

THE TIMOTHIAN

NEWSLETTER for ST. TIMOTHY EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH of GRAND ISLAND

1453 Staley Road, Grand Island, NY 14072

Our Pastor: The Rev. Adam Arends

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Our phone number: 716-773-4400

Our Child Care Center:
716-773-9249

Meeting Needs with



October, 2025

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

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From the Pastor's Desk

Each fall, we have the idea that things “get back to normal.” We fall into the routines that we are used to after a summer that is often filled with camping or travel, or taking time away from our routines. It can be comforting to be rely on the order of things. For the kids we know they are able to get back into the routine of school. For many of our young adults, they are finding their way at college, getting used to their new schedules, or learning the patterns of a new job.

And in the church, we get back to liturgies and hymns we know after trying new things in the summer, and we're back to more regular meetings of councils, committees, and ministries.

There is a comfort in routine. And yet we must also always remember that though we can count on the unending grace and peace and forgiveness offered through Christ, that Jesus was also always challenging those around him to view the world in a new way. And when we see things in a new way, sometimes our routines come into question.



Reformation

At the end of this month we celebrate the Reformation, or re-forming of the Christian church kicked off by Martin Luther and other reformers. Luther saw that the church had fallen into patterns and beliefs that had strayed from the message of salvation by grace through faith he read about in Paul's letters, especially in Romans. And Luther saw that the behaviors of the church were not what Christ called his disciples to do, which was to love one another as he loved them, and to go and make disciples.

As we fall into our routines and patterns, let us also never forget to take a look at them honestly, and ask, are my patterns and our routines lining up with Jesus' call to love God and neighbor?

And if they're not, let's work on re-forming our church together, following the Way of Christ. Amen!

In God's Amazing Grace,
Pastor Adam

*Are my patterns and our routines
lining up with Jesus' call to love
God and neighbor?*



Altar Guild Notes: October, 2025

The Creation Story. The Salvation Story. The Now and Forever story. That's what I see when I contemplate the vintage green paraments. We have three more Sunday mornings to view those images and examine our hearts for their impact.

The Creation story hangs from the pulpit on the right side. The hand of God reaches through the purple chaos separating the light from darkness. Next there is the dome! Now see the blue sky above the domed earth. Look closer at the dome. God has separated the blue waters from dry land within the dome. What a start! That's the first three days. Read the first chapter of Genesis to see what God does the rest of His week!



The Salvation story is found on the parament hanging from the pulpit on the left side. Once again we are greeted by the Hand of God. This time we see it raised in a blessing. The sun backdrops the cross; God's son, the Light of the world, sent to use that cross for our redemption. Cannot miss the orange flame! The Holy Spirit sent as our advocate after Christ ascends to the Father. Reminded, we are never alone. The Triune God in one panel.

The here & now, the hereafter & forever is the story on the center drape. There is Christ, once hanging from the cross, stands in front of it making it divine (see the halo). Jesus is in His work clothes with a shepherd's crook. He is with His flock (US!) gathering, finding, leading. Christ with us in our life now and then will lead us to the heavenly joys of the Triumphant church of God.



All three paraments are connected with a circle in each. I see the dome, the sun/son, the halo, all as symbol of communion also! Christ brought to us every Sunday in the body and blood of communion.

Big change for the last Sunday, you won't want to miss it! Reformation Sunday. The red paraments return for last use of the year! The bright color shakes us and wakes us to sit up and take notice! Christ sacrifice was and is a gift of grace. We cannot earn it. We are empowered to respond to it. Love wins.

Keep Jesus in your heart.
Your sister in Christ,
Deborah



Messages From the Co-Presidents

I am fresh from our Annual Congregational Meeting, with a heart full of gratitude. What a morning to top off “what a year!!” Who could imagine this is where we would find ourselves at this point in time! God is good... the Lord will provide.

An exhausting list of professional, and in-house projects were completed this year... not to minimize one of those was the \$65,000-plus parking lot repaving. And yet, both our CCC and Church side have ended this fiscal year with a surplus. Ryan shared that he has not felt this comfortable about our financial stability since Ronan was in a car seat!! He encouraged us all to be proud of what we have accomplished in our small but mighty congregation! And profound gratitude was expressed for the Finance Committee, the extraordinary Karen S., Kim, and the amazing Athena. The Spirit was alive and well in our meeting.

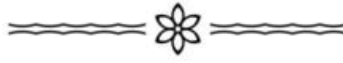
What is so remarkable is the total involvement of everyone. Meeting Needs with God's Gifts! Every individual gift of Time, Treasure, and Talent has contributed to our success, and brought us to this point. We are not just stable, we are thriving. And Athena reminded us there will be more opportunities to volunteer for Trunk-or-Treat and Breakfast with Santa... and of course there is our Ecumenical Dessert Smorgasbord. God is good... the Lord will provide.

We all agreed we have been in Stewardship mode for years! Hearts are open to doing whatever we need to do to live out our mission in Christ's church. I've heard it described as following “a barefoot Rabbi who taught us two things. Love the Lord, and love your neighbor.” Asking all to discern and pray about it, we will resurrect a giving strategy crafted by Ryan and Mike Endres, many years ago, suggesting those who are able increase their giving by 1% to 5%. Designating it for the building fund will allow us to replete the “dented” emergency fund for expected repairs for the 73-year-old sanctuary, 47-year-old fellowship hall, and a 34-year-old CCC wing.

One of my closest friends taught me something about giving. Margie used to say, “you can't out-give God.” May her memory be blessed. God is good...the Lord will provide.

Love and hugs.
Shari Miller





Hi,

This is the season of change. We officially said goodbye to summer and to Guhan our organist, and we said hello to fall and to Tim our new organist. Guhan led us in music for a full year and we really enjoyed it. We had a nice send off for him and we wish him all the best in his new job.

I wish to thank everybody who participated in the fall cleanup. We made the outside and inside look inviting for Rally Day, the barbecue and bake sale, and our congregational meeting.

The barbeque fundraiser goal was to replenish the emergency fund in the amount that the parking lot shortage reduced it. Between the dinners and the bake sale we accomplished our goal. It appeared that the whole church turned out to help by buying meals, volunteering, or baking desserts. This fundraiser takes a lot of effort to organize and execute. I really appreciate the extra effort, and hopefully the community enjoyed Chiavetta's chicken dinners before the Bills game.

We went all out for Harvest House this year. But special thanks go to a few people who went over the top to fill a very packed moving truck. The contents of the moving truck will make a large number of people smile with the donations from our church and child care center, providing items they otherwise would not have been able to get. At the end of the month we collected school supplies for our child care center.

The month of October looks a little quieter with our annual Trunk-or-Treat for the kids in the Grand Island community on October 25th from 10-12.

In the congregational meeting it was discussed that we would raise funds for maintenance projects. We have accomplished a lot of updating in the last two years but the building is old and there are always some repairs and updates needed. Our volunteer maintenance team saves us a lot of money over the course of the year. We are so lucky to have number of people who can do many things so we don't have to call someone to fix every thing that needs work. But for larger items like roof and boiler repairs the extra funds are appreciated.

Thanks everyone for your time, talent, and treasure.

Regards,
Paul Yaeger

thanks
for your
support

Child Care Center News for October 2025!

Hello, Church Family!

As the leaves begin to change and cooler breezes fill the air, we welcome October with grateful hearts and much excitement! This season brings with it new opportunities for growth, learning, and joyful memories for our little ones. This month we look forward to many upcoming events! We will be having our annual Trunk or Treat on October 25th from 10am to 12pm. We will be looking for volunteers to decorate their trunks and hand out treats, tend the cider and donut station, assist with crafts, or donate bags of candy, please no nuts. We will be having our Halloween Parade this year on Halloween for the children to show off their costumes. The preschool and UPK children will be attending a field trip to a local farm for some fall festivities as well.

This month we will be conducting Parent Teacher conferences. These one-on-one meetings are a valuable opportunity to meet with families to discuss their child's individual development. It's also a great time to share insights from home so we can work together to support their child.

This month, our children will be learning all about fire safety, first responders, fall, and the changing seasons! We'll explore autumn through fun, hands-on activities like leaf art, pumpkin investigations, and nature walks. In the classroom, we will continue to focus on building important early learning skills such as letter and number recognition, colors, shapes, and counting as well as practicing social skills like kindness, sharing, and working together. October is a wonderful time for curiosity, creativity, and celebrating all the new things we're discovering!

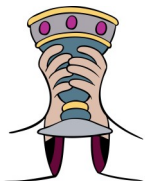
Thank you!

Athena Torain
Center Director

A look into the Child
Care Center last month:



Worship Information



Worship continues at 9:30 AM each Sunday. All are welcome! You can also watch us on our livestream at www.sttimothygrandisland.com. Sunday School for age 3 through 4th grade is held during the 9:30 AM service. We hope you can join us!

News and Upcoming Events

Thank you!

We are so grateful for all the help and support that made our BBQ and Bake Sale fundraiser a success! We could not have done it without all of you. We reached our goal of covering the remaining parking lot expense and are glad to have that project fully behind us.

Congregational Meeting Review & Building Fund

At the September Congregational Meeting, our 2025-2026 budget was approved and it was shared that both sides of the organization ended the year in the black. Due to both anticipated and unforeseen maintenance expenses—roof repairs, boiler issues, plumbing work, hot water tank replacements, heater motor repairs, etc.—we are requesting additional building funds to help us cover these when they arise. We are so grateful for the weekly and monthly offerings that allow us to continue the work of the church, but as prices rise, it is becoming more difficult to cover expenses above and beyond that. As you are able, contributions to the building fund can be designated through the blue envelopes found in the pews or can be otherwise clearly labeled and given to the office. Thank you for helping us keep our property in great shape and functioning well as we prepare to meet our upcoming building needs with God's gifts!

Bible Study

Bible study continues Thursdays at 1 PM in the parlor.

Trunk-or-Treat & Halloween Parade

We welcome participation in Trunk-or-Treat again this year as one of the ways we reach out to our community and welcome them in! You can decorate your trunk for trick-or-treaters in our parking lot or hand out candy, serve cider and donuts, or help with crafts inside. Candy donations are also appreciated to replenish supplies. Candy with nuts can be given since the parents of children with allergies can supervise, however it is requested that candy donations are kept nut-free. Trunk-or-Treat will be held on October 25th from 10 AM to 12 PM this year.

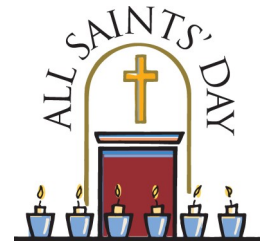
Our Child Care Center also welcomes you to join them for their Halloween Parade on October 31st at 3 PM where the kids dress up and parade around the parking lot or hallways, gathering treats. Anything nut-free is great—fruit snacks, animal crackers, pretzels, temporary tattoos, Smarties, etc. Thanks for helping make this fun holiday safe and enjoyable for the kids and families in both our St. Tim's and greater Grand Island community!

Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service & Dessert Smorgasbord

St. Timothy will host the Ecumenical Service & Smorgasbord again this year on November 23rd.

All Saints Day

All Saints' Sunday is coming up on November 2nd. Please tell us the names of loved ones who have died between November 1, 2024 and November 1, 2025, their date of death, and who they are remembered by no later than Wednesday, October 29th. You can turn in the upcoming bulletin insert form, call the office, or send an email to communications@sttimothygrandisland.com.



A Warm Welcome!

We're excited to welcome Tim Dyet as our new organist and music director! Please find a little more about Tim below:

Tim Dyet is a dynamic and versatile musician whose passion for music has shaped an impressive career. With a Bachelor of Music from Nazareth College of Rochester and additional studies at Mansfield University of PA, Tim has honed his craft and developed a deep understanding of music business and performance.

Tim's journey in music is marked by his diverse roles and contributions. As a local Music Director in Western New York, he has brought numerous productions to life, including *The Baker's Wife*, *On the Town*, *Holiday Inn*, and *Into the Woods*. His dedication to music education is evident through his private lessons, where he teaches piano, trombone, organ, accordion, and voice to students of all ages.



Tim's versatility shines through his extensive experience as a solo performer and accompanist. He has played at weddings, funerals, parties, and events, and has been a key player in various musical groups, including jazz big bands, small combos, theater pit orchestras, and the alternative funk/rock band Strange Standard of Buffalo, which was featured at the Music is Art festival for the past 5 years!

In addition to his current roles, Tim has a rich history of past musical engagements. He has served as an adjunct professor of music at Niagara County Community College and St. Bonaventure University, directed the pep band at Niagara University, and played as a substitute organist for the Buffalo Sabres hockey games. His tenure with Nik and the Nice Guys saw him playing piano, keyboards, trombone, and programming sequences for the band.

Tim's contributions extend beyond music performance. He participates in bicycle racing at notable events like The Ride for Roswell, raising money for cancer awareness. Additionally, he has worked as a scare actor at Frightworld Screampark, a park patrol officer for Grand Island, and a sound engineer at MarketHOLD Productions.

With a career that spans various facets of music, Tim Dyet continues to inspire and captivate audiences with his talent, dedication, and passion for the art.

Please help us welcome Tim to St. Timothy!

Missions

Harvest House

Thank you all for your generosity in gathering supplies for Harvest House as they serve young children under the poverty level in East Buffalo. We welcomed Joe Somma who came to speak and learned about the essential work they do, not only to provide basic necessities for the wellbeing of these children, but also offering a health and dental clinic and helping families reach self-sufficiency through job training and other resources. Our support makes a meaningful difference and Joe was very touched by the community at St. Tim's who made this happen. After the service, everyone present helped load the U-Haul to make light the work.



School Supplies

Our Child Care Center is grateful for all the donations of school supplies which really add up! Thanks also to Karen Sturniolo for the adorable and bright school display!



Last Month's Memories

Last month, we said goodbye to our organist Guhan Peng, sending him off with a laying on of hands, many blessings and well-wishes, and a token of gratitude and remembrance—a “Peace Be With You” hand sign carved by Paul Yaeger and a card signed by everyone. Thank you to all

who made goodies to help us celebrate Guhan's time with us.



On Rally Day, we welcomed several of our child care teachers and staff, installed our Sunday School teachers, and had a blast with our young friends.



Our Chiavetta's BBQ & Bake Sale was a success and we're so grateful to all our volunteers for making it happen!



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: Eilene Gebrian; Paul Schwandt; Adelaide Benninger & family; Terri; Michael Briggs; Rob Cornelius; Phyllis Hall; Rick Burns; Mike Seguin; Matt Rowe; Esmaeil & Fariba; Dana; Judy Nutz; 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; Lynda Reeves; Josh; Myles; Alex; Kathy Wright; Colin; Gary; Brenda; Margaret Miller; Marlene; Randy; Betty; Riley; Joe Morley; Richard E; Edna; Gloria; Marianne Carroll; Danny Penque; Robin Bengaliao 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 Tina and Mike Cutini's anniversary on October 9th, Nancy and Art Morth's anniversary on October 15th, and Kim Yaeger's birthday on October 12th.



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.

October 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1	2 Bible study, 1 PM	3	4
5 Worship, 9:30 AM	6	7	8	9 Bible study, 1 PM	10	11
12 Worship, 9:30 AM	13	14 	15 Finance meeting, 12 PM	16 Bible study, 1 PM Council, 5:30 PM	17	18
19 Worship, 9:30 AM	20	21 Worship & Music meeting, 7 PM	22	23	24	25 Trunk-or- Treat, 10-12
26 Worship, 9:30 AM	27	28	29	30	31 	