

# 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

Our website: [www.sttimothygrandisland.com](http://www.sttimothygrandisland.com)

Our emails: [communications@sttimothygrandisland.com](mailto:communications@sttimothygrandisland.com),  
[pastor@sttimothygrandisland.com](mailto:pastor@sttimothygrandisland.com)

Our phone number: 716-773-4400

Our Child Care Center:  
716-773-9249

*Our Why:*

*To serve God by inspiring  
faith and passion through  
connections so that we can  
nurture and fulfill our  
community and the world.*



*July and August, 2023*

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

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## From the Pastor's Desk

"The thing about walking is that it's not eventful." – Bill Bryson

When's the last time you went for a nice walk? Maybe around the neighborhood, maybe through the woods a bit, maybe on a big hike? When we say, "I'm going to go for a walk," sometimes it's for exercise, but often it's a way to just get outside and get some fresh air. Most of the time, like Bill Bryson who hiked much of the Appalachian trail and wrote a book about it, walking is uneventful. Yet it is something that we value, and that we know is good for us. We get outside, feel the sun, or the wind, smell the air, hear the birds. Going for a walk may not always be eventful, but it is good.

When I go for a walk I am reminded of how nature works, and that we are a part of God's good creation. The insects nurture the plants which flower and fruit, and the fruit feeds animals and people alike. Going for a walk also gives me a chance to think, and often clear my head, or put things in perspective. An uneventful walk can allow us to see that some things we worry about aren't as dire as we may think they are.

Jesus had something to say about getting outside and noticing creation in Matthew 6:

*"Look at the birds in the sky. They don't sow seed or harvest grain or gather crops into barns. Yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Aren't you worth much more than they are? Who among you by worrying can add a single moment to your life? And why do you worry about clothes? Notice how the lilies in the field grow. They don't wear themselves out with work, and they don't spin cloth. But I say to you that even Solomon in all of his splendor wasn't dressed like one of these. If God dresses grass in the field so beautifully, even though it's alive today and tomorrow it's thrown into the furnace, won't God do much more for you, you people of weak faith? Therefore, don't worry and say, 'What are we going to eat?' or 'What are we going to drink?' or 'What are we going to wear?' Gentiles long for all these things. Your heavenly Father knows that you need them. Instead, desire first and foremost God's kingdom and God's righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore, stop worrying about tomorrow, because tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."*

This July and August, I pray that you will be able to get some moments to go for walk, or to sit outside in a comfortable chair, or an uncomfortable bench of log, and notice creation. Take time to have uneventful time. Take time to rest, have sabbath, and realize that you are a part of God's good creation. And know that God loves you, and God's got you, just like the birds and the lilies.

In God's Amazing Grace,  
Pastor Adam



## Altar Guild Notes: July / August, 2023

The season of Time after Pentecost continues for all of July and August.

Green paraments, chalice veil, banner are used to symbolize this time in the liturgical year.

Symbols are an important part of our worship life. Symbols have no power of their own.

Christian symbols derive from scripture and point us to God's truth. They remind us of who we are and Whose we are.



The four plaques on the wall near the pulpit have powerful symbols to contemplate before worship begins. The top one is the eye of God, light and life emanating from the center: Our all seeing, omnipotent God, creator of all. The next one under is the Lamb of God (Agnus Dei): Jesus, our sacrificial lamb that laid down His life for us. He bears a flag, victory over death for us! Under that is the descending dove, the Holy Spirit. We recently celebrated Pentecost. The Holy Spirit is sent to be with us, our guide and advocate for all time. The last plaque is a ship symbolizing the church. That is us, then and now! Our worship space inside the church building is called a Nave. That word come from the Latin word, navis, which means ship. We are sailing on the waters of our baptism in the ocean of time.

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
Creator, Redeemer, Paraclete,  
Church. Even the order in  
which they are presented tells

the story. It also reminds us that we are instructed, equipped with our individual gifts to be sent out from this building to proclaim God's Word. Four works of art to fill our hearts and minds. That's a lot in four little picture icons.

Look up the next time you are sitting in a pew. Notice the curve of the long wood boards. Do you see that you are in a ship?! We worship, are fed by the Eucharist, and sent out to use our gifts to spread the Word. Go with God.

Your sister in Christ,  
*Deborah*



# A Message From the Presidents

To Our St. Timothy Family,

Of late, everyday I hear someone say, "I think summer is finally here!" The buzz in all of the Grand Island Schools has been, "we're done" for another year. As always, time speeds onward, life moves quickly! Looking back, just to mid-May, we were voting on new playground equipment for our CCC. Wow! We have just completed a very successful CCC Chicken BBQ fundraiser, complete with bounce houses, face painting, balloon creations, beautiful baskets for the raffle, and live music with the DJ from Solid Gold. With pre-sale and walk-ins, we sold 550 dinners in 1-1/2 hours! We are already talking about ordering more for next year, and with many hands, hard work was so much easier! Already, the playground fence is up, mulch has been laid, and the equipment is already installed and dedicated. The CCC graduated their first class of UPK kiddos who are now ready for a fun summer, well prepared for 1st grade!

We began our beloved 8:00 AM outdoor service, while maintaining the tradition of a more liturgical service at 9:30 AM. All are welcome to gather to Praise our Good and Loving God, be it in shorts or bow ties. And after a challenging time of illness, Phil Buchanan is well enough to Deacon again. He and Joan, together, rang the bell at Roswell, because no one does that alone. Phil promoted the Lutheran Charities Golf Classic, and, thankfully, Cheryl Wasson will use her gifts to create the money tree.

Paul Yaeger promoted and collected riders for the Ride for Roswell, all of them earning money for cancer research, riding 10, 20, or 30 miles. No one fell down, no one got hurt, they all stayed dry and managed to earn \$2,325. Per the leadership at Roswell, this translates into at least \$30,000 available dollars for actually research. I like the concept of money donated to a good cause multiplying! Paul, how does this work? Water to wine??

Pastor Adam is continuing our morning Bible study for a final week, and the WELCA met for another summer picnic, at Carolyn Doebert's home. And now we look forward to hosting Vacation Bible School at St Tim's, July 10-14th.

Webster defines church as "a building used for public Christian worship." In Holy Scripture, church "never refers to a building, but rather to the people who follow Jesus." Our mission statement includes "inspiring faith through connections"... in our community. I like the description, "the little Church that could." Love and hugs.

*Shari and Paul*



## Child Care Center News

Hello, Church Family!

First off, a huge thank you to all who volunteered for and supported the chicken BBQ. From donations of baskets, baked goods, time, money, buying tickets, and enjoying the event with us, your dedication to the Child Care Center is appreciated beyond measure.

THANK  
YOU!

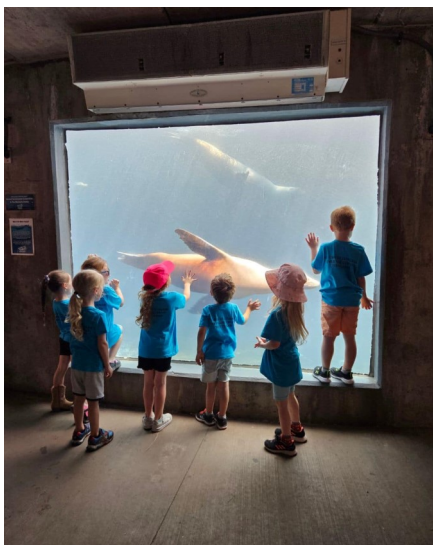
I would also like to share how important Tracy Marrs, our Assistant Director, is to this event. Tracy spends countless hours preparing for this event off the clock. If you see her around, please let her know that her work is appreciated!

Outside of our BBQ and Family Fun Day, June was a busy month! Our new playground equipment was installed and has been awesome for our kids, our first ever UPK class and our Preschool class celebrated graduation with a sanctuary full of family and friends, our UPK and Preschool classes took a field trip to the Buffalo Zoo, and Summer Camp for our school-agers started. The rest of our summer will be full of fun for the kids, with visits from the Niagara Aquarium, Niagara University Repertory Theatre, Orange Poppy Art Studio, and Soma Cura yoga. Our school age summer camp kids are looking forward to lots of field trips, too, including to Beaver Island, the Grand Island Fun Center, Niagara Splash World, and the Grand Island Library. All ages will also have a blast marching in our own little Fourth of July parade on July 3rd!

On a final note, a huge thank you to everyone who helped remove tree roots and reposition the rubber mulch after our playground equipment arrived, your hard work and time helping make it safe and ready for our kids is so appreciated!

Thank you and enjoy your summer!

*Amanda Weir*, Center Director



## Worship Information



Our 8 AM outdoor service continues through the end of August by our pavilion, and our 9:30 AM service continues indoors and on our livestream, accessible at [www.sttimothygrandisland.com](http://www.sttimothygrandisland.com). If you're worshipping outside with us, remember to bring your lawn chair!

## News and Upcoming Events

### Vacation Bible School!

Join us for Vacation Bible School this summer from July 10-14! Each evening, 6-7:30 PM, includes a lesson, craft, music, game, and snack - it'll be tons of fun!

VBS is open to children Pre-K through 4th grade and is \$5 per child with a max of \$15 per family. To register, please find the link on our website or Facebook page, or use this form: <https://forms.gle/Gqzk82LDqSqtH65b8>.

Parents are welcome to be on site if they are more comfortable with that, otherwise it's a great opportunity for a few quiet evenings and date night! We hope you can join us this year!

For any youth or adults that would like to volunteer—from bringing a snack to helping with a game or craft, please contact Pastor Adam or the office. Thank you!



### Tax Exemption

Just a friendly reminder that we are a tax exempt organization, so any purchases made on behalf of the church should be made with a tax exempt form when possible. We don't like to short anyone the tax paid, however our auditors would rather we not reimburse tax since that is a misuse of your generous financial gifts. Avoidance of that predicament would be appreciated!

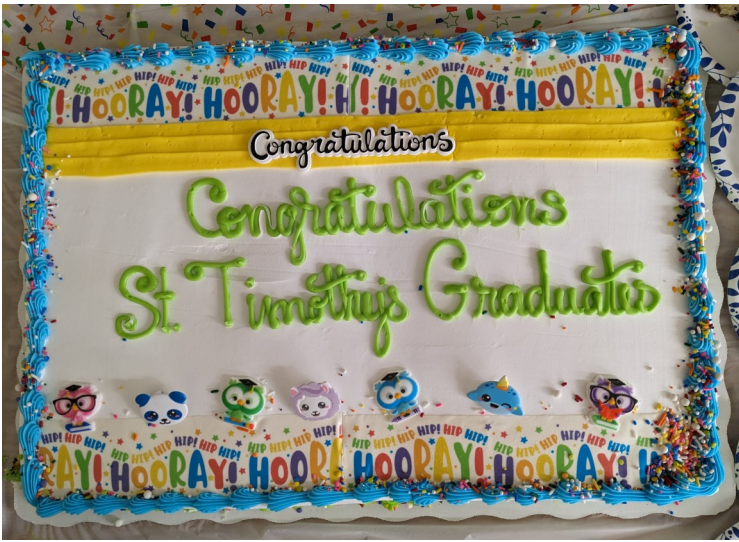
Signed tax exempt forms can be found in the office in the file holder on the counter, along with bar codes for Home Depot and Dollar Tree. Other places like Gui's Lumber and Beacon Christian Books bill us on account with automatic tax exemption, and various other places have us in their system and can look us up by name. Emailed forms are also available upon request. Please note that lawn mower gas is the exception and tax will be reimbursed for that.

Thank you for all you do to take care of the people and property of St. Timothy!

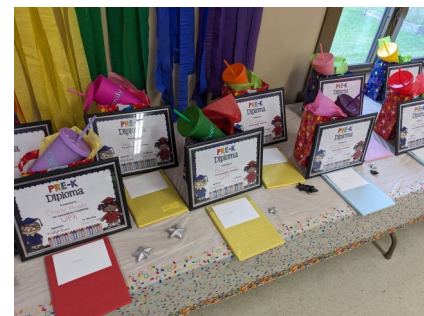
## Last Month's Memories



Our first ever St. Timothy's Ride for Roswell Team was a great success, raising \$2,325! The Celebration of Hope night and Ride were tons of fun. We hope you can join us next year!



We're so proud of our Preschool and UPK Graduates who have had an awesome year of fun and learning! The celebration was a blast. Thanks to Karen Sturniolo and our awesome teachers who made these cheerful and fun decorations!



Our new playground equipment has been installed! Thank you to everyone who came out to help redistribute the mulch and prepare it for the kids to use, we truly appreciate all the hands and hearts! Our kids are loving the new units, and they will continue to be loved for years to come!



# Missions

## 25th Annual Lutheran Charities Golf Classic

The Lutheran Charities' Annual Golf Classic participants are all set for an enjoyable outing for a good cause on July 21st at the Chestnut Hill Country Club in Darien Center.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the money tree basket donation, it's always a hit at the raffle and a great way to support so many essential local ministries!



## Child Care Center BBQ Basket Donation

Your generosity is so appreciated! The Niagara Amusement Park and Splash World season's passes purchased from your generous contributions were a huge hit at our Child Care's BBQ fundraiser! They were won by a VERY excited family who'll be enjoying some quality time together this summer. Thank you!

## Ride for Roswell

Wow! I would like to thank you all for your contribution to and participation in the first annual St. Timothy Ride for Roswell bike ride! St. Timothy's fund raising will help

advance the critical mission of cancer research here locally. Your contribution adds up with all the others to help fund research and help those today who are dealing with cancer.



Not only does the Ride help fund research, but it serves other purposes. It created a fellowship opportunity for us an organization to get together for an important cause. It allowed us to not only have a great time riding together on the 24th, but to participate in the social aspect of some pre-rides and have fun and food at the Friday "Celebration of Hope" festivities. One of the other benefits is the training for these rides. I set the goal for the distance I am riding and this helps keep me riding a bit further each week which keeps me healthy.

This year, I created the St. Timothy team and recruited 5 new first-time Ride for Roswell riders. Hopefully next year our St. Timothy's team will expand and join me in this fun and meaningful ride. Distances start as low as 5 miles and top at 100, so there is a distance for everyone. They also have many opportunities to volunteer to direct riders or cheer the riders on.

The St. Timothy's Ride for Roswell team raised \$2,325 and our team was 341 out of 809 in fundraising. Each dollar raised turns into 13 with grant money. Roswell raised over 5.6 million in this ride with over 8,000 riders to be used for cancer research. This activity was a nice way to make a difference in our community.

Thank you again for your support, it personally means a lot to me and my family.

Regards,

*Paul Yaeger*

## Missions Spotlight

About three hours from Lae, Papua New Guinea, a water project in Sokam village has yielded unexpected and surprising outcomes. The village lacks sufficient water, and though the distance to Lae, the country's second largest town, is not terribly far, rough roads into the mountains make travel and transportation difficult.

Lutheran Development Service (LDS) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea initiated the project, supported by ELCA World Hunger, by first organizing a project committee with local leadership. LDS provided the material and a plumber, whereas the village provided the labor, contributed toward the cost of a vehicle to haul the material, and constructed a guesthouse.

Water taps at every home eliminate the need for people (usually children) to haul water from the stream every morning and afternoon for cooking, washing, and irrigation. Now children can get to school on time. All this has opened up other new opportunities.

Elsie Foyang is the pastor's daughter and an extension worker in the village. A better source of water offered her the opportunity to start a demonstration greenhouse, which has expanded into a business. She now has 12 farmers working for her, growing vegetable seedlings and producing chicken feed and fish feed. "With bad roads, especially when it rains, it's difficult to get feed materials from town," she says. "So we've created a process here, using some purchased feed, and combine this with ground-up cassava and other materials." These are pressed into small pellets and sun-dried.

Now villagers can grow vegetables to eat and sell at the market. They have a steady stream of feed for chickens and fish. Beyond this, other income-generating crops such as coffee and vanilla (which is labor intensive) have helped improve life. Frieda Wangon, one of the farmers, is proud of the certification she received for quality coffee beans. "With the extra cash income, I can pay my children's school fees and can buy various household materials," she said. "I also was able to contribute toward the water supply program." Wangon was able to build her own house and next wants to install solar power. "I used to live in poverty. Now I am more resilient, though I hope to move to more sustainability in income."

Thank you for your support of ELCA World Hunger which makes important projects like this possible!

Elsie Foyang with her vegetable seedlings, made possible by a water access project that is yielding greater food and economic security to the villagers and resulting in quality of life improvements.



## 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](mailto: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: Joe Levy and Family; Barb Duck and Family; Jan Cutini; Eric Alexander; Wesley Clark; Linda Piechowiak; Jack Skinner; Janet Upham; Karen; MJ; Deborah Piotrowski; Karen Byxbe; Larry Neutz; Mike Gueli; Lynda Reeves; Josh; Myles; Becky; Jim O'Connor; Cathy; Deb; Alex; Kathy Wright; Colin; Gary; Nancy Gorrell; Brenda; Margaret Miller; Marlene; Yosenia; Randy; Betty; Riley; Joe Morley; Richard E; Isla and Eleanor; Edna; Gloria; Brian Volo; Marianne Carroll; Danny Penque; Robin Bengaglio Richard; Joanne M.; Dottie Roehrig; Sylvia and Joe Smith; Lorraine Pfohl; and Cheryl Rosati.

## A Celebratory Note

Join us in giving thanks and praise to God! Phil Buchanan is now officially cancer-free and rang the bell at the Roswell Memorial Cancer Institute last month! For knowledgeable doctors, effective treatments, loving support systems, endurance in the tough times, and good health for years to come, among many other things, we give thanks.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

This summer, we'll be celebrating the birthdays of Pastor Adam on July 8th, Deborah Goss on July 20th, Mark W. Steck on July 30th, and Phil Buchanan on August 6th. We'll also be celebrating Diane and Merle Wilson's 62nd anniversary and Carl and Jeanne Remmes' anniversary, both 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](mailto:pastor@sttimothygrandisland.com) or at 608-525-0288.

While Pastor Adam is on vacation July 17-20, August 7-11, and August 16-22, please contact Mary Wolf at [stpauls1827@juno.com](mailto:stpauls1827@juno.com) or 716-984-2938. You can also contact the office at 716-773-4400 and we will direct your pastoral care request to the appropriate person.

# July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Worship, 8 & 9:30 AM	3 Bible Study, 10:30 AM	4  Independence Day	5	6	7	8
9 Worship, 8 & 9:30 AM	10 VBS! 6-7:30	11 VBS! 6-7:30	12 VBS! 6-7:30  Finance, 6:30 PM	13 VBS! 6-7:30	14 VBS! 6-7:30	15
16 Worship, 8 & 9:30 AM	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 Worship, 8 & 9:30 AM	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 Worship, 8 & 9:30 AM	31					

# August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Grand Island Community Chorus Concert, 7:30 PM	2	3	4	5
	6 Worship, 8 & 9:30 AM	7	8	9 Finance Meeting, 6:30 PM	10	11
	12	13 Worship, 8 & 9:30 AM	14 Council Meeting, 5:30 PM	15	16	17
	18	19	20 Worship, 8 & 9:30 AM	21	22	23 Worship & Music meeting, 7 PM
	24	25	26	27 Worship, 8 & 9:30 AM	28	29
30	31					