

May 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

395 Valley Road, Wayne, NJ 07470





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Church Council

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Gloria Cooper	
Laura Dec	
Art DeRose	
Garey Goskowski	
Cliff Konnerth	
Valerie McGrath	
Jeff Riotto	
Barbara Westerberg	

MAY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Deadline May 31 Endowment Ballots <u>9:30am</u> Worship <u>1pm</u> AA			*Christian Ed includes Youth Sunday School Confirmation Adult Sunday School Adult Forum		Office Closed 1 <u>6 pm</u> AA	 Don't forget your blanket donation/ dedication by tomorrow! 2
3 <u>9:00am</u> Worship <u>9:35am</u> Christian Ed* <u>10:30am</u> Worship <u>1pm</u> AA 	4 <u>9-11:30 am</u> Heart 'n Hands <u>7pm</u> Scouts	5 <u>1 pm</u> Meditation w/Movement <u>2 pm</u> Bible Study w/Holy Communion <u>7 pm</u> Worship committee meeting	6 <u>7:15pm</u> Bells rehearsal	7	Office Closed 8 <u>6 pm</u> AA  <u>7 pm</u> Dance Party!	9
Blanket Sunday 10 <u>9:00am</u> Worship <u>9:35am</u> Christian Ed* <u>10:30am</u> Worship <u>1pm</u> AA	 Content Due 11 <u>9-11:30 am</u> Heart 'n Hands <u>7pm</u> Scouts	12 <u>1 pm</u> Meditation w/Movement <u>2 pm</u> Bible Study w/Holy Communion <u>7:30 pm</u> Council mtg	13 <u>9:30/10:30am</u> Needleworks <u>7:15 pm</u> Choir rehearsal	 14 <u>7pm</u> Special Worship	Office Closed 15 <u>6 pm</u> AA	<u>10:30 am</u>  16
17 <u>9:00am</u> Worship <u>9:35am</u> Christian Ed* <u>10:30am</u> Worship <u>1pm</u> AA	18 <u>9-11:30 am</u> Heart 'n Hands <u>7pm</u> Scouts	19 <u>1 pm</u> Meditation w/Movement <u>2 pm</u> Bible Study w/Holy Communion <u>7 pm</u> CEC meeting	20 <u>10am</u> Hymn Sing <u>7:15pm</u> Bells rehearsal	21 <u>10:30 am</u> Adult Book Group	Office Closed 22 <u>6 pm</u> AA	23
 24 <u>9:30am</u> Worship Pentecost Brunch <u>1pm</u> AA	 25 Office Closed In observance of Memorial Day	26 <u>1 pm</u> Meditation w/Movement <u>2 pm</u> Bible Study w/Holy Communion	27 <u>9:30/10:30am</u> Needleworks	28	Office Closed 29 <u>6 pm</u> AA	30



“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”

– Jesus (John 14:27)

Afred Nobel, founder of the Nobel Peace Prize, invented dynamite. That is how he made all of the money that was used to establish the *Nobel Prize* foundation. He did not fund the prize to repent from his work making weaponry. In fact, he was determined that if he could just make a bomb destructive enough, it would deter governments from ever going to war out of fear of mutual destruction. He died in 1896 well before the invention of nuclear bombs, which would disprove his hypotheses about the peace-making capacity of world destruction. In fact, fear is pretty much the opposite of peace.

I don't think this discounts the Nobel Peace Prize, but I do think it is a good illustration of just how complicated peace-making is in this world. Human beings, who want peace, have to struggle with things like greed, bigotry, and fear – both in the world and within ourselves. The church struggles with questions about how to create peace in the world and when it is just to make war. Too often we forget that God hasn't left us to work this out on our own. The struggle is real, but God is in the struggle with us.

John chapters 13-17 are all one long lesson from Jesus called the Farewell Discourse. It is a long speech made by Jesus at the Last Supper. We read a chunk of it on Maundy Thursday, when Jesus washed the disciples' feet and told them to serve one another. He goes farther and says, “love one another as I have loved you.” To me, that is an even stronger statement than the golden rule. To love as Jesus loves is impossible for us without the love and guidance of Jesus Christ.

The disciples realized that living in the world without Jesus would make it difficult – maybe even impossible - to continue in his way. Judas asked him how they could continue and Jesus answered in 14:26, “...the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you.”

None of us have ever met Jesus Christ in the flesh. And all of us strive to follow his way. The key to peace according to Jesus is service to and love for others. Simple enough and hard as heck. In the realm of God, no war is just. In the realm of God, everyone has plenty of provisions. In the realm of God, all people are citizens.

God called all of creation good, but we have decided that some belong and some do not. We have decided that some deserve mansions and others to starve. We have decided to attack other nations that have not attacked us. Sometimes we do these things out of greed, but much more often we do them out of fear.

Jesus said that the peace he offers is to free our hearts from trouble and fear.

It is fine to pray for world peace and for leaders that are just. It is fine to pray for others to make better decisions. I hope that all of us do that on a regular basis. It is also important to give our own fears to God. The Holy Spirit (aka as our advocate) is always ready and waiting to take our fear and transform it into peace. If we get in the habit of telling God our fears, we will notice over time that we have more peace in our life regardless of the chaos brewing around us.

A prayer from the ELW:

O most loving Father, you want us to give thanks in all circumstances and to lay all our cares on you, knowing that you care for us. Grant that fears and anxieties in this mortal life may not hide from us the light of your immortal love shown to us in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen





Blanket Sunday

This Mother's Day, WELCA invites you to support the CWS Blanket ministry by making a \$10 gift donation In Memory Of or In Honor Of a mother, grandmother, or mother figure who has blessed your life. Each blanket becomes a meaningful tribute - one that wraps another child of God in care and compassion.

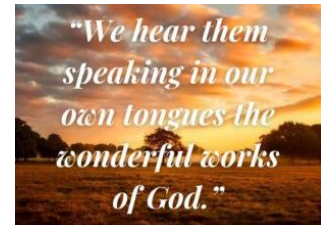


Dedication forms and donation envelopes are available in the narthex or [click HERE](#) to complete online. Both can be turned in via the offering plate by Sunday, May 3rd.

Checks are made out to WELCA.

Special Pentecost Participants Sought

Can you pronounce words in a foreign language? Would you be willing to read one bible verse (John 3:16) aloud during Pentecost Sunday? If so, please see Pastor Kimberly. She can provide the text in the language of your comfort.



Pentecost Brunch



Speaking of Pentecost (pun intended), everyone is invited to brunch in Fellowship Hall following the single 9:30am Worship for a potluck meal celebrating the birthday of the church. Activities for all to enjoy will be provided!

And as usual, bringing a dish to share is appreciated. The paper sign-up will be posted on the bulletin board at church or you can do so by [clicking HERE](#). Deb will reconcile lists, so sign up whichever way suits you best!

Start of Summer Schedule

Sunday, May 31st marks the beginning of our Summer Worship Schedule which will be in effect until Labor Day in September. There will be one Sunday morning service beginning at 9:30am and no Sunday Christian Education programs, namely adult/youth Sunday School and Sunday Forum.



Pastor Kimberly is actively previewing fresh possibilities for the Summer Bible Study; more information will follow in next month's TIPS and in future announcements.

Endowment Ballots

Throughout the month of May, the St. Timothy Endowment Committee asks the congregation for suggestions for the endowment benevolent allocation. Funds can only be given to legally qualified recipients but not to St. Timothy's normal operating budget. Requests can be made for special projects of the congregation, capital improvements and other purposes. For our donations to have the greatest impact, please consider naming local chapters of national and global organizations.

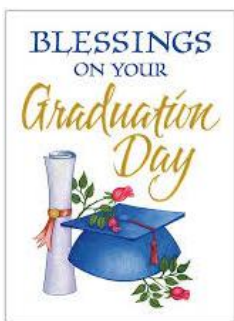
ENDOWMENT BALLOT



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

Read more details in the handout in the narthex, along with the actual hardcopy ballot form. Place completed ballots in the designated box at the back of the narthex, mail to the office Attn Endowment Committee, emailing it to st.tims395@yahoo.com or simply [click HERE](#) on the electronic version to share your suggestions online.

Collection of Graduate Information



Attention graduating seniors, proud parents & grandparents, and individuals completing professional certification programs, military training, advanced academics degrees:

Your St. Timothy family will be celebrating your achievement on Graduation Sunday, June 14th in worship at 9:30am. In order to include profile information, data is now being collected; simply [click HERE](#) to fill out Graduate questionnaire online. Hardcopies will be available soon.

Newsletter June edition



Members who would like to share news with the congregation are always welcome to submit a blurb to Deb 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!

NOTE: Regular contributors: your content is due May 12th

Christian Education Update

The St. Timothy mailbox post has had a “makeover” thanks to Cliff Konnerth and his 4th grade class, plus one of the Godly Play students. You need to check it out when you enter from the back parking lot. It looks great! And, really shows the faithful talent of these students.



Sunday School is almost over for the 2025-2026 teaching year. Wow! That went very fast. Our last class teaching day will be on May 17 with Pentecost to follow the next Sunday, May 24. Be on the lookout for an announcement about the “wrap up” of all of our Sunday School classes. I do know that we will **not** be having an outdoor service like we've had in the past.

Thank you to all of our teachers and helpers this Sunday School year. Your time and talents are a gift to the students, our church and to yourself. “When one teaches, two learn” a quote by Robert Heinlein. This is so true.

In His name,
Laura Dec

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 10 – Mother's Day
May 17 – Sunday School last teaching day
May 24 – Pentecost: Happy Birthday church brunch
May 31 – Start of the single 9:30am service for the summer
June 7 – Confirmation
June 14 – Blessing of Graduates

Memorials Update

During this month, gifts were given to the General Memorial Fund in memory of Peter Johanson, and two paving stones were purchased for the Memorial Garden.



Memorial Garden pavers are always on sale; the price is \$300.00. Pavers may be engraved with the names of deceased loved ones or left blank for future engraving. Samples are available from the office. Paver application sheets are available in the narthex.

The Song of Achilles 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!

Refugee Mission Update

The NJIC board decided to meet with CWS to arrange assistance to another family. Fundraising is ongoing to provide a similar level of financial assistance we’ve provided our three previous families.



North Jersey Interfaith Cares

We continue to check in on our first three families The Alnahars, the Kanans and the Rodriguezes.

The Rodriguez family was full of good news this past month Wilmar is doing excellent at his job and is being trained to be a supervisor at a new health care facility being opened by the owners Dailyn is attending classes to be home health aide. We continue our prayers for our new neighbors adjusting to life here in New Jersey.

Thank you St Timothy for your continued support of this ministry. --Cliff

Heart 'n Hands Mission Update



Heart 'n Hands Mission is busier now than we have ever been. The consistent flow of incoming donations and support of the broader community fuels our ministry.

We are currently preparing for the semiannual Veterans Stand Down event with Catholic Charities on May 2nd in Paterson. For this event we provide underwear, socks, full size toiletries, protein bars, and more than 1,000 personal care kits. We continue to receive monthly deliveries from Angela and Glenn of Secaucus, friends of Barbara Kaplan. They deliver large quantities of new clothing and toiletries.

The KPMG office in South Orange contacted us last week and plans to assemble and supply 1,500 personal care kits as part of their Community Impact Day activities. They "came across" information about our Care Kit Program through our website and will deliver the kits in May.

As our outreach continues to grow, so does the need to support and assist the increasing numbers of individuals and families in need. We need more volunteers to meet this need and ask for your help in this St. Timothy ministry. Please join us.



Teen Shine More Light ~ May 3rd

Hosted by St. Timothy, this is the snow date from the postponed session in February.



The group will engage in a round of visits to Houses of Worship/Cultural Centers (Muslim, Christian, Jewish and Hindu). A cultural dinner & conversation will be part of each session.

We will meet approx. once per month, Jan - May

Sundays
5pm - 6:30pm

Weekly Tuesday Events ~ May 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th

Meditation with Movement at 1pm. Can't make it every week, no problem: cost is \$40 cash per month, pay as you go. When there's a 5th Tuesday in a month, please contribute the extra \$10 for our wonderful leader, Tara. No mat needed, but a bottle of water suggested. Parlor.



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.

Last Blast Line Dancing Party ~ May 8th

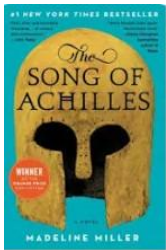
Cathe and crew are Down to One...one last trip down the Honky Tonk Highway; one last date to Walk Like a Man, be a Lady, and slide electrically in the Blinding Lights.



There will be no Wasted Time as we Play It Again, doing a Two Step to the Cupid Shuffle. Time to Shut Up & Dance on Friday, May 8th, 7:00-9:00pm in Fellowship Hall.

A tremendous thank you to Cathe and Bob Davidson for your energy, dedication and instruction in leading this fun activity across several years! That's a wrap!

Bookworms Book Club ~ May 9th



Achilles, "the best of all the Greeks," son of the cruel sea goddess Thetis and the legendary king Peleus, is strong, swift, and beautiful, irresistible to all who meet him. Patroclus is an awkward young prince, exiled from his homeland after an act of shocking violence. Brought together by chance, they forge an inseparable bond, despite risking the gods' wrath.

They are trained by the centaur Chiron in the arts of war and medicine, but when word comes that Helen of Sparta has been kidnapped, all the heroes of Greece are called upon to lay siege to Troy in her name. Seduced by the promise of a glorious destiny, Achilles joins their cause, and torn between love and fear for his friend, Patroclus follows. Little do they know that the cruel Fates will test them both as never before and demand a terrible sacrifice.

-from goodreads

For Bookworms information, including the complete list of chosen works for 2026, contact Barbara Westerberg at 973.696.1471 on how to join in the friendly discussion.



Needleworks Groups ~ May 13th and 27th



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!

Ascension Day Service ~ May 14th

Ascension is a major feast day of the Christian Church. It is the day we contemplate Jesus Christ's resurrected self ascending to heaven. It is so foundational to our faith that we talk about it in the creed every single worship service.



It is something worth our time to commemorate! Please join us for Holden Evening Prayer with communion on May 14 at 7pm.

Hymn Sing @ Alps at Wayne ~ May 20th

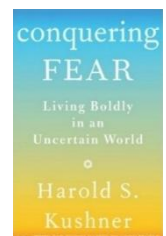


Spend an hour engaging the shut-in population of this care facility with familiar song. Lyric sheets provided, just bring your voice and sunny disposition!

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

Adult Book Group ~ May 21st

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



5/2 Michael Inciardi	5/20 Melissa Taranto
5/2 Eric Sajban	5/21 Brian Phelan
5/3 Joe 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 Steve 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



- 4/4 Elissa & Francis Scillieri
- 4/5 Marta & Jeff Riotto
- 5/9 Carin & Rich Wantula
- 5/12 Cathe & Bob Davidson
- 5/16 Irma Enders & Reinhold Valentine
- 5/19 Danielle & Frederic 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

or call the office at 973-694-8316!



Confirmation ~ June 7th

TIPS Contributions for SUMMER Edition ~ June 9th

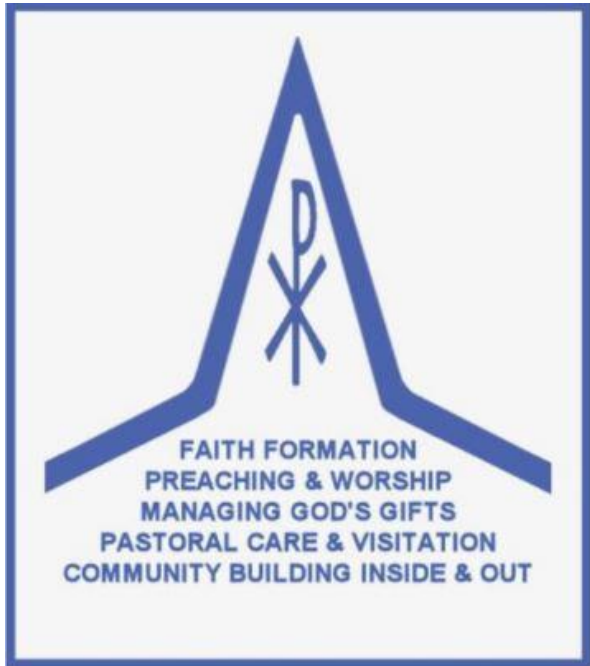
Blessing of the Graduates ~ June 14th

Annual Meeting of the Congregation ~ June 28th



DATE	Altar Guild	Ushers	Acolyte	Assisting Minister	Reader	A/V
May 3	Nancy Farina	Sue & Chris Phelan	Herbert Eggers	Karen McAleer	Bob Davidson	Compton Cooper
May 10	Valerie McGrath	Karen McAleer Doug Zangrilli	Jayden Fagan	Laura Dec	Marie Beyer	Craig Beyer
May 17	Karen Sajban Debbie Anderson	Laura Dec Tom Sajban	Samantha Scillieri	Lori VanDerStad	Josh Abrahamson	Karen Sajban
May 24 <i>Pentecost w/Brunch</i>	Valerie McGrath Nancy Farina	Lori VanDerStad Laura Dec	Spencer Eggers	Carolyn Russo	Colleen Duffy	Samantha DeRose
May 31 <i>Start of Summer Schedule</i>	Terri Loftus	Doug Zangrilli Laura Dec	Lillian Johnson	Art DeRose	Robin Koegel	Compton Cooper

St. Timothy Business & Service Directory



BUSINESSES



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Jeffrey W. Clapp
President

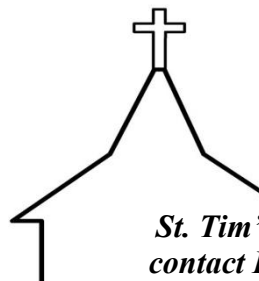
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