

# May 2025 *TIPS*

A Newsletter From  
Saint Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church

*Come and Worship!*



Sunday School 9:15 – 10:15 am  
Sunday Worship 8:30 am & 10:30 am

St. Timothy ELCA is a community of faith creating  
connection through the love of Jesus Christ

395 Valley Road, Wayne, New Jersey 07470

[sttimothynj.org](http://sttimothynj.org)

395 Valley Road, Wayne, NJ 07470

Pastor  
Director of Music  
Office Manager  
Church Office Email

Phone: (973) 694-8316  
The Rev. Kimberly Cooper  
Caroline Parody  
Deb Califf  
[st.tims395@yahoo.com](mailto:st.tims395@yahoo.com)

## Church Council

Colleen Duffy	<b>President</b>
Eddy Schloesser	<b>Vice President</b>
Karen Sajban	<b>Treasurer</b>
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Cliff Konnerth	
Valerie McGrath	
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# May 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>* Sunday Christian Ed</b> Youth Sunday School & Confirmation Adult Forum in Parlor	<b>programs include:</b> Adult Christian Ed in the Bistro		This month's Heart 'n Hands item is  <b>Travel or Full-Sized Deodorant</b>	<b>1</b>	  6 pm AA	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> <u>8:30 &amp; 10:30am</u> Worship <u>9:15am</u> Christian Ed* <u>11:30am</u> Coffee Hour <u>1pm</u> AA	<b>5</b> <u>9-11:30 am</u> Heart 'n Hands  <u>7 pm</u> Boy Scouts	<b>6</b> <u>1 pm</u> Meditation w/Movement <u>2 pm</u> Bible Study w/Holy Communion <u>7:00pm</u> Worship Committee	<b>Pastor's Vacation 7</b>  <u>7 pm</u> Bells rehearsal	<b>Pastor's Vacation 8</b>	<b>Pastor's Vacation 9</b>  6 pm AA	<b>Pastor's Vacation 10</b> <u>10:30 am</u> 
<b>Pastor's Vacation 11</b> <u>8:30 &amp; 10:30am</u> Worship <u>9:15am</u> Christian Ed* <u>11:30am</u> Coffee Hour <u>1pm</u> AA	 <b>Pastor's Vacation 12</b> <u>9-11:30 am</u> Heart 'n Hands <u>7 pm</u> Boy Scouts	<b>Pastor's Vacation 13</b> <u>1 pm</u> Meditation w/Movement <u>2 pm</u> Bible Study w/Holy Communion <u>7:30pm</u> Council	<b>14</b> <u>9:30am</u> Angels Circle <u>10:30am</u> Knit & Crochet  <u>7 pm</u> Choir rehearsal	<b>15</b> <u>10:30 am</u> Adult Book Group	<b>16</b>  6 pm AA	<b>17</b>
<b>Agape Choir 18</b> <u>8:30 &amp; 10:30am</u> Worship <u>9:15am</u> Christian Ed* <u>11:30am</u> Coffee Hour <u>1pm</u> AA	<b>19</b> <u>9-11:30 am</u> Heart 'n Hands  <u>7 pm</u> Boy Scouts	<b>20</b> <u>1 pm</u> Meditation w/Movement <u>2 pm</u> Bible Study w/Holy Communion <u>7 pm</u> Christian Ed Committee	 <u>10am</u> Hymn Sing  <u>7 pm</u> Bells rehearsal	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  6 pm AA	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> <u>9:30am</u> Worship <u>1pm</u> AA	 	<b>27</b> <u>1 pm</u> Meditation w/Movement <u>2 pm</u> Bible Study w/Holy Communion	<b>28</b> <u>9:30am</u> Angels Circle <u>10:30am</u> Knit & Crochet  <u>7 pm</u> Choir rehearsal	 <b>Ascension Day</b> <u>7 pm</u> Special Worship	<b>30</b>  6 pm AA	<b>DEADLINE 31</b>  <b>Endowment Ballots</b>

## Word from Our Pastor



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*Thus, says the Lord of hosts: Render true judgements, show kindness and mercy to one another; do not oppress the widow, the orphan, the immigrant, or the poor; and do not devise evil in your hearts against one another.*

*Zechariah 7: 9-10*

Do politics belong in church? That's a complicated question. For one thing, partisan politics is prohibited for our tax-free status. Of course, there are still congregations that tread in dangerous waters, when they promote certain candidates and political parties. That's an issue for the IRS, but much more concerning would be the people that are alienated, when the church supports a different candidate or party than they do. That does not serve the gospel of Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 6: 3-10).

The truth is that Christianity is much bigger than our national politics. When Jesus walked this earth, the USA didn't even exist. People have been claiming Christ as Lord and Savior since way before we got here, and God willing, will be continuing to worship him, when we are but a distant memory (Acts 17: 26-28).

At the same time that that is true, the Holy Scriptures that guide us include mandates to serve our neighbors in love and work for justice. In reading through the Prophets of the Old Testament, we see whole passages warning the People of God that God punishes the unjust and comes to the aid of the poor, the prisoners, immigrants<sup>1</sup>, and all vulnerable people.

More important than the prophets of old, Jesus Christ claimed *to be* the poor, the immigrant, and the prisoner (Matthew 25: 31-46). He said that the greatest commandments were to *love* God and neighbor (Luke 10: 25-37). He was constantly getting into trouble with the powerful people of his time by calling out religious leaders for their hypocrisy and caring for the sinners and tax collectors (John 8: 1-11). Jesus's radical love terrified them to the degree that he was unjustly executed (John 11: 45-53)<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Generally speaking, when you see the word "stranger" in English, the original word in Greek is literally "foreigner."

<sup>2</sup> It is important to note that it isn't *Jews* who killed Jesus. *Religious leaders* sought his death and Roman injustice executed him.

All of this is to say that, who we vote for isn't all that important in the realm of God. Especially, in a system that only gives us two choices. In the brief history of the USA, we are yet to have a president, or anyone else in government, that actually loves as radically as Jesus commands. This means that each one of us is invited by our Lord to stand up and speak out for "the least of these" no matter who is president, governor, or mayor and regardless of the laws written by legislators or judged in the courts.

As a church, we have no business endorsing candidates or claiming/ condemning a political party – none of which can save us. But, it is very much our business to preach and live the gospel of Jesus Christ and that is inherently political. Love for our neighbors is inherently political. It might get us into a little bit of trouble. The gospel can be offensive to those who don't believe (1 Corinthians 1: 18), but *it does save us*.

"I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!" – Jesus (John 16: 33)





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## Weekly Tuesday Events ~ May 6, 13, 20, 27



Meditation with Movement at 1pm ~ feel the stretch, feel the calm! Can't make it every single week, no problem: cost is \$40 cash per month, pay as you go. No mat needed, but a bottle of water suggested. Fellowship Hall.

Bible Study with Holy Communion at 2pm ~ Join Pastor Kimberly as she leads the group through an exploration of timely readings followed by the sharing of Communion. Parlor.

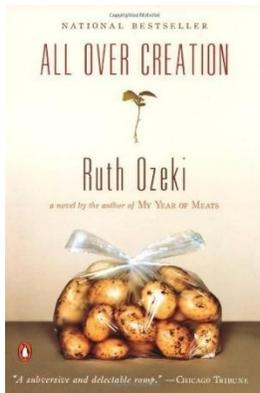
**BIBLE STUDY  
& COMMUNION**

*Determination of gathering for May 27<sup>th</sup>,  
the Tuesday following Memorial Day, will be made closer to that date.*

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## Bookworms Book Club ~ May 10<sup>th</sup>

A warm and witty saga about agribusiness, environmental activism, and community.



Following her widely hailed, award-winning debut novel, *My Year of Meats*, Ruth Ozeki returns here to deliver a quirky cast of characters and a wickedly humorous appreciation of the foibles of corporate life, globalization, political resistance, youth culture, and aging baby boomers. *All Over Creation* tells a celebratory tale of the beauty of seeds, roots, and growth—and the capacity for renewal that resides within us all.

-goodreads

For Bookworms information, contact Barbara Westerberg at 973.696.1471 on how to join in the friendly discussion.

Happy reading!



## Needleworks Groups ~ May 14<sup>th</sup> and May 28<sup>th</sup>

The Angels Circle meets bi-monthly on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month in Fellowship Hall at 9:30am. All materials are provided and finished lap quilts are donated to a variety of charities and places. Beginners welcome! Quilt kits for those who can only work at home are also available... speak with Ed Cleaver or Barbara Kaplan.



Knitting and Crochet

Nellie's Knit & Crochet group meets the same dates as the Angels, also in Fellowship Hall, beginning at 10:30am for about 2 hours. Bring your own projects and enjoy the company and share or add to the expertise of the group!

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## Agape Choir ~ May 18<sup>th</sup>

We welcome back this multi-generational ensemble committed to following Jesus' command: "Love One Another" as their talents will enhance our worship with sacred music using singing, handbell ringing and other instrumental flourishes.



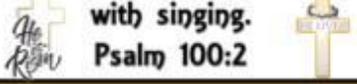
*Solus Deo Gloria*  
Glory to God Alone.

### AGAPE MUSIC OUTREACH

Choir, Handbell Choir, Instrumentalists

All are welcome.

Serve the Lord with gladness;  
come before His presence  
with singing.  
Psalm 100:2





**St. Timothy Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
Wayne, NJ



Agape  
Music Outreach

God is Love

Sharing God's Joyful and Healing Love through Music  
*A not-for-profit music ministry; est. 2018*

#### Agape May Outreach Service

Sunday, May 18, 2025  
10:30 a.m.  
Fifth Sunday of Easter

**St. Timothy Lutheran Church**  
395 Valley Rd, Wayne, NJ 07470

Pastor Kimberly Cooper







Scan for more information about Agape Music Outreach



## Hymn Sing @ Alps of Wayne ~ May 21<sup>st</sup>



Same address (1120 Alps Road) but another new name, though the banner might still say “Atrium”... it’s a convoluted insurance/State of NJ thing LOL!

Same joyful connection with residents!

Spend an hour engaging the shut-in population of this care facility with familiar song. Lyric sheets provided, just bring your voice and sunny disposition!

Please reach out to Carolyn Russo if you’d like more info.

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## Memorial Day Weekend ~ May 25<sup>th</sup> - May 26<sup>th</sup>

There will only be one worship service on Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. This will also mark the start of our Summer Worship Schedule, so all Sundays until September will have a sole celebration of Word & Sacrament beginning at 9:30am.



Office Closed Monday, May 26

Heart ‘n Hands will not operate either

Tuesday, May 27: Meditation with Movement at 1pm & Bible Study with Communion participants will determine whether or not they will hold their respective sessions closer to the end of the month.

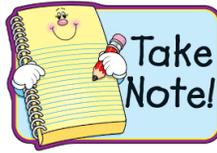
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## Ascension Day ~ May 29<sup>th</sup>

Celebrate this unprecedented event: Jesus raised body & soul into his Kingdom of Heaven sowing the way for our own entrance to eternal glory.

Worship begins at 7pm.





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**Shine A Light On Hope**

**Join us for an insightful journey about Hinduism!**

Sunday, May 18th, 2025

4:15 PM - 6:45 PM

at Vivekananda Vidyapith,  
20 Hinchman Ave, Wayne, NJ 07470



This event is the fourth in a series exploring Judaism, Islam, Christianity, Hinduism, and Buddhism. It aims to reduce ignorance and hatred by fostering harmony and understanding between all religions.



Free Event

Limited Space (50 guests max)

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to  
RSVP by May 4, 2025

In partnership with  
the Wayne Clergy Council

**LAST DATE TO RSVP** May 4<sup>th</sup>

[Click HERE to RSVP](#)

Or type in the following url into your web browser:

[docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfwzXYjKB25hoE-\\_bt0JQ5u42gUQ2S6Wh1Z7ZVJW0C-3FJBKQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfwzXYjKB25hoE-_bt0JQ5u42gUQ2S6Wh1Z7ZVJW0C-3FJBKQ/viewform)

**TIPS DEADLINE: MAY 12<sup>TH</sup> FOR THE JUNE EDITION**

Almost time to breathe a bit, though there's a lot of wrap-up going on in June. Time to tell everyone about it!

*All members of the congregation are invited to send in news that they'd like shared with the St. Timothy community.*



## ENDOWMENT BALLOT

It's May! That must mean it's time to use your voices to help those in need through our Endowment Gift established over a decade ago by the Estate of Ms. Marie Forester.



Purpose: To strengthen and extend God's mission through the Lutheran Church, reaching out in response to human need

You may list one local, one national and one global charity.

During the entire month, paper ballots and a box will be in the narthex to gather your nominations. If you prefer, you may use the online form to share your suggestions; just click on or type the following into your web browser:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1Z-cyaj\\_0kn6-HZBRps-tRfMKRS6EtkFt\\_lNc0h0yc/prefill](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1Z-cyaj_0kn6-HZBRps-tRfMKRS6EtkFt_lNc0h0yc/prefill)

Additionally, you may cast your ballot by mailing it to the church office (395 Valley Road, Wayne NJ 07470) "Attn. Endowment Committee" or emailing it to [st.tims395@yahoo.com](mailto:st.tims395@yahoo.com).

Deadline for submittals is Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup>.



**Pastor Is On  
Vacation**

Please note that Pastor Kimberly will be on vacation beginning on Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> through May 13<sup>th</sup>. Please contact the office or an Executive Council member if you are in need of assistance.

## AN UPDATE FROM LIZ KOCH



Thank you to everyone who has been generously donating to our collections for WIN. The Super Bowl drive was a great success! WIN is currently serving 188 families, 12 senior singles/couples, and 74 school-age children. They accept all non-perishable foods, but are always *especially in need of protein-based foods such as peanut butter, canned fish and meat, hearty soups, canned stew, and canned chili*. Paper products, items that can't be purchased with food stamps, and ShopRite gift cards are also appreciated.

Drop-off times and locations have not changed with the conversion of the YMCA to the Wayne Community Center. For those wishing to drop off donations directly at WIN, their entrance is to the right of the Community Center doors. Drop-off times are Monday 1:00 – 4:00, Tuesday 9:00 -11:00, Wednesday 1:00 – 6:00, Thursday 9:00 – 12:00, and Friday 11:00 – 1:00. It is probably best to call ahead to check if they're open because their hours do change occasionally and their website is not always up-to-date. There is also a collection basket in the Community Center. Their hours are Monday – Friday 6:00 am – 10:00 pm, Saturday 7:00 am – 6:00 pm, and Sunday 7:00 am – 3:00 pm.

For more details about their services, please visit their website:

<https://www.winfoodpantry.org/>

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## AN UPDATE FROM BOB DAVIDSON

We are very pleased to announce that we are in the midst of developing relationships with six new organizations, widening our outreach in the northern New Jersey area. Some have found us through our existing partners, and some have sought us out, having heard of our ministry. We will provide more information about these new partners in the coming months. This brings us excitement that we can assist more people in need, but also the recognition that there is still much need in our area. We are able to do this because of the generous support you continue to provide.



## AN UPDATE FROM CLIFF KONNERTH

NJIC continues to offer financial support to the Rodriguez family, though their need for assistance is decreasing. Wilmar is now working the second shift and has registered to do Instacart delivery. The children are well with Wuittman recently earning a student of the month certificate. They are excitedly working toward Permanent Resident Status, they will be eligible to apply for their Green Cards the end of May. We have been informed mom Dailyn is suffering some medical issue and we ask all concerned to keep her in prayer.



North Jersey Interfaith Cares

We did meet with CWS in order to determine if we could help other recent refugees settled in our area and have been introduced to the Alnabar family with eight members spanning three generations. Ali and Manar have 5 children ranging in age from 9 to 23: Ilan (9), Naya (12), Ritaj (15), Amar (18), and their oldest daughter, Hannan (whose husband is in Syria), just had a baby girl, Mira. They are scheduled to visit St. Timothy as I write this as they are in need of much of what have been providing. I will report specific needs as they become known.



In light of this I am still collecting furniture donations. Priority needs remain small apartment size pieces including beds, dressers and kitchen tables and chairs. Please contact me for a pick-up.

A manual Hoyer lift has come into our possession. If you or someone you know are in need of this assistive device, please let me know: [ksnacs@msn.com](mailto:ksnacs@msn.com).



## **AN UPDATE FROM ANNE LOFFREDO**

Since March 10, gifts have been given to the New Roof Fund, in memory of Lou Warner. There have been gifts to the Eternal Light Candle Fund, and paybacks to the Flanders/Schleer Scholarship Loan Funds.

Landscaping maintenance in the Memorial Garden has been paid through the Memorial Garden Fund.



Memorial Garden pavers are always on sale; the price is \$300.00. Paver application sheets are available in the narthex. See Pat Winters for further information. The Memorial Garden is self-supporting and gifts are welcome at all times.

We also welcome contributions to the fund for restoration and enhancement of our Church organ. This work is on-going. Checks may be made to St. Timothy Memorial Fund, with the words "Organ Repair" on the memo line.



Please consider a gift to any branch of St. Timothy Memorial Fund - General Memorial Fund, Music Fund, Laubscher Property Fund, Flanders/Schleer Scholarship Loan Funds - or to Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

Memorial giving is good giving!



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5/2 Michael Inciardi	5/20 Melissa Taranto
5/2 Eric Sajban	5/21 Brian Phelan
5/3 Joseph Dittmer	5/21 Briana Venturelli
5/9 Robin Koegel	5/23 Marnie Sperling
5/11 Herb Eggers	5/26 Michael Dec
5/12 Ilona Oosterwyk	5/26 Steven Englesbe
5/13 Ryan DeRose-Travia	5/26 Elissa Scillieri
5/14 Andrew Cleaver	5/27 Jacqueline Serventi
5/16 Amy Taranto	5/28 Christopher Taranto
5/18 Helena Kremen	5/31 Carol Gabel
5/20 Lucia Amico	5/31 Samantha Sajban

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5/4 Elissa & Frank Scillieri
5/5 Marta & Jeff Riotto
5/9 Carin & Richard Wantula
5/12 Cathe & Bob Davidson
5/16 Irma Enders & Reinhold Valentine
5/19 Danielle & Fred Dittmer
5/24 Marie & Craig Beyer
5/26 Pastor Kimberly & Compton Cooper
5/26 Riitta & Matthew Englesbe

*Know someone who should be on this list but isn't??*

*Please email Deb at [st.tims395@yahoo.com](mailto:st.tims395@yahoo.com)*

*or call the office at 973-694-8316!*

**COMING NEXT MONTH!**

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## **End of Program Year Celebration**

June 1<sup>st</sup> Remember--single worship service at 9:30am/Summer Schedule!

Look for details in the coming weeks in Announcements & E-blasts!

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## **Pentecost**

June 8<sup>th</sup> Potluck Brunch follows 9:30am service in Fellowship Hall.

Online and paper sign-ups will be posted prior to Memorial Day!

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## **Confirmation**

June 15<sup>th</sup> Worship at 9:30am.

Congratulating Kayla Fagan, Andrew Koppenal, and Anya Cooper on their continuing faith journey as young adults.

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## **Celebrating our Graduates**

Start identifying your special someones who are finishing studies from high school, academies of higher education and special professional training programs. Then ask them to mark their calendars and to join you in Worship on June 22<sup>nd</sup> for recognition and a special blessing.

Look for details in the coming weeks in Announcements & E-blasts!

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## **Annual Congregational Meeting**

June 29<sup>th</sup> in the Sanctuary directly following Worship.

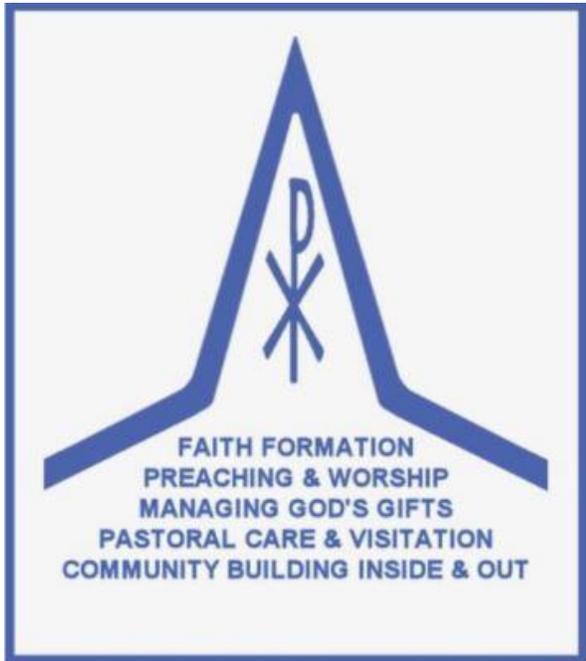
Save the date & plan to be part of the quorum!

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>Altar Guild</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>Assisting Minister</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>A/V</b>
May 4	Karen Sajban	James & Lisa Koppenal	Andrew Inciardi	Carolyn Russo	Colleen Duffy	James Koppenal
May 11	Terri Loftus Ilona Oosterwyk	Tom Sajban Laura Dec	Kaila Gabel	Karen McAleer	Lori VanDerStad	Karen Sajban
May 18	Lori VanDerStad Diana DeAngelis	Chris & Sue Phelan	Samantha Scillieri	Garey Goskowski	Jeff Riotto	Samantha DeRose
May 25	Nancy Farina Valerie McGrath	Jeff Riotto Karen McAleer	Jayden Fagan	Laura Dec	Bob Davidson	Craig Beyer
May 29 <i>Ascension</i> <i>7:00pm</i>		<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	n/a

# St. Timothy Business & Service Directory



## BUSINESSES



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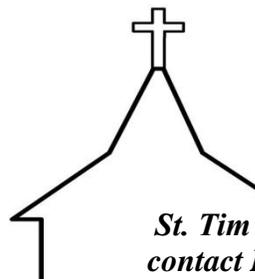
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