



# *St. Timothy Tidings*

## *June, 2026*

### **From the Pastor**

Christ's beloved,

Welcome to summer at St. Timothy! As we leave the 2025/26 program year behind, I want to pause to give thanks for our nursery staff and volunteers, our Faith Formation leaders and participants, and all who have fed, chauffeured, mentored, or prayed for our young people. In May, nine children participated in a First Communion Mini-Retreat. Three youth affirmed their faith. Two young adults graduated high school. Many of our adults celebrated their own milestones: grandchildren graduating, beginning retirement, contemplating empty nesting. May was a lot of transition. This June comes with equipping for what lies ahead!



To feed your soul, attend our handbell ensemble's second annual concert on Sunday, June 7! It was such a lovely event last year and is good for reviving the spirit. I am thankful for Alex's leadership and all the musical talent that many at St. Timothy share with our community.

I'll be departing for my quarterly training in Bowen Family Systems Theory at the Churchwide offices in Chicago and will be away June 8-10. I'll catch up with everyone on the 11<sup>th</sup>, then I head to LaGrange College, LaGrange, Georgia, where adults and youth from across the Southeastern Synod will come together to be equipped for this Christian life.

Meanwhile, beginning at 9 a.m. on Sunday, June 7, we'll be hosting a series of interconnected conversations and learning opportunities called "Growing in Grace." These adult faith formation classes are for those who are interested in what happens in the third-third of life. We'll discuss changes in spirituality, with particular emphasis on finding spiritual growth in changing relationships. We'll explore various forms of grief and loss and how we navigate that, individually and collectively. We'll share the joys and freedoms that come with this life stage, and we'll cover practical things, too: finances, estate planning, navigating the healthcare system, living wills, and powers-of-attorney. We'll also take a look at worship planning for your Celebration of Life. Come to what interests you! You can find next week's topic printed in the bulletin announcements each Sunday. Our first meeting on June 7 will be an introduction to the course and a first dive into the spirituality of aging.

I'm looking forward to our time together this summer as we learn, grow, and prepare for our next steps, following God into whatever God has dreamed up for us next!

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*

### The Teacher Goes Too - Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Every Time I Feel the Spirit (arr. William Dawson) -

<https://youtu.be/-6L9XH0R-7E?si=8Eracijfj-IY2YTn>

*Ev'ry time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.*

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*Upon the mountain my Lord spoke,  
Out His mouth came fire and smoke.  
All around me looked so fine,  
Asked my Lord if all was mine. [Refrain]*

*Jordan river is chilly and cold,  
Chills the body but not the soul.  
There ain't but one train upon this track;  
It runs to heaven, and right back. [Refrain]*

As another school year came to a close, I recently said goodbye to this year's class of fifth graders. They were a special group to me — not only because they were such kind, joyful kids, but because they were the very first group of Kindergarteners I ever taught.

Over the years, I've invested a lot in these students. Of course, I've worked to help them grow as musicians, but even more importantly, I've tried to help them grow as people. My title is "music educator," but I've always believed the educator part matters even more than the music part. As much as it's my responsibility to get these kids ready for middle school band or choir, I'm also charged with inventing in the development of their character, compassion, perseverance, and joy.

One of the bittersweet realities of teaching is that eventually, students move on. They grow up, enter new seasons of life, and continue their journeys without us walking beside them every day. A teacher's ability to guide them directly comes to an end. Yet even after they leave our classrooms, the lessons remain. The encouragement, the habits, the values, and the truths they learned continue to travel with them wherever they go.

As I reflected on this, I was reminded of Jesus' words to His disciples before His ascension. Jesus knew that He would no longer physically walk beside them in the same way He once had. Yet He did not leave them alone. Instead, He promised them the gift of the Holy Spirit — a helper, guide, comforter, and source of strength.

Even though Christ ascended into heaven, His presence did not disappear. Through the Holy Spirit, He remains with His people still today. We carry His presence with us wherever we go. In moments of uncertainty, the Spirit guides us. In moments of weakness, the Spirit strengthens us. In moments where we feel alone, the Spirit reminds us that Christ has never truly left us.

In many ways, I think teaching reflects a small piece of this truth. Though students eventually leave their teachers behind physically, they still carry pieces of those teachers with them through the lessons they learned and the care they received. Words spoken years ago can still shape decisions, encourage perseverance, or remind someone of who they are.

What a beautiful reminder of how God works in our lives. He plants seeds through people — parents, teachers, pastors, mentors, and friends — and those seeds continue to grow long after the moment has passed.

As we move through different seasons of life, may we remember this promise: we are never sent out alone. Christ goes with us through His Holy Spirit, and the things rooted in His love continue to bear fruit in ways we may never fully see this side of heaven.

Alex Domeier  
Director of Music Ministry



# Upcoming Events



## Sunshine Girls Bible Study

We are taking a break for the summer. See you in the fall! Watch the bulletin and newsletter for our start-up date!

## Bluebirds Taking Summer Break

The BLUEBIRDS are taking a summer hiatus and will be getting back together in September. Watch the bulletin for announcements. See you in the fall!



## FELLOWSHIP POTLUCK



The Hospitality Committee invites YOU to join us for a potluck! We have them every month. June's Potluck is Sunday, June 21st. Mark your calendar and come to Founders Hall between the services to enjoy great food and great fellowship. A dish to share would be appreciated, but even if you are not able to bring a dish we look forward to seeing you there!



Registration is now open!  
**AFFIRM 2026: See the Unseen**  
June 14-19, 2026  
LaGrange College, LaGrange, GA

APPLY TODAY to serve on our  
**2026 AFFIRM Staff!!!**

Staff training:

June 12-14

AFFIRM:

June 14-19



Apply at:  
[SESYOUTH.ORG](http://SESYOUTH.ORG)

**APPLY TODAY to serve on our  
2026 AFFIRM Staff!!!**

Staff Training Weekend: June 12 - 14

Want to change a life next summer?  
(And maybe have yours changed too?)  
AFFIRM staff applications are now open!

## Council Corner

There will be a special called Congregational Meeting on **Sunday, June 21, 2026** immediately following the 10:30 worship service.

On the agenda is discussion and/or action to borrow from the Church Growth Fund to meet the imminent financial needs of the parish.

For questions please reach out to Council President, Brad Jones, at (615) 239-4519 or email [bjones@bradleyljones.com](mailto:bjones@bradleyljones.com)

### 2025-2026 Parish Council Contact Information

Eve Hutcherson	Outreach Committee	<a href="mailto:eve@evehutcherson.com">eve@evehutcherson.com</a>	(615) 938-0616
Brad Jones	Council President	<a href="mailto:president@sttimothycouncil.com">president@sttimothycouncil.com</a>	(615) 239-4519
Dave Miley	Parish Treasurer Stewardship & Finance	<a href="mailto:miley5664@gmail.com">miley5664@gmail.com</a>	(615) 417-5664
Jen Yamin	Council Secretary Administration	<a href="mailto:jenbyamin@gmail.com">jenbyamin@gmail.com</a>	(615) 512-7806
Rich Farlik	Property Committee	<a href="mailto:rgfarlik@gmail.com">rgfarlik@gmail.com</a>	(423) 802-9221
Carol Willis	Hospitality Committee	<a href="mailto:acarolwillis@gmail.com">acarolwillis@gmail.com</a>	(615) 974-5689
Melanie Ortman	Council Vice President Learning/Youth Committee	<a href="mailto:rxsouthpaw@sbcglobal.net">rxsouthpaw@sbcglobal.net</a>	(832) 326-3360
Bob Unfried	Worship & Music Committee	<a href="mailto:runfried@me.com">runfried@me.com</a>	(830) 305-1190

## Kids' Underwear Collection

Let's help send kids back to school with new underwear. The Outreach committee is collecting kid sized underwear for the Sumner Co. Family Resource Center.



**When:** June 1 – July 12

**What:** New (unopened) kid size underwear sizes 5/6/7/8/10/12/14/16

Donations will be collected in a bin in the Narthex  
Thanks for your generosity. This will help fill this need for the Resource Center.  
Any questions, please reach out to Melissa House ([melissahh91@gmail.com](mailto:melissahh91@gmail.com))

## Affirmation of Baptism

Congratulations to **Emerson Eades, Shawn Hager, and Aubrey Mariott**  
As they made their Affirmation of Baptism on  
Pentecost Sunday, May 24, 2026!



## Handbell Concert

You are warmly invited to the St. Timothy Handbell Concert on **June 7th at 7:00 PM** in Founders Hall. Come enjoy an evening of beautiful handbell music performed by our talented musicians as we celebrate the gift

of music and fellowship together. Light refreshments will be served following the concert. We hope you can join us!

# Sharlene Smith celebrates 90th Birthday!

Following the 1:30 service on Sunday, May 10th, we celebrated Sharlene Smith's 90th birthday!! A wonderful time was had by all!!



# Inspiritus

Rev. John Swyers presided over the instillation of the St. Paul's Lutheran Church marker into the Inspiritus Rosa Parks Senior Housing today. Southeastern Synod ELCA pastors gathered to pray and mark this moment of continuous ministry on that site for more than 100 years. So happy to have P Morgan Gordy, Esther Godfrey, Rundi Ream, Cathy Crimi, Liza Hawkins and former ELCA Bishop Julian Gordy on hand- as well as EOA Architects and the NCP team.





# June 2026 Meetings

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Notes
Wed Jun 3	Outreach	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Zoom	Contact Melissa House for more information
Thurs Jun 4	Property	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Community Room	For more information contact Baker Kirkpatrick
Tue Jun 9	Learning	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Melissa Chowning.
Thurs Jun 18	Stewardship/ Finance	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Zoom	Contact David Miley for more information
Tue Jun 23	Worship & Music	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Library	Contact Alex Domeier for more information
Thurs Jun 25	Executive Committee	6:00 - 6:30 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Bradley Jones
Thurs Jun 25	Congregational Council	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Bradley Jones



**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>



# Resources

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

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)	<a href="https://elca.org/">https://elca.org/</a>
Southeastern Synod ELCA	<a href="https://www.elca-ses.org/">https://www.elca-ses.org/</a>
Reconciling Works	<a href="https://www.reconcilingworks.org/">https://www.reconcilingworks.org/</a>
Living Lutheran Magazine	<a href="https://www.livinglutheran.org/">https://www.livinglutheran.org/</a>
ELCA Daily Bible Readings	<a href="https://elca.org/Faith/DailyBible/">https://elca.org/Faith/DailyBible/</a>
Luther Seminary God Pause Daily Devotion	<a href="https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/">https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/</a>



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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 July 2026 issue is June 25th. Please [contact the church office](#) with any questions.



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

650 E. Main Street  
Hendersonville, TN 37075  
Phone: 615-824-6244  
Office email: [info@sttimothyhendersonville.org](mailto:info@sttimothyhendersonville.org)  
Website: [www.sttimothyhendersonville.org](http://www.sttimothyhendersonville.org)

The Rev. Amanda Spangler, Pastor  
Alex Domeier, Director of Music Ministries  
Gretchen Person, Accompanist  
Nancy Krieg, Church Administrative Assistant  
The Rev. Paul Frank, Pastor Emeritus