



# *St. Timothy Tidings*

## *August, 2026*

### **From the Pastor**

Dear Church,

As we conclude the summer season and begin looking ahead to fall, I'm struck by how we, in this culture, move into a season of gathering. From our diverse summer pursuits many of us come back to a more predictable routine. Children and educators gather in places of learning. Those who've travelled during the summer may be back in pews and Bible studies and lunch clubs. Social and athletic groups will be reconstituted and kicking off new seasons. TV series will be premiering. And, just around the corner, holidays—the gathering-iest of gathering days.



I'll be attending my diaconate's annual meeting at the beginning of August, where we will be gathering in discernment and prayer on how we best live into this intentional life of relationships to which we've committed ourselves. Our theme is "Becoming Beloved Community: From Lament to Reconciliation." Part of our time together will be on how we silence and exclude others, or how we silence and remove ourselves from the work of community, especially when listening/speaking become difficult or when we are disappointed by something our diaconate has done (or left undone).

My diaconate reminds me that anytime we gather, we gather as a community of whole persons, with all of our awesomeness...and all of our baggage, too. One of the things I love about St. Timothy is our commitment to living out "All Are Welcome!" as we gather. That means that this fall, coming together onsite and online brings all the joy and excitement and contentedness of being with beloved community, but it can bring its challenges, too. "All Are Welcome!" but we, as the sinner-saints we are, know that the practice of welcome is never fully done (at least not on this side of glory!). There's always some wrestling:

Who is showing up, and what keeps us coming back to this place?  
Who is missing when we gather onsite or online?  
How do we love our neighbors in the pew when we disagree?  
Where do we draw lines around our welcome to better protect the most vulnerable in our midst?  
When things get hard or we are disappointed, do we withdraw and self-exclude?  
Where are we celebrating together and finding joy in one another?  
Do we lean into discomfort as an opportunity to grow?

This beautiful, vibrant, beloved gathering of God's children that we call St. Timothy is a gift. It invites our care and tending: to the relationships we build across ages and life stages and interest groups, to how we give and receive service from one another, and to how we gather in our commitment to follow Christ *together*, a gorgeously imperfect community that does the hard labor of relationship-tending so that all are truly welcome.

I am so grateful for our community, and for the ways that we continue to struggle, live, and grow into Christ's vision for a radical, generous welcome in our gathering time.

In Christ's love,  
Pastor Amanda



## From Our Music Director

*"Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through music." - Martin Luther*

### Rest and Restlessness

**Restless (Audrey Assad and Matt Maher) - [https://youtu.be/FdaQj8e56\\_k?si=OKbQaifQYhtxGUKs](https://youtu.be/FdaQj8e56_k?si=OKbQaifQYhtxGUKs)**

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| <p>You dwell in the songs that we are singing,<br/>Rising to the Heavens, rising to Your heart, Your heart.<br/>Our praises filling up the spaces<br/>In between our frailty and everything. You are<br/>You are the keeper of my heart</p> <p>And I'm restless, I'm restless<br/>'Til I rest in You, 'til I rest in You<br/>I am restless, I'm restless<br/>'Til I rest in You, 'til I rest in You<br/>Oh God, I <u>wanna</u> rest in You</p> <p>Oh, speak now for my soul is listening<br/>Say that You have saved me, whisper in the dark, the dark.<br/>'Cause I know You're more than my salvation<br/>Without you I am hopeless, tell me who You are<br/>You are the keeper of my heart<br/>You are the keeper of my heart<br/>And I'm restless, I'm restless<br/>'Til I rest in You, 'til I rest in You<br/>I am restless, I'm restless</p> | <p>'Til I rest in You, 'til I rest in You, Oh<br/>I <u>wanna</u> rest in You</p> <p>Still my heart, hold me close<br/>Let me hear, a still small voice<br/>Let it grow, let it rise<br/>Into a shout, into a cry</p> <p>Still my heart, hold me close<br/>Let me hear, a still small voice<br/>Let it grow, let it rise<br/>Into a shout, into a cry</p> <p>And I am restless, I'm restless<br/>'Til I rest in You, let me rest in You<br/>And I am restless, so restless<br/>'Til I rest in You, 'til I rest in You, Oh God<br/>Let me rest in You.</p> |
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A few weeks ago, I had the privilege of attending the Conference on Worship, Theology and the Arts at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. Nearly two hundred pastors, church musicians, children's ministers, and worship leaders gathered to worship together and explore the many ways God works through the life of the Church.

During the opening worship service, Rev. Dr. Matthew Marohl preached on the importance of the Sabbath. While his sermon offered several insights, one phrase has continued to echo in my mind long after the conference ended.

Rather than thinking of our lives as a balance between rest and work, he encouraged us to think of this binary instead as a rhythm between rest and restlessness.

I found this reframing to be both appropriately nuanced and beautiful, in its own way.

For many, the word "work" can carry a negative connotation. We associate it with obligations, stress, or a long to-do list. Yet many of us genuinely love the work we do, whether that be in or out of the church. Instead, the word restlessness captures the work we do and turns it into something much deeper. Restlessness can certainly describe seasons of anxiety or uncertainty, but it can also describe the holy stirring of the Holy Spirit—the conviction, excitement, and energy that moves us to serve God's kingdom.

In Mark 2:23–28 (the scripture that Pastor Marohl's sermon was based on), Jesus teaches about the Sabbath. In that passage, Jesus reminds the Pharisees, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath." Those words remind us that Sabbath is not merely a rule to follow; it is a gift from God. Because Christ is Lord of the Sabbath, He invites each of us into rest. What that rest looks like may differ from person to person. Some find renewal in quiet prayer. Others may find it in time with family and friends, crafting and creating, reading a book, or simply sitting in stillness before God. The form may vary, but the invitation remains the same.

The same can be said for our restlessness.

Each of us has been given unique gifts, passions, and opportunities to serve. The restlessness may mean teaching children about Jesus. For another, it may be singing in the choir, visiting someone who is homebound, preparing meals, leading a Bible study, or simply offering encouragement to someone who needs it. Our callings are not identical, but they all flow from the same Spirit.

The important thing is not that our restlessness looks the same, but that we faithfully respond when God calls. We pour ourselves into His work with joy and conviction, and then we allow Him to restore us through His gift of rest.

August often marks the beginning of one of those seasons of restlessness. Students head back to school, and teachers prepare classrooms and lesson plans. Church choirs and handbell ensembles begin rehearsing again. Sunday school classes resume, and Bible studies restart. Volunteers return to ministries they love, and others consider where God might be leading them to serve. For many, the pace of life begins to quicken.

As we step into this season, may we remember that our God is Lord over both our rest and our restlessness. He is present in the quiet moments that restore our souls, and He is present in the energy that sends us out to love and serve others.

Alex Domeier  
Director of Music Ministry



*“Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through music.” - Martin Luther*

**It's that time again! Weekly rehearsals for Choir and Handbells will resume on Wednesday, August 5th.**

Handbell rehearsals run each Wednesday, from 6-7 PM in the Sanctuary.  
Choir rehearsals run each Wednesday, from 7-8 PM in the Choir Room.

If you are at all interested in serving the Lord's kingdom through this ministry, please join us! If you have any questions, please contact Alex Domeier, Director of Music Ministry at (704) 620-4685, or at [jadomeier16@gmail.com](mailto:jadomeier16@gmail.com).



**Don't forget to review St. Timothy Lutheran Church on Google!**

It's a proven fact that organizations with five or more reviews get seen much more frequently on Google!

Use this link: <https://g.page/r/CWZC8v0DAfGREBM/review>



## Upcoming Events



### Sunshine Girls Bible Study

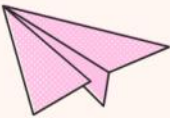
Mark your calendar! The Sunshine Girls begin meeting again soon! We meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 10am in the Community Room. Join this group for lively discussion as we relate Jesus's words to our daily lives. Everyone is invited! We will meet on September 1st and 15th.



### Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Join our two scout troops, Troop 157 (boys) and Troop 9 (girls) for their annual Spaghetti for Scouting Fundraiser on **Saturday, August 15th**. Come and go from 4p-8p, with 4-5pm reserved specifically for church members. There will be fun, fellowship, a desert competition and a silent auction! Tickets are \$10 at the door, from your favorite scout or online at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/spaghetti-for-scouting--2026>.





# BACK TO SCHOOL



## BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

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Sunday, August 2nd @ 10:30AM

All students, teachers, or anyone else who helps  
with learning is invited to bring their backpack,  
tote bag, or lunch box to be blessed



**FAITH FORMATION  
2026-2027**

# **RALLY DAY**

**Meet your Faith Formation teachers  
and have some fun! All ages invited.**

**SUNDAY SEPT 6 @ 9AM**

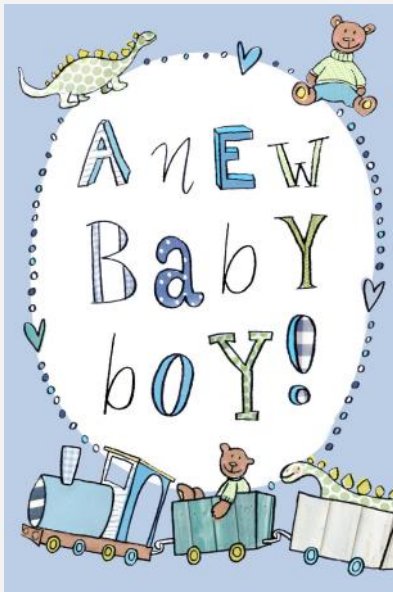
**Meet in Founder's Hall  
St. Timothy Lutheran Church**





## ***Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!***

The Outreach committee would like to thank everyone who donated kids' underwear to the Sumner County Family Resource Center. With your generosity and the use of some Thrivent Funds, we were able to collect 387 pairs of kids' underwear. This is amazing.



Thank you for keeping us in your prayers.

James Henry Paine arrived yesterday (July 26th) at 8:43pm!

Baby is doing well!

Lily Grace needs some time to heal but is also doing well!



## ***HVAC Again!!***

On Sunday, July 26th, the 1:30pm service, in flexibility and by unanimous vote, moved to Founder's Hall where we were grateful to worship in air conditioning. It is in the process of being repaired.



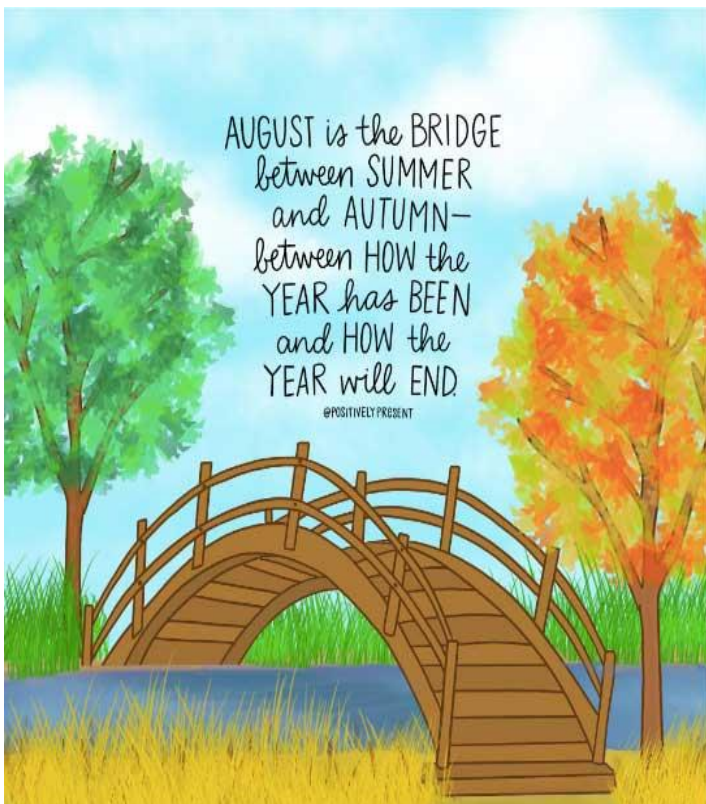
## ***Young at heart sermon!***

We haven't seen as many children in worship during the summer, so Pastor Amanda invited all those who are "young at heart" to join her for Children's Time. You never know what you're going to see at St. Timothy's!



# August 2026 Meetings

| Date         | Committee                 | Time           | Location       | Notes                                           |
|--------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Wed Aug 5    | Outreach                  | 7:00 - 8:00 pm | Zoom           | Contact Melissa House for more information      |
| Thurs Aug 6  | Property                  | 7:00 - 8:00 pm | Community Room | For more information contact Baker Kirkpatrick  |
| Tue Aug 11   | Learning                  | 6:30 - 7:30 pm | Community Room | For more information, contact Melissa Chowning. |
| Thurs Aug 20 | Stewardship/<br>Finance   | 7:00 - 8:00 pm | Zoom           | Contact David Miley for more information        |
| Tue Aug 25   | Worship &<br>Music        | 7:00 - 8:00 pm | Library        | Contact Alex Domeier for more information       |
| Thurs Aug 27 | Executive<br>Committee    | 6:00 - 6:30 pm | Community Room | For more information, contact Bradley Jones     |
| Thurs Aug 27 | Congregational<br>Council | 6:30 - 7:30 pm | Community Room | For more information, contact Bradley Jones     |



# Resources

*Here are a few resources to help guide you as you continue your faith journey!*

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

<https://elca.org/>

Southeastern Synod ELCA

<https://www.elca-ses.org/>

Reconciling Works

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

Living Lutheran Magazine

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

ELCA Daily Bible Readings

<https://elca.org/Faith/DailyBible/>

Luther Seminary God Pause Daily Devotion

<https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/>



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To make a donation on our website, click the QR code to the left or scan it with your phone. We give thanks for all those gifts that help us further the glory of God's kingdom in a world in need.



The Tidings, the newsletter of St. Timothy Lutheran Church, is published monthly. Articles, story ideas, and comments can be emailed to [sttimtidings@gmail.com](mailto:sttimtidings@gmail.com). Deadline for the September 2026 issue is August 25th. Please [contact the church office](#) with any questions.



*A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)*

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Gretchen Person, Accompanist  
Nancy Krieg, Church Administrative Assistant  
The Rev. Paul Frank, Pastor Emeritus