



Midweek Message

In place of our monthly newsletter, a weekly Midweek Message will be emailed and mailed to our congregation.

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

August 9 at 9:30 a.m.

Parking Lot Service at St. Timothy Lutheran Church

5015 Lakeville Road, Geneseo, NY, 14454

*You can also view this service via livestream at:
www.facebook.com/sttimothygeneseo/*

Our Atonement family & friends are invited to join Pastor Debbie Johnson and the congregation of St. Timothy for worship this Sunday in their church parking lot OR through livestreaming - while Pastor Gail and David McCarthy are both on a "Sabbath break".

As you arrive, you will be given direction where to park. Please tune to FM 87.9 to hear worship via the technology of your car radio! Bulletins will be emailed August 6 from our church office.

MARK THE DATE: GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS SUNDAY

On Sunday, September 13, we will join with Lutheran congregations throughout the ELCA to "be the Church" by serving neighbors in our community. Join us in contributing items for "Baby Bundles" to be given to Bethany House in Rochester for mothers with young children escaping domestic violence.

This year we are collecting:

- *Onesies for boys and girls, size 3 – 6 months
- *Socks for boys and girls, size 3- 6 months
- *Baby Wash (full size bottles)
- *Baby Lotion (full size bottles)

Items can be dropped off in the plastic bin at the sanctuary doors (east side) on Wednesdays and Sundays beginning August 16. Thank you for caring and sharing.



Join us Online

Online worship from our Atonement sanctuary!

Join Pastor Gail and David McCarthy for music and hymns, scripture, a sermon, prayers, and a Children's Moment.

Follow us Sundays at 9:30 a.m. by going to our Atonement Facebook page [fb.com/atonementlutheranchurch/](https://www.facebook.com/atonementlutheranchurch/)

A worship bulletin with hymns will be Emailed to our Atonement families, and posted weekly on our web site.

A Rule of Nature

Help Each Other

“Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit, the sun does not shine on itself, and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other.”

-Pope Francis

NOT THE STORY WE HAD PLANNED

Pastor Gail Swanson

The world of UR Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation! A place of blue cushioned mats, weights and exercise bikes. Bright, young physical therapists in matching shirts, looking very much like members of the United States Olympic team. The “walking wounded” coming to seek strengthened muscles, better balance, a fuller range of motion, the easing of aches and pains in ankles, knees, hips and shoulders. A new vocabulary: “Knee Flexion”... “Quadriceps Sets”... and let’s not forget the “Supine Hamstring Stretch” (Five times per set, two sets per session.)

On the wall is a colorful poster, featuring a young person on crutches with a look of determination in their eyes. The words on the poster offer this thought: “*It’s not the story you had planned. It’s a better one.*” I would guess it’s meant to be inspirational; but perhaps, it also states a theological truth.

This story we find ourselves today – the story of our lives and our world, our health and our fears, the fractures in our communities, the sinking of businesses and household economies, the turmoil of school viability, the failure to be united as one people in these struggles- is not the story anybody had planned. It’s certainly not God’s plan; not this fear, this struggle, this pandemic. Not God’s plan.

I believe this season of suffering, to use the words of John Pavlovitz, can be “sacred space for we who claim faith to live what we believe; to persevere and to give and to heal – and above all, to love. Love, is the only plan.”

Love, the only plan. Love from the God of love, who knows and cares for every hurt; who gives us a future, a hope and a story to come:

For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord; plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future and hope. – Jeremiah 29: 11

Torn ligaments, broken bones, wrenched knees. Torn dreams, broken health, wrenched lives: not the story we planned, but with the strength, the determination, the power of a loving God, a story that will- one day- lead to a better one.

Above all, love is the only plan.

Beautiful Lake Chautauqua



CLICK ON OUR MUSIC LINKS!

“Next to the Word of God, Music Deserves the Highest Praise”

This quote by Martin Luther reminds of the gift of music in our worship life, and in our life of faith. Our Director of Music, David McCarthy, will be providing weekly music links of sacred music to offer inspiration, solace and peace. Click on a title to hear the song.

[Freedom Trilogy](#) Paul Halley, born in England, has spent his career in Canada, the US, and his home country, and now lives in Halifax. His music draws on pop/jazz/New Age/classical influences, and “Freedom Trilogy” is a good example of how he mixes styles. It’s a setting of a Gregorian chant, two South African songs, and “Amazing Grace.” Each is presented individually, until at the end they’re all combined, and somehow work together.

[Mozart Quintet for Piano and Winds in E flat](#) This quintet by Mozart isn’t religious, but it’s one of my favorites. It was also one of his – after he wrote it, he told his father (also a famous musician) that it was the best thing he’d written. Listening to chamber music like this is different even from listening to other instrumental music, because it wasn’t meant really for public performance, but for the players’ own enjoyment. So there’s a lot of intricate conversational back-and-forth between the parts.

FALL CAMPING AT LCLC

The last days of summer + the first days of autumn = a beautiful time to be at LCLC. Cabin rentals to families and individuals will continue through September and into early October.

While operating safely within the NY Forward guidelines, cabin camping offers you a safe way to enjoy LCLC this summer and early fall. Guests need to be 100% self-sufficient, just as they would be in a state park or wilderness area. With the self-contained toilet and shower facilities of our cabins, it’s camping made easy!

Redeemer Lodge returns as an option for families: This winterized, heated lodge with self-contained kitchen and bath facilities, is perfect if your family likes a few more amenities when camping. [Click here](#) for pictures. 12 person maximum. For the health and safety of all, group rentals, to individuals from multiple households, is currently not an option.

For more information on our facilities, [click here](#) or call 716-386-4125

Thanks to the nearly 50 families who have camped or will be camping at LCLC, we’re having a great summer! This is a ministry we’re sure to continue in future summers, even when Summer Camp returns.



New Directories

Now Available

Updated Church Directories are now available! Call or Email the church office to set up a time to pick one up.

Directories will also be available to pick up at our Outdoor Worship Services.

1900 Westfall Road
Rochester NY 14618
(585) 442-1018

www.atonementrochester.org
Email:
office@atonementrochester.org

Livestream Worship
Sunday morning worship
at 9:30 a.m. via the
Atonement Facebook page.

RACIAL EQUITY CHALLENGE

Avis Hooper

Some of you have been part of our readers group, and some have recently signed up for the *21-Day Racial Equity Challenge* at <https://www.eddiemoorejr.com/21daychallenge>

We are reading, watching movies and videos, listening to podcasts, having conversations with friends and family. All are welcome to join us for a discussion about what we are learning and how we see ourselves as individuals and as a congregation as part of the changes needed in our society. **Join us on Tuesday, August 11 at Noon.** Bring your lawn chair, water, sunhat, lunch, whatever you need. In the event of rain, we will be in touch that morning.

Here are a few of the books folks are reading and a film to consider:

me and white supremacy - Layla F Saad

Dear Church - Lenny Duncan

White Fragility - Robin DiAngelo

Good White Racist - Kerry Connelly

Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America - Ibram X Kendi

Between the World and Me - Ta-Nehisi Coates

Netflix documentary: *Who Killed Malcolm X?*

If you have not already joined the group, please let Becky Wiesmore in the office know that you are interested, or contact Avis Hooper (avishooper@gmail.com) so you will be notified of future meeting dates or cancellations due to weather.

ATONEMENT AUGUST WORSHIP SCHEDULE

August 16	Outdoor Worship Service & Livestream	9:30 a.m.
August 23	Livestream Worship	9:30 a.m.
August 30	Outdoor Worship Service & Livestream	9:30 a.m.