21 @ 10 am  
Agape Gathering June 30 @10:30 am  
Bible Study, Mondays @10:00 am  
Craft group Mondays @1-3 pm  
Do you have a prayer request or a prayer of thanksgiving?  
Contact the minister or Pastoral Care Team.

# ST. TIM'S PICTORIAL





