

THE TIMOTHIAN

Newsletter for St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church
of Grand Island, NY

1453 Staley Road, Grand Island, NY 14072

Pastor: The Rev. Adam Arends

Phone number: 716-773-4400

Website: www.sttimothygrandisland.com

Emails: communications@sttimothygrandisland.com,
pastor@sttimothygrandisland.com

Child Care Center: 716-773-9249

Meeting Needs with
**God's
Gifts** 



August 2026

Great things are happening at St. Timothy's!
Here's what's inside:

- ◇ From the Pastor's Desk
- ◇ Altar Guild Notes
- ◇ Messages from the Co-Presidents
- ◇ Child Care Center News
- ◇ Worship Information
- ◇ News and Upcoming Events
- ◇ Missions
- ◇ Last Month's Memories
- ◇ Prayer Chain & Pastoral Care
- ◇ Calendar



From the Pastor's Desk

A Ministry of Care & Welcome

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." ~Matthew 19:14

This month St. Timothy celebrates 35 years of our Child Care Center! For 35 years this church community has heeded Jesus' call to welcome children into the walls of the church, so that the families of Grand Island know they have a welcoming place to care for their children. St. Timothy Child Care Center is central to, and an outreach of St. Timothy's mission: that Grand Island may know the love of Christ.

As we look forward to August 26th and the party we will have, the food we will enjoy, and the friends we'll re-connect with, we look back at the history of welcome, and forward to the future of continuing our ministry of hospitality.

This past year, our Director, Athena Torain, realized that many of our families who had been with us for years, hoped to have their kids join us as a part of our PreK classroom. Some years families find other centers at that age, but this year we had twice as many children hoping for a spot in our PreK class than we had spots to fill! In addition, the waitlist of families hoping to join us had even more children than usual. Athena brought this excellent problem to have to our council, and asked if there were any way we might accommodate the extra children for the coming year. Together we decided on an experiment: we will utilize the building's parlor room and convert it into a classroom for the coming school year. This will allow us to expand our mission of welcoming children and families!

Currently the parlor is utilized primarily as a meeting room for Church Council and for Bible Study. You likely noticed that our meeting table has been moved to the welcoming space near the coat room, and our meetings will be held there this year. We'll decide each year on the use of the parlor as we assess the needs of the community.

I'm grateful to serve in a place where the mission of the organization, to welcome families and share Christ's love with the community, is so direct and clear.

Here's to continuing St. Timothy's mission of care & welcome for at least the next 35 years!

In God's Amazing Grace,

Grace + Peace,

Pastor Adam



Messages from the Co-Presidents

We have had a bit of a reprieve from work during the past month or so... and suddenly it is time for Paul and me to catch you all up on the happenings of our St. Tim Family! I smile, because I realize I have been out of town for 5 of the past 6 weeks, so much so that Esther told me she thought I was ill or had moved! Truly, it is I who needs to catch up! I do have much news, but it is not necessarily the news of our local community, so we must rely on Paul for that!

It is always good to remember, the work of the Church of Jesus Christ goes on, everywhere! While I was not here, I was with family in Wisconsin... especially because my Jordan and Adam were deeply involved in the Wider Church of Jesus Christ. They led a Pilgrimage for 15 travelers to Palestine in June into July, and I was with my grandchildren. The trip was to support the Christian Churches of the Holy Land, and an opportunity to see first hand the struggles, yet faith of our Palestinian Brothers and Sisters. All travelers were blessed with safety, opportunity for learning, and support of our Palestinian Christian family in the Middle East. Most definitely a primer on struggle, change, and patience... Samud.

Three weeks Later, back in WNY, Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center was alive with 70 Middle Schoolers. I went from caring for two little bits, to 70 kiddos! They are a busy bunch, but the joy of being with them as they learn, play, sing and praise a good and glorious God is transformative. LCLC needs our support and is worthy of it.

Back home, it was time for Vacation Bible School. Each year, we are sure it can't be as good as last year, and each year, God provides opportunity to affect children's lives. I imagine Kim will publish some of the pictures from the week.... I only wish you could see the kiddos singing and moving to the music! We are the lucky ones!

And now, before the beginning of a new school year, we are all preparing for the August celebration of 35 years of love and service by St. Timothy Lutheran Church Child Care Center. The first young babies to be cared for are now parents themselves, and some bring their babies back to us for them to be touched by the love of Jesus. We are planning Rally Day to begin Sunday School. And we will be able to end the month of August with an outside worship service with other Lutheran Churches at Veteran's Park in Tonawanda on August 30 at 10 AM. Until that time, we will continue our own 8AM outdoor service along with our traditional indoor service at 9:30 AM. We do like our outdoor spaces, which begs mention of the generous gift from the Glassman Family for the refurbishment of the Courtyard off the Narthex. Work is to begin early August. We will all have a chance to be a part of it by volunteering to water the new green space until the end of the summer, so as to support growth of the new plantings.

We will resume meeting for Council addressing the needs of our congregation, and Worship and Music Committee to plan for meaningful celebration of our faith. We celebrated with Duane and Phyllis Keeler as they renewed the wedding vows they made to each other 50 years ago. We continue to support our friends in the congregation who are ill, and in need of prayer and healing. It is good to have Nancy Morth back with us, and we await healing for Jerry Peete. And you don't have to ask if our now annual collection for Harvest House is underway. We are blessed with faithful hearts and hands in our congregation.

Perhaps faith is like the water becoming the plentiful wedding wine in the jugs, Pastor preached on, was it last week? We praise and worship, we sing and pray. We listen to the word of God, and this gathering of disciples of Christ, believers in Christ remains the little church that can. The same good God who has brought us this far will not desert us now. Thanks be to God. Love and Hugs from Shari



Hi

I hope everybody's enjoying this beautiful summer. The weather has been good and I know a number of us have been enjoying the 8:00 a.m. outdoor service. Our Church's Child Care center will be celebrating its 35th anniversary on August 26th with a picnic for the church and child care members both current and previous. If anybody knows of prior members, please pass this along them and we will have a fun reunion. If you are coming and are able, please consider bringing a nut-free baked good or helping us provide the hot dogs, chips, and drinks through a donation. There will also be activities for the kids.

On August 30th, St Timothy's will be joining several other Lutheran churches to have an outdoor service led by Pastor Adam at Veteran's Park in Tonawanda down by the river. Please bring a lawn chair and if you are able, also a dish to pass as will be enjoying some picnic food and fellowship after the service.

You might have noticed that we have a bin to drop off items for the Neighbors Foundation. The non-perishable goods will again locally help those in need. We have also started to collect baby items again for Harvest House. Our Church has done an amazing job with the help of a few special people in collecting for Harvest House. I look forward to seeing a room full of diapers and other baby items again to help those in need.

Our small team of six did an amazing job with your help raising funds for Roswell Park Cancer research. Our St Timothy's Lutheran Church and Child Care center Ride for Roswell team raised \$4,625 dollars and rode a combined 210 miles.

Work will be starting in August on the redo of our courtyard, thanks to a generous donation by Christa Glassman. Additional information can be found in the next few pages.

I apologize to those who watch our service on live stream as we've been experiencing some issues with the technology and are working to resolve them.

Stay healthy.

Regards,

Paul



Altar Guild Notes, August 2026

From the Archives, originally published in August of 2019

Green. The third month. The season of Time after Pentecost continues for August.

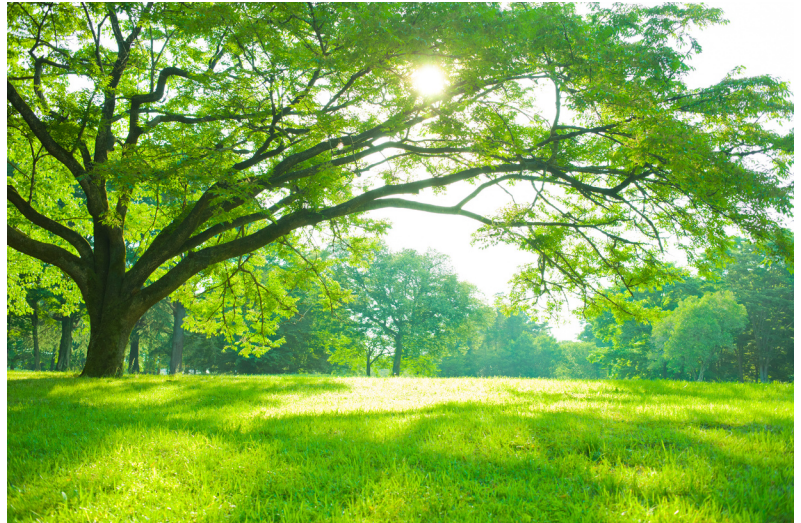
We are rich in color and symbols as we celebrate the Eucharist at the early outside service and late inside service. There is inspiration in the surrounding green.

The green of nature reflects God's nurturing sun and rain as new growth. It can do the same for us. We can reflect God's nurturing love and grace as new growth in ourselves to better serve others.

The surrounding green is abundant and generous. No green color is held back or reserved for later. I think of God's gift of faith. It extends without reserve for us.

Green is unceasing. God's mercy is on ceasing, without end. For us.

Green is diverse in many shades and shapes, yet unified by beauty. Can we be, too?



Green is quiet and restful. Use it to rest and quiet the noise in our heads. Let it be a time to let God in and speak to us. We don't always need to do the talking!

Holy, Holy, Holy. Heaven AND Earth are full of God's glory!

Be green in abundance. Reflect God's love in you. Amen.

Your sister in Christ,
Deborah



Child Care Center News for August 2026!

Hello Church Family!

As summer begins to wind down, we are thankful for another wonderful season at St. Timothy Child Care Center. It's hard to believe that we're already heading into the final month of summer camp. We've loved spending the summer exploring new themes, playing outside, taking field trips, and making lasting memories with everyone.

This year marks an incredible milestone as St. Timothy Child Care Center celebrates 35 years of serving children and families! Since opening our doors in 1991, the center has grown from serving just a handful of children to caring for up to 71 children each day. We are thankful for the dedicated staff, supportive church members, past and present families, volunteers, and community partners who have helped make this ministry what it is today. On August 26, 2026 we will be having an anniversary picnic to celebrate this accomplishment. We will be providing hotdogs, chips, drinks, and desserts for all those a part of our past, present, and future! Please join us from 4pm-7pm in the back lawn for the celebration and fellowship.

While summer camp is still in full swing, our staff is already preparing classrooms for the upcoming school year. We are excited to welcome new families while continuing to provide a nurturing environment where children can learn and grow. Throughout the month of August, we will be collecting new school supplies for the start of the school year. Donations of construction paper, colored pencils, pencils, glue sticks, blunt-tip scissors, notebooks, folders, binders, disinfecting wipes, gloves, and backpacks are greatly appreciated.

Thank you!

Athena Torain
Center Director

A look into the childcare
center this month:



Worship Information



Worship continues at 9:30 AM each Sunday. Our 8 AM outdoor service will run through September 6th. Please note: there will be no service at St. Timothy on August 30th. We'll worship with other area Lutheran churches at Veteran's Park in Tonawanda instead at 10 AM, followed by a potluck lunch. All are welcome! The link for our 9:30 AM livestream each week can be found at www.sttimothygrandisland.com. Sunday School for age 3 through grade 4 will resume in September.

News and Upcoming Events

St. Timothy Lutheran Child Care Center's 35th Anniversary Celebration!

Our Child Care Center's 35th Anniversary is coming up on August 26th! A picnic celebration with church members, past and present families, and teachers will celebrate the occasion from 4-7 PM. Please sign up on the clipboards in the Narthex if you'd like to volunteer or make nut-free desserts. Donations of Sahlen's hot dogs, rolls, cases of soda, variety boxes of chips, and money for purchasing supplies are also very much appreciated if you feel so moved. Thank you for helping make this happen and we hope you can join us on August 26th! Please RSVP at <https://forms.gle/7Htbb9YSitPrnjREA>, by signing up on the clipboard in the narthex, or by contacting the church office. If anyone comes to mind that has been involved in our Child Care Center, please pass this along to them as well. Thank you!

Joint Lutheran Worship & Picnic on August 30th

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Trinity Old Lutheran, and Augustana Lutheran have invited St. Timothy to join them at Veteran's Park in Tonawanda at 10 AM on Sunday, August 30th for joint outdoor worship followed by a potluck lunch and fellowship. Please bring a lawn chair and a dish to pass as you're able and sign up in the narthex so they know how many hot dogs to purchase. They would also appreciate help with set-up and clean-up, and a third sign-up sheet is available for those who would like to carpool, either driving or riding. Please note that St. Timothy will hold no other services that day; Pastor Adam will be preaching at worship in the park. For those that plan to worship from home, either a livestream if we can make the technology work in the park or an alternative worship option from WNY Church Unleashed will be posted on the front page of our website.

Courtyard Refresh

Several years ago, two weeping cherry trees were planted in our courtyard in memory of June and Al Glassman and the bench donated by Paul and Terri when their granddaughter Amelia was born. With the disintegration of the weed block fabric, the courtyard needed some extensive work. Christa Glassman has generously donated a courtyard refresh to continue that legacy.

The work is expected to take place with phase one in early August and phase two at the middle or end of the month. Please avoid going into the courtyard for two weeks after the herbicide application. Since the weeping cherries have a non-treatable fungus and won't last much longer, they'll be replaced by hydrangea trees. We're looking for volunteers who garden to help keep the hydrangeas moist through the remainder of the summer and fall until their roots are established, using a rotating schedule. Please talk to Kim if you'd like to help. Thank you!

Faith, Food & Fellowship in the Park!

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 30TH
STARTS AT 10 AM
WITH WORSHIP SERVICE**



We will be collecting for
Good Shepherd's Food Pantry.
Please bring canned soup, laundry
detergent or white socks
for men and women.
Cash donations accepted too.

Enjoy spending time with our
church families. (Augustana, Good
Shepherd, St. Timothy and TOL)

**Veteran's Park
City of Tonawanda
777 Niagara Street
Shelter #2**

**Please sign up
on sheet below**



You're Invited



St. Timothy

LUTHERAN
Child Care Center
& Preschool



35TH ANNIVERSARY PICNIC

Wednesday

AUGUST 26 2026

4:00PM - 7:00PM

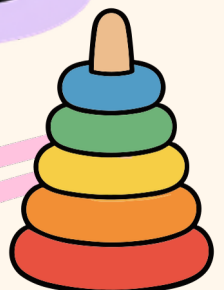


St. Timothy Lutheran Child Care Center

1453 Staley Road Grand Island, NY 14072

Whether you've been with us since the beginning or joined us somewhere along the way, you've helped make our story possible. We hope you'll come celebrate 35 years with us!

BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIR AND
ENJOY AN EVENING OF
REUNIONS, FOOD, AND FUN!



RSVP here: <https://forms.gle/7Htbb9YSitPrnjREA>

Hymn Request Sundays

We'll continue singing favorite hymns on the second Sundays of August and September.

Congregational Meeting & Potluck Brunch

Our congregational meeting to approve the budget will be held on Sunday, September 13th after the 9:30 AM service. Please plan on joining us as you're able and enjoying some time in fellowship around a potluck brunch.

Rally Day

Rally Day will be held on September 20th! Join us during worship as we kick off the school year and install our Child Care and Sunday School teachers. Our Harvest House collection will also wrap up that day.

Chiavetta's BBQ Fundraiser

Save the date for our Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ fundraiser on Monday, October 12th to help us set aside money for a new boiler.

St. Timothy History Record

We would like to compile a history record for St. Timothy, including especially what was made by whom or donated in memory of whom, and contributions are welcome. If you have something to add, please let Kim know, and if you know of several items and other important information to note, we would welcome your involvement in a committee.

Women of the ELCA Retreat

The Niagara Fronteir and Southwestern Conferences of WELCA are holding a joint event on Saturday, September 26th from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Ellicottville. The theme will be "Being Open to God's Presence in Our Lives." Registration is \$10 and includes lunch and materials, with a deadline of 9/15. Please see the office for a copy of the form to mail with the check if you plan to attend.

Driver Safety Course

Wayne West will hold a driver safety course at St. Timothy to get 10% off your car insurance on Saturday, November 7th at 9:30 AM. Information to register will be shared as we get closer.

Missions

Ride for Roswell

St. Timothy's Lutheran Church & Child Care Center Ride for Roswell Team raised \$4,635! Thank you to everyone who rode and donated towards cancer research!

Grand Island Neighbors Foundation

St. Timothy will be joining our child care center in a collection for the Grand Island Neighbors Foundation this month as they celebrate community heroes. A donation barrel can be found in the narthex. The items that are especially in demand are pancake mix, syrup, peanut butter, jelly (plastic jars), pasta, pasta sauce (plastic jars), boxed mac and cheese, canned meat, canned beans and stews, instant rice and potatoes, instant oatmeal, canned low sugar fruits, canned low sodium vegetables, and shelf stable milk, as well as personal care items like bar soap, dish soap, shampoo, hand soap, deodorant, toothpaste, and tooth brushes. Thank you for helping those in need in our community and supporting the work of this essential organization!



Harvest House Collection

Our collection for Harvest House has started! Harvest House serves families living at or below the federal poverty level on the East Side of Buffalo. They are most in need of diapers sizes 2-5, socks for children age 3+; clothing newborn to 5T; bottles and feeding supplies; baby hygiene products (wipes, creams, etc); safe, portable cribs, car seats, and strollers (new or gently used, manufactured within the last 5 years), and books and toys. Thank you for helping secure the health and welfare of children and their families through these essential items! This will run through Rally Day, Sunday, 9/20.



Child Care Center School Supply Drive

If you'd like to help our child care center purchase supplies for the new school year, they would appreciate construction paper, colored pencils, pencils, glue sticks, blunt-tip scissors, notebooks, folders, binders, disinfecting wipes, gloves, and backpacks for staff or kids.

Ruck for Roman

Peggy Bastian's grandson, Justin Figler, will be walking 50 miles wearing a 50 pound ruck sack on August 29th to raise funds benefitting veterans with Parkinson's Disease and other movement disorders who have no medical coverage. Use the QR code or visit gofund.me/bc7f59d52 if you'd like to donate.



Last Month's Memories

Vacation Bible School was a blast! We learned about how when life is wild, God is good. Thanks to all our volunteers who made it happen and to our amazing group of kids! Thanks also to Thrivent who provided an action grant to purchase the crafts and snacks.





Prayer Chain



Here at St. Timothy, we believe that prayer is powerful and can be incredibly helpful in our lives and in the lives of others. Our prayer chain allows you to ask others in our church community to pray for your friends and loved ones in their times of need.

If you would like to add someone to the prayer chain, you can call us at 773-4400, email us at communications@sttimothygrandisland@gmail.com, or contact Pastor Adam. You can also fill out the prayer chain request sheet in the Narthex at the table next to the Sanctuary entrance. Please include an address where we can send cards to those in our prayers.

We hold the following people in our prayers: Terry Gamble; Matt Sztaba; Jim Moll and family; Jerry Peete, Don Hamman; Haley; Pam Boulden; Ruby; Tommy Harrison; Bradley Mangine; Alex & Family; Sarah & Richard Domster; Dale Marrs; Fred Ertel; Louise Pratt; Rob Fraser; Sister Terri; Erik LaVassuer; Kalene Best; Marge Skinner; Charris Kiener; Paul Schwandt; Terri; Michael Briggs; Rob Cornelius; Mike Seguin; Matt Rowe; Dana; Jerry & Sharon; Eliana & Lilly; Jay; Dan; Michelle Ramsey; Mike & Tina Cutini; Diane & Brian Lind; Aiden Haynes; Vanessa; Logan McKenzie; Karen Wiswall; Ronald Olson; Janet Upham; Deborah Piotrowski; Mike Gueli; Josh; Myles; Alex; Kathy Wright; Colin; Gary; Brenda; Marlene; Randy; Betty; Riley; Joe Morley; Richard E; Edna; Gloria; Marianne Carroll; Danny Penque; Robin Bengaglio Richard; Joanne M.; Sylvia & Joe Smith; Lorraine Pfohl; and Cheryl Rosati.

Please note that we no longer remove people unless we have heard of their improvement or their passing. Updates are always appreciated and can be directed to the office by paper note, email, or phone (communications@sttimothygrandisland.com, 716-773-4400). Thank you.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

This month, we'll be celebrating Diane and Merle Wilson's and Carl and Jeanne Remmes' anniversary on August 26th.



Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care is an important resource available at St. Timothy's. To contact Pastor Adam for pastoral care needs, you can reach him at pastor@sttimothygrandisland.com or at 716-773-4400. The following are some situations in which you should call:

- ◇ In the event of a hospitalization or placement in another health care facility.
- ◇ In emergency situations of injury or illness, even if there is no hospital admission. People are often sent home under difficult circumstances.
- ◇ In times of personal crisis or struggle in which you may benefit from direct pastoral care.
- ◇ When in need of pastoral services such as baptisms, weddings, home communion, funeral, or memorial services.
- ◇ In any other circumstance where pastoral care may benefit you. When in doubt, call.

August 2026

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2 Worship, 8 & 9:30 AM	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Worship, 8 & 9:30 AM	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Worship, 8 & 9:30 AM	17	18 Finance, 5:30 PM Worship & Music, 6:30 PM	19	20 Council, 5:30 PM	21	22
23 Worship, 8 & 9:30 AM	24	25	26 Child Care Center's 35 th anniversary picnic, 4-7 PM	27	28	29
30 Worship, Veteran's Park Tonawanda 10 AM	31					