

From the Rector: Every Day is Easter

As I write this it is only Wednesday in the second week of Lent and it is already a very full week in your Church. If I tried to convey all of the goodness and grace that occurs in this facility – even on a single day - I'd be typing until this time next year! Really. So, I offer you a few special highlights from these three days. I will use pseudonyms.

A lot of our homeless and marginal neighbors are “regulars;” we see them a frequently. They tell me they feel safe here, that St. Timothy's is home. On Monday two of our regulars came in at different times (one was leaving when the other was arriving). They are friends from way back, related by marriage, and hadn't seen each other for years. It was a joyful reunion. “John” is in a treatment program for addiction, and seems to be doing very well. He comes to some of the Recovery meetings we host; he says he is alive today because of this church. The reunion and signs of new life with recovery felt like a miracle, and I got to see it.

Another regular came by on Monday. She has received a lot of help from us in creating a resume, filling in applications, and practicing for an interview. I count the hours well spent but we all know about the job market; I did not have high hopes. Well, she got a job and started today (Wednesday)! “Marsha” calls this a miracle; she shared her thanks and joy with us, and I got to see it.

A man I have known now for more than nineteen years called and said he had a serious problem. He said “I'm in big trouble,” and wanted to know if he could come in to talk. I told him to come. He works odd jobs when he can, has never had healthcare insurance, and he had a letter from a collection agency regarding his most recent hospitalization. He was frightened. I called the hospital finance office and the three of us talked on speaker. “Robert” had prior hospitalization and treatment which he could not pay, they

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LINK Food Delivery in April: Can You Help Your Neighbors?

The second half of April is St. Timothy's time to deliver food to needy local families for LINK. We are splitting the month with Sterling Park Baptist Church. Deliveries are Tuesday through Saturday, April 16th through 30th, in Herndon, Sterling, and Ashburn, about 2 hours per day.

LINK has been providing food in the Herndon area since 1972, with St. Timothy's as a member church for most of that time. The deliveries include one week of groceries for up to four families per day. A small car can usually

accommodate 2-3 families' worth of groceries, so two trips are often necessary for small cars, which typically total 2-2.5 hours. Someone of at least average strength is required, as multiple full grocery bags must be carried up stairs. Recruiting teenagers to help is good, but one person 18 or over must be present at deliveries. Hours are flexible; anything from the afternoon of the scheduled day to the morning of the next day. Volunteers please sign up in Henry Hall at the shopping cart (available Palm Sunday and after) or call Rob Duchesneau at 703-450-4795. +

Speaking of Stewardship ...

by Mike Colie

Stewardship can be defined and displayed in many ways. One meaning in the dictionary is:

“the responsible overseeing and protection of something considered worth caring for and preserving”

When I walk into my home after work, I feel happy and relieved that I am back in the home that I love. Away from the hustle and bustle and traffic I was just in and into the comfort and safety it provides. We have invested a lot of time and money into getting it to the way we want it to be and we have a long way to go but we love it. It still seems new to me even after 22 years of coming through that same door. But then I look around and notice it is showing its age in many ways. There is always something that needs to be fixed or replaced. Drywall to be repaired. Painting to be touched up. Fixtures to be replaced. The list goes on. All it will take is stewardship on my part, time and some money and it will look like new again.

When I walk into St. Timothy’s after being away for a few days (or a couple of weeks sometimes) I feel happy and relieved that I am back in the home that I love. It still seems new to me even after 20 years of coming through that same door. I sit in the Sanctuary and feel God’s presence and understand what a special place I am in. I hear the chil-

dren, the music, the choir and feel the love being passed on during “The Peace”. (Fr. Brad - Why can’t The Peace last another 20 minutes?) But then I look around and notice it is showing its age in many ways. There is always something that needs to be fixed or replaced. Drywall to be repaired. Painting to be touched up. Organ to be replaced. The list goes on. All it will take is good stewardship from all of us, a little time from many people and a little more money from more people and it will be new again. It is after all a house that God built and shares with all of us.

As a member of the Vestry the last couple of years, I have had the pleasure of serving with a group of wonderful, dedicated stewards of St. Timothy’s. Their dedication to the Church and its mission is inspiring. But we are just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to how many people give of their time and talents. There are many volunteers on dozens of committees who, along with our terrific staff, keep our Church running and doing God’s work. But there is always room for more people. Consider joining a committee or helping out on a service project if time permits. If you can’t give of your time, perhaps you can give an extra donation to the general fund or capital campaign.

(Luke 16:18) The Lord calls all to be good stewards in everything that is done. This is why it is so important to honor God with time, relationships, and money. +

What I Love About St. Timothy’s

by Marty Brady

When Fr. Brad asked the Vestry to share something in answer to that question last year, I wrote about how the people of St. Timothy’s have showed me what it means to be part of a church family. This year I am writing about another aspect of our church that I love and find to be very unique at our church, and that is having “choices.”

Over the years I have attended churches of many different denominations and in many different locations. And I have found that

many churchgoers find comfort in having a set routine and format to their worship from week to week, and hence, many churches cater to that desire and do only that. What is unique about St. Timothy’s is that we not only have a traditional worship service, but also various choices within it. For instance, there is the kneeling and standing thing... have you ever noticed that some people stand for certain parts of our service while others choose to kneel? And that some people change where they stand or kneel from week to week? Also, some of our members choose to

worship in dress clothes and others in jeans. We choose whether to support the general fund or specific missions/ministries or both. Some families with young children bring them in the sanctuary during service, and some enjoy the Godly play and nursery support that our church family provides. We EVEN have a choice of 3 different service times on Sunday and a healing service on Wednesdays.

You would think that with all these choices, we would be a chaotic jumble of mixed messages and interests.

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knew he had no insurance, so the person we talked with declared that he would recommend that Robert’s bill be waived. Robert, as you can imagine, was greatly relieved. It felt like a miracle and I got to see it.

Every week we get to eat lunch with people in this community who are barely getting by or are unable to secure the things we take for granted. Today, one of our Church members brought lunch to us; it was a surprise, a gracious gift.

Sometimes I go home with a sad and heavy heart. The staff and volunteers of St. Timothy’s see people with very serious problems, illness, and life issues that we can’t fix. And I never think I have done all that I can. But sometimes I go home full of joy and gratitude for miracles that occur because you make them possible. I realize that there is some Easter in every day, and all I have to do is offer to be one of God’s instruments.

I thank God for you. And a lot of our neighbors near and far thank God for you too. +

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday, March 24

The Procession of the Palms

Reading of the Passion Narrative

8:00 am Holy Eucharist—Rite I

9:30 am Holy Eucharist —Rite II

11:00 am Holy Eucharist—Rite II

Maundy Thursday, March 28

Stripping of the Altar

7:30 pm Holy Eucharist—Rite II

Good Friday, March 29

12:15 pm Stations of the Cross

7:30 pm Reading of the Passion Narrative Solemn Collects (Prayers)

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But the truth is that the members of our church family are the same where it counts – in our faith, in our commitment to serve God, and in our kindness and courtesy for each other – no matter what choices we make in how we worship. And as with so many facets of St. Timothy’s, our culture of respect for varied choices begins with our clergy. Fr. Brad and Rev. Leslie offer us thought-provoking sermons every week that present choices of how to live and understand the world as better Christians. There is no hellfire and brimstone or “thou shalt” do this or that else we risk eternal damnation. We are in fact encouraged to think about and question scripture as we each find our own way on faith’s journey. I believe that freedom of choice and thinking deeply about those choices is an essential part of Christian life.

As C.S. Lewis wrote in *The Case for Christianity*: “God created things which had free will. That means creatures which can go wrong or right. Some people think they can imagine a creature which was free but had no possibility of going wrong, but I can’t. If a thing is free to be good it’s also free to be bad. And free will is what has made evil possible. Why, then, did God give them free will? Because free will, though it makes evil possible, is also the only thing that makes possible any love or goodness or joy worth having. A world of automata -of creatures that worked like machines- would hardly be worth creating. The happiness which God designs for His higher creatures is the happiness of being freely, voluntarily united to Him and to each other” By encouraging us to make choices in how we worship, St. Timothy’s aids us all in how to seek a deeper understanding of faith and how to walk more fully in God’s ways. +

Easter Sunday, March 31

The Day of Resurrection

8:00 am

Festival Eucharist with Music—Rite I

9:30 and 11:00 am

Festival Eucharist with Music—Rite II

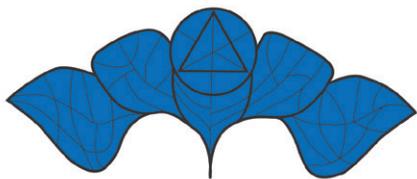
Childcare will be available for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday 9:30 and 11:00AM Services.

If you would like to remember a loved one, departed this life or give thanksgiving for family and friends this Easter, please complete an Easter Flower Envelope or call the office at 703-437-3790. The deadline for all Easter Flower offerings is March 15th.



A record crowd at the Pancake Supper last month kicked off Lent and helped raise money for the Youth Mission trip.





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The Word is published monthly and emailed to members and friends on the first weekday of each month. It also appears on the website (www.saint-timothys.org). If you wish to receive a copy by mail, please notify Keith Nelson Stroud in the church office (keith@saint-timothys.org). Copies of The Word are also available in the office.

Submission deadline for the next issue: Friday, March 29, 2013

Questions, articles, or ideas, and comments for The Word are always welcome. Send materials via email to wordeditor@saint-timothys.org and put "The Word" in the subject line. Photos are also welcome; please identify key people in photos. Articles or letters may be edited for brevity or appropriateness.

Welcome, New Registered Members

Welcome to those who have joined, been confirmed, or transferred their membership in the past month:

Alexis Michele Carpen

Glenn Russell Fletche

Teresa Elizabeth LaMaster Fletcher

We have *many* active congregants who have been attending St. Timothy's for many years who are not officially registered members. If you requested a membership transfer prior to 2005, the request might not have been processed. Non-registered members can participate in all aspects of church worship with the exception of serving on the Vestry and participating in elections. However, the more registered members St. Timothy's has on record, the more delegates we can send to the conventions (thus giving us a stronger vote in Diocese matters). To transfer your membership to St. Tim's, or to find out if you are a registered member, contact Nikki O'Malley (nikki.omalley@gmail.com) or fill out the Parishioner Information Form: www.saint-timothys.org/uploads/docs/info-form.pdf

2013 Vestry

Rick Wilson, Treasurer

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Office Hours

Monday-Thursday,

9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

For appointments, please call

703-437-3790

Service Times

Sundays

8:00 a.m.

Eucharist, Rite I

9:30 & 11 a.m.

Eucharist, Rite II

Godly Play, ages 3-8

SPARK+, 3-6th grades

Nursery Care

9:45 am

Journey to Adulthood

Rite 13, 7-12th grades

Wednesday

12:15 P.M.

Eucharist and

Healing Service

Saturday

7:00 P.M.

Latino Prayer Service