

January 2026 *TIPS*

A Newsletter From
Saint Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church

Come and Worship!



Sunday School 9:35 – 10:20 am
Sunday Worship 9:00 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

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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

Church Council

Colleen Duffy	President
Josh Abrahamson	Vice President
Karen Sajban	Treasurer
Marie Johnsson	Secretary
Gloria Cooper	
Laura Dec	
Art DeRose	
Garey Goskowski	
Cliff Konnerth	
Valerie McGrath	
Jeff Riotto	
Barbara Westerberg	

JANUARY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	This month's Heart n' Hands item is Warm Gloves			Office Closed 1	Office Closed 2 6 pm AA	3
4 9:30am Worship followed by Three Kings Party 1pm AA 	5 9-11:30 am Heart 'n Hands 7pm Scouts	6 1 pm Meditation w/Movement 2 pm Bible Study w/Holy Communion 7:00 pm Worship Committee meeting	7 7:15 pm Music rehearsal 	8	9 Office Closed 6 pm AA 7 pm Line Dancing 	10 10:30 am 
11 9:00am Worship 9:35am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 1pm AA 	 Content Due 12 9-11:30 am Heart 'n Hands 7pm Scouts	13 1 pm Meditation w/Movement 2 pm Bible Study w/Holy Communion 7:30 pm Church Council meeting	14 9:30/10:30am Needleworks 7:15 pm Music rehearsal 	15 10:30 am Adult Book Group	16 Office Closed 6 pm AA	17
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25 9:00am Worship 9:35am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 1pm AA 	26 9-11:30 am Heart 'n Hands 7pm Scouts	27 1 pm Meditation w/Movement 2 pm Bible Study w/Holy Communion	28 Eva's Kitchen due 9:30/10:30am Needleworks 7:15 pm Music rehearsal 	29	30 Office Closed 6 pm AA	31



If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! -2 Corinthians 5:17

In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul provides some beautiful words of *hope* to a church living with uncertainty and fear. The earliest Christians were a tiny minority in an expansive Empire. There were so few of them, that the Romans just saw them as another Jewish sect. And Rome didn't like the Jews very much.

At the time that Paul wrote to the Corinthians, Nero had ascended to the throne as Emperor of Rome. He is infamous for being impulsive and tyrannical. Tradition has it that he set Rome afire in order to make space to rebuild according to his own design then blamed the Christians for starting the fire, which led to terrible persecution. Christians living in his empire had good reason to be afraid. (For some good historical fiction on this time period, I recommend the classic film *Quo Vadis* starring Deborah Kerr and Robert Taylor).

And yet, it was also during that same time that many Gentiles became Christians. In that time of uncertainty and fear, people longed for the certainty and security of Christ. This is the gospel that Paul preached and wrote from the road and from prison cells right up until his death. The fifth chapter of 2 Corinthians, opens with the words, "For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

This was very good news to people living under the authority of a fickle and selfish man, but Paul also wrote that the gospel is actually much bigger than that. We don't have to wait until this life ends for eternity with God to begin. Our eternity with God begins at the moment of our baptism, when we are indwelt with the Holy Spirit. Even as we go about our daily lives, we are also filled and surrounded by the peace and love of God Almighty. Paul wrote, "He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee."

We are invited to be brave and strong and loving no matter what is happening around us. We are empowered to be Christ in a world longing for hope. Verse seven of this passage says, "for we walk by faith and not by sight." That is my prayer for 2026 – that I will walk by faith and not by sight.

As we walk into this next year, we have all *seen* some things, but *faith* tells us that God is at work. We can hold onto the hope that is in Christ Jesus that everything old is passing away and everything has become new! Amen



Still Closed

The Church Office will be closed for the Christmas ~ New Year's holidays beginning Wednesday, December 24, 2025 through and including Friday, January 2, 2026.



Pastor Kimberly is available via text or call to 551.315.7151 or email, depending on the urgency of the matter. Pastoral care is always a priority!

Eva's Kitchen Supplies

Our Confirmation class is gearing up to supply 250 bagged lunches again for folks struggling with food insecurity seeking relief from Eva's Kitchen in Paterson.



The congregation's support will once again be crucial for this service project to be a success. The students are looking for a variety of fruit and snacks. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board or you can go online: simply [click HERE](#) or type in this url in your browser <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C45AEAC28A5FCC43-61321587-evas>.

Please wait to bring your donations between January 25-28th (see sign-up for details).

Update from Anne Loffredo



Merry Christmas and Happy 2026 from sunny Florida!

Christmas Gratitude



Because of the generosity of members & friends, a whopping 110 gifts of clothing were placed under the Jesse Tree in support of children from the Center for Family Resources HeadStart program! A big “thank you” goes out to all Angels!



No count on donations for Christmas at Sea but a nice postcard of appreciation was received!

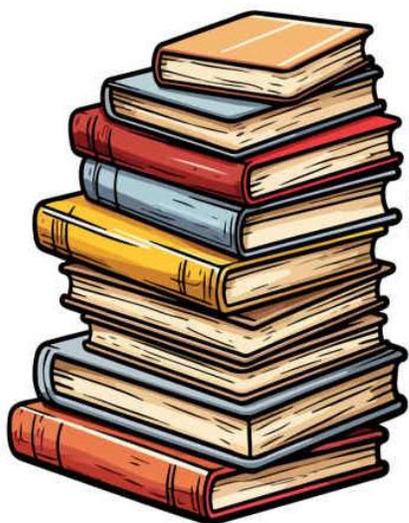
Newsletter February edition



Members who would like to share news with the congregation are always welcome to submit a blurb to Deb in the office no later than the second Monday of each month to appear in the following month's TIPS newsletter.

Feel free to give some parent-brags, note special milestones or advertise an upcoming special event!

Regular contributors: your content is due January 12th



Did You Know We Have a Free Little Library?

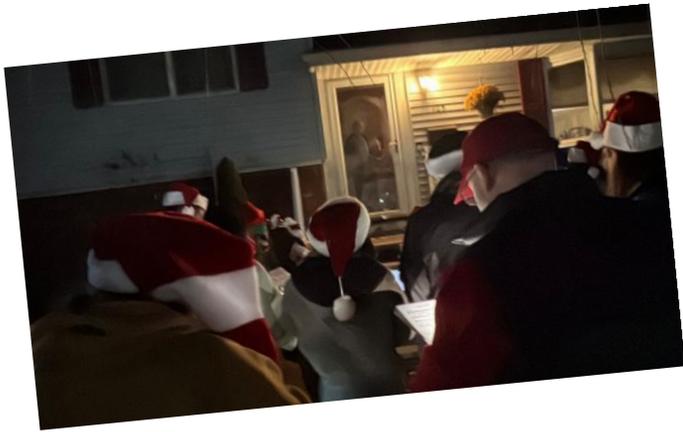
Nestled in the Fellowship Hall near the kitchen, stop by, browse, and discover your next favorite read.

Share a book you love and brighten someone else's day.

Take a Book • Leave a Book •
Share the Joy of Reading

What a Fun Evening!

Caroling for our homebound 2025



Thank you Samantha DeRose for the great pictures capturing the spirit of the Season!

Valentine's Care Packages: send a hug from home



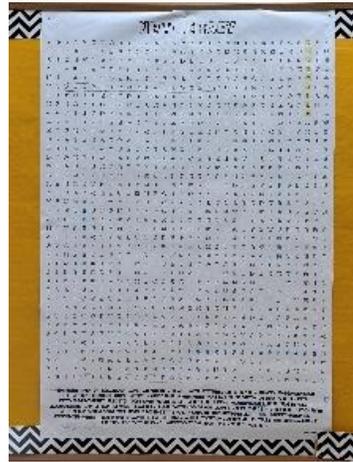
Know a college student or member of the military? WELCA is looking for names & addresses of those away from home to receive a special Valentine package. They do not need to be members of St. Timothy.

Email the info to Terri Loftus (tkabloft@optonline.net) no later than January 25th.
Questions? Call or Text Terri at (201)412-0803.

Didn't have enough fun baking for Christmas? One item always included in our packages is homemade cookies. Let Terri know if you'll make a batch (and individually wrap) or [click HERE to use Sign-Up Genius](#). Cookies are due by February 1st.

Have a Little Fun!

You are invited to discover New the Jersey... in word search form!



Check out the giant grid on bulletin board next to the elevator!

Be a host, be a guest... everyone is invited!



Coffee Hour follows our weekly 10:30am worship. It's a wonderful opportunity to catch up with friends, welcome newcomers, and enjoy a relaxed moment together over coffee, tea, and delicious treats.

To keep this tradition thriving, we invite volunteers to sign up to bring bakery items or lend a hand with cleanup. A signup sheet is available across from the elevator and online ([click HERE](#)). Your contributions—big or small—help make this time special for all.

Thank you for being part of our church family!

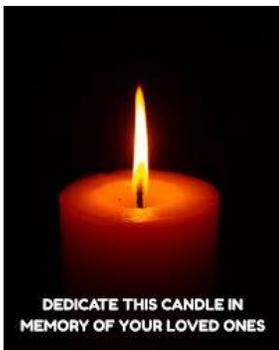


The 2026 altar flower schedule is now available for signups on the sheets on the bulletin board and online ([Click HERE](#)).

Please make a payment for the flowers when you sign up. This will help for ease of accounting and eliminate forgotten payments. Cash or checks can be placed in the offering plate or in the Church Secretary mailbox cubbie or mailed to the church office. Make checks out to St. Timothy Floral Fund.

Please keep in mind the following guidelines for donating flowers:

- The price for each bouquet remains at \$25.00.
- There are places to sign up for two bouquets each weekend.
- Please write your name and a brief dedication when you signup, including the name of and your relationship to your honoree.
- Please circle whether you would like to donate or take the bouquet.



The 2026 sign-up for sponsoring the Eternal Candle in the sanctuary is also now open.

- Instructions are the same as flowers: list your name, your honoree and your relationship to that honoree.
 - Cost is \$5 per week sponsored with checks made out to St. Timothy Memorial Fund with “Eternal Candle” in the memo field.
 - You may use the paper sheets on the bulletin board at church or [click HERE](#) for easy online registration.
-



Three Kings Epiphany Party ~ January 4th



Our annual 3 Kings Party will take place on Sunday, January 4th directly following the single 9:30am worship service.

Celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany and the coming of the Wise Men with King Cake, games and laughter!

Weekly Tuesday Events ~ January 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th

Meditation with Movement at 1pm. Can't make it every 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 & COMMUNION

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.

Line Dancing ~ January 9th & January 23rd

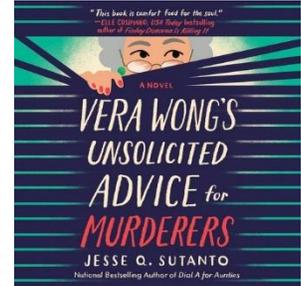


After taking a break in December, line dancing returns with two sessions in January. So get those boots ready for kicking up your heels!

Bookworms Book Club ~ January 10th

“Put the kettle on, there’s a mystery brewing...
Tea-shop owner. Matchmaker. Detective?”

Sixty-year-old self-proclaimed tea expert Vera Wong enjoys nothing more than sipping a good cup of Wulong and doing some healthy ‘detective’ work on the internet (AKA checking up on her son to see if he’s dating anybody yet).



But when Vera wakes up one morning to find a dead man in the middle of her tea shop, it’s going to take more than a strong Longjing to fix things. Knowing she’ll do a better job than the police possibly could – because nobody sniffs out a wrongdoing quite like a suspicious Chinese mother with time on her hands – Vera decides it’s down to her to catch the killer.

Nobody spills the tea like this amateur sleuth.” *-From goodreads.com*

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

Needleworks Groups ~ January 14th and 28th

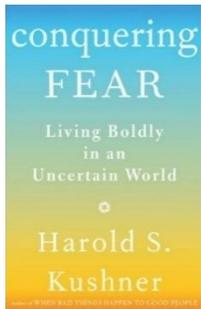


Angels Circle and Nellie’s Knit & Crochet meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month in Fellowship Hall.

Angels begin their sewing at 9:30am, while the yarnworkers arrive at 10:30am. Both meet for about an hour and a half or so... there’s plenty of flexibility for participant’s schedules.

Newcomers and beginners welcome!

Adult Book Group ~ January 15th



Come join us as we continue reading *Conquering Fear* by Rabbi Harold S. Kushner.

We meet the 3rd Thursday of the month at 10:30am. Each session is stand-alone, so jumping in at the middle is fine!

Great discussions, great fellowship, come join us! -
Barbara Westerberg

Hymn Sing @ Alps at Wayne ~ January 21st

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!



Meet in the Lobby at 10am. Questions? See Carolyn Russo



1/4 Debra Sansone	1/22 Ryan Bedi
1/6 Brandon Kratky	1/22 Pamela O'Mealy
1/7 Mike Fetherston	1/23 Barbara Westerberg
1/8 Bob Kratky	1/25 Lori VanDerStad
1/10 Melissa Pardalis	1/26 Ethan DeRose-Travia
1/14 Andrew Koppenal	1/27 Josh Dittmer
1/15 Dani Dittmer	1/27 Jake Dittmer
1/16 Deborah Andersen	1/29 Scott McGrath
1/17 Edward Cleaver	1/29 Sue Phelan



1/12 Nancy & Cliff Konnerth
1/24 Liz & Jack Koch

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

Please email Deb at st.tims395@yahoo.com

or call the office at 973-694-8316!



Valentine's Care Packages ~ February 14th

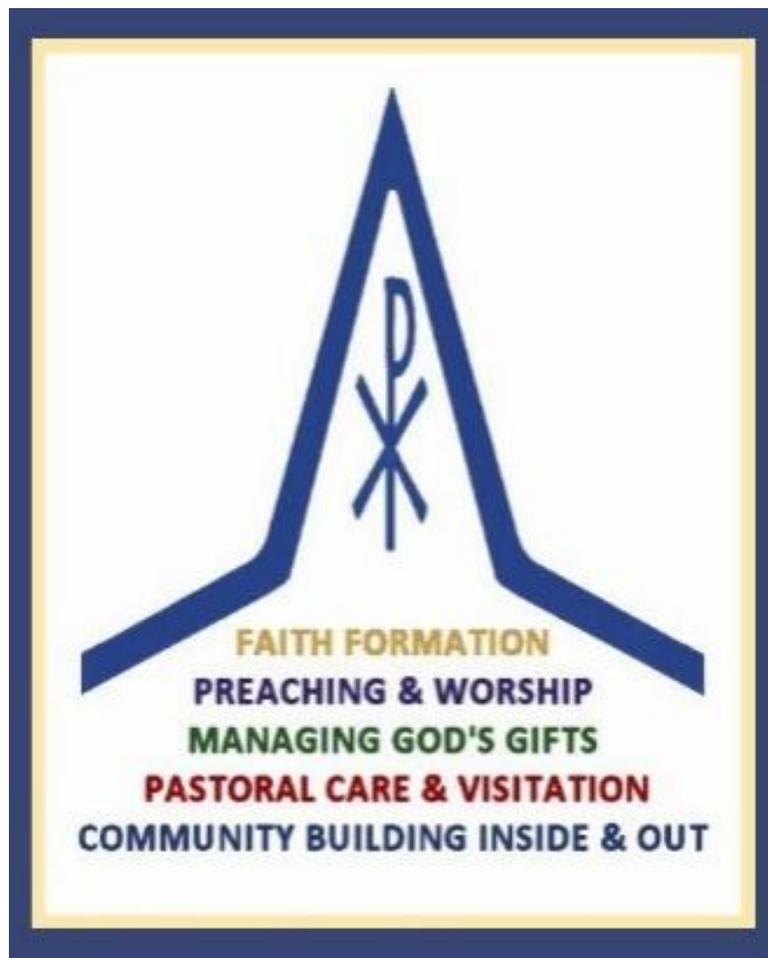
Line Dancing ~ February 13th

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper ~ February 17th

Ash Wednesday ~ February 18th

Soup & Worship ~ February 25th

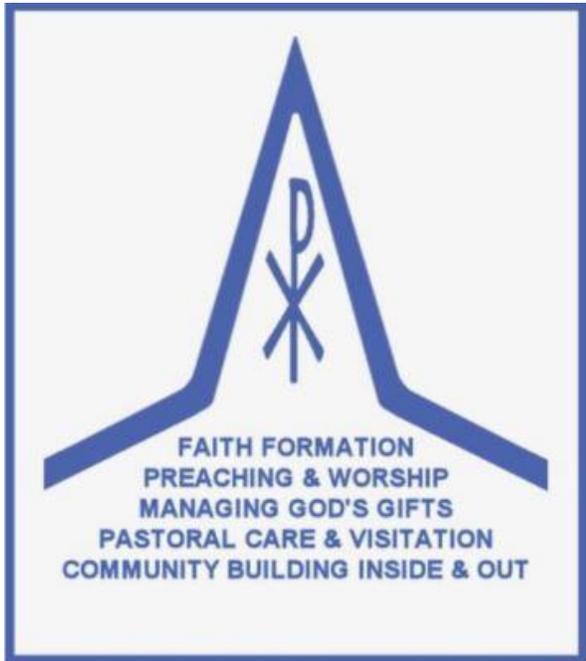
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DATE	Altar Guild	Ushers	Acolyte	Assisting Minister	Reader	A/V
Jan 4 <i>(9:30am)</i>	Terri Loftus	Laura Dec Doug Zangrilli	Spencer Eggers	Robin Koegel	Art DeRose	Craig Beyer
Jan 11	Karen Sajban	Tom Sajban Karen McAleer	Kaila Gabel	Lori VanDerStad	Karen Sajban	Karen Sajban
Jan 18	Nancy Farina	Chris & Sue Phelan	Jackson Scillieri	Laura Dec	Fallon Goskowski	Samantha DeRose
Jan 25	Valerie McGrath	Jeff Riotto Lori VanDerStad	Herbert Eggers	Karen McAleer	Bob Davidson	Compton Cooper

St. Timothy Business & Service Directory



BUSINESSES



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C - 973-418-1894
Fax - 973-616-0668

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Evalyn Johnson's Granddaughter:



Leash N' Lather
862-215-3779

LeashNLather@gmail.com 505 Saddle River Road
www.facebook.com/LeashNLather Saddle Brook, NJ 07663

LeashNLather@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/LeashNLather

505 Saddle River Road
Saddle Brook, NJ 07663

Laura Dec, Consultant
Midnightangel2@optonline.net
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Ultimate Aire Systems, Inc.

Jeffrey W. Clapp
President

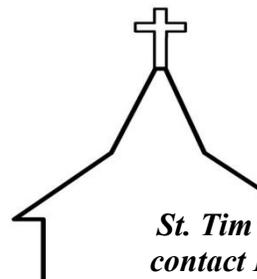
1160 Hamburg Tpk Suite 4
Wayne, N.J. 07470 (973) 694-7810 phone
(973) 305-8235 fax

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