



## St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

### The Episcopal Church

I have been busy reading some very thought provoking books, catching up on home projects, helping my younger son get ready for his freshman year in college, and reflecting on what transpired in our Church's General Convention. Regarding the latter, the delegates to General Convention boldly reaffirmed the Episcopal Church's commitment to global mission and our membership in the Anglican Communion. In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of all Episcopalians, they demonstrated strong commitment to improved human rights in the Philippines, peace and reconciliation in Sudan, advocacy for the Haitian people, better relations with Cuba, prayer for the people of Israel and Palestine, an end to the war in Iraq, relief for the victims of international gangs, environmental responsibility and conservation, fulfillment of the Millennium Development Goals, and unceasing prayer for all of God's people. And this is only a small part of the whole story. I know the delegates from the Diocese of Virginia, as well as many others from around the country (including a former seminary intern at St. Tim's!). I believe they demonstrated great faith and accountability. I am proud of them, and I am proud of the Episcopal Church.

And yet it's no surprise; in spite of all the faithful and good things accomplished by our General Convention delegates the media highlighted only two decisions, neither as inflammatory as some headlines indicated. First, the Church affirmed the ministry of *all* people - including gays, lesbians, transgendered, and bisexual individuals. Of course historically all kinds of people have embraced the Church's mission, often making great personal sacrifices for the love of God. We now recognize and clear the way for all people to be active lay ministers, deacons, priests, and bishops. Every aspirant for ordained ministry will now receive fair consideration based on his or her call and qualifications. Second, the Church has not approved the blessing of same-gender unions, but has called for a study of such rites already in use, especially in states where these

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*Fr. Brad will be on sabbatical until  
August 24<sup>th</sup>.*

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### God Willing, Us Willing.

"Without God, we cannot; without us, God will not." The Rev. Dr. David Schlafer preached this message at St. Timothy's on July 5. He reflected on Mark 6: 1-13, where Jesus, who has been doing deeds of power wherever he goes, suddenly can do "no deed of power." It can be discouraging in ministry when volunteers dwindle to one or two dedicated people. It feels hard to access God's power. The work seems overwhelming and dependent on limited human resources. However, in my three years here as an associate, I have seen dramatic transformations of ministries moving from such discouragement into abundant new life. The turning point comes when two or three leaders are willing to "step out first," to make an honest assessment of the ministry, to invite others to generate ideas, and to commit time and energy to a concrete goal. The Holy Spirit takes off, and people follow. On August 1, the Vestry and Ministry Chairs will meet to discuss the coming year. The Stewardship Committee, run by two dedicated leaders, will elicit the support and ideas of all of the ministries to envision what work we'd like to do together as a congregation and the resources we'll need to carry out that work. I look forward to seeing God work powerfully among us this fall in the way we pool our resources to do the ministry he's called us to do in 2010. With God, there's nothing we cannot do. We simply need to step out first in faith.

*~Rev. Leslie*





### The 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention, July 8-17: Mission and Authenticity

Among the many issues discussed at the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention were a focus on local and international mission, the reality of same-sex unions in some legal jurisdictions, and access for all the baptized in the ordination process.

The 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention affirmed that “mission is the heartbeat of the church.” Mission means that we are sent out to spread the good news of God’s love and care for all. The three-year budget passed by General Convention emphasizes mission in local parishes. This local emphasis did not overshadow a vibrant concern for world mission. The convention passed resolutions in support of “troubled and besieged communities,” including those in Haiti, Honduras, Pakistan, and Sudan among others.”<sup>1</sup>

The secular press paid most of its attention to two resolutions, C056 and D025, that dealt with human sexuality. C056 acknowledged the reality that many dioceses are in civil jurisdictions “where same-gender marriage, civil unions, or domestic partnerships are legal” and need to “provide generous pastoral response to meet the needs of members of this church.” C056 charged the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music along with the House of Bishops Theology Committee to “collect and

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<sup>1</sup> Matthew Davies, “Global crises get convention's attention,” *Episcopal Life Online*, [http://ecusa.anglican.org/79901\\_112751\\_ENG\\_HTM.htm](http://ecusa.anglican.org/79901_112751_ENG_HTM.htm)

develop theological resources and liturgies of blessing for same-gender holy unions, to be presented to the 77<sup>th</sup> General Convention for formal consideration.” The word “consideration” deliberately replaced the word “action” in an earlier version of the resolution. At the same time, the resolution stated, “Honoring the theological diversity of this Church, no bishop or other member of the clergy shall be compelled to authorize or officiate at such liturgies.” In other words, the resolution respects the reality that not all Episcopalians are in the same place in regard to this issue.

The other resolution that got attention in the press, D025, has to do with the ordination process. The Rev. Lauren Stanley offered this summary: “The amended resolution guarantees access to the process, but not to ordination. All baptized persons shall have full access to the discernment process.” Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori and President of the House of Deputies Bonnie Anderson wrote and hand delivered a formal letter to Archbishop Rowan Williams presenting the context for these resolutions. They also e-mailed the letter to the primates of the communion. They offered, “We understand Resolution D025 to be more descriptive than prescriptive in nature— a statement that reaffirms commitments already made by the Episcopal Church and that acknowledges certain realities of our common life. Nothing in the resolution goes beyond what has already been provided under our *Constitution and Canons* for many years.” They emphasized, “it is not our desire to give offense...We remain keenly aware of the concerns and sensibilities of our brothers and sisters in other churches across the communion...We believe also that the honesty reflected in this resolution is essential if indeed we are to live into the deep communion that we all profess and earnestly desire.”<sup>2</sup>

I read articles from delegates all over the country representing a wide theological spectrum. Regardless of how they voted, most of these authors shared a tone of collegiality, of hope, and of excitement about spreading the good news. I am very aware that the Church is a human institution, flawed and imperfect. However, we are also Christ’s body, led by the Spirit. I am proud to be part of the Episcopal Church, a part of the family that does not cover up disagreement, that is committed to listening and discerning in community, and that seeks to reach out to all in the name of Christ.

~Rev. Leslie

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<sup>2</sup> Matthew Davies, “Presiding officers’ letter to Canterbury presents context for convention actions” *Episcopal Life The Daily*, No. 11, July 18, 2009, [http://www.episcopalchurch.org/documents/11Daily\\_071809.pdf](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/documents/11Daily_071809.pdf)

## The Episcopal Church

*[Continued from page 1]*

unions are now legal. The blessing of same-gender unions will be reconsidered in the 2012 General Convention.

The Episcopal Church's General Convention is a wonder to behold. We are quite unlike many other denominations in the world-wide Christian family. We study the Bible and the Church's traditions. We pray. We listen to the Holy Spirit. We meet and deliberate in councils. Lay and ordained individuals participate. No single person or group rules. As a consequence (curse, blessing, or both), change rarely happens very quickly. We believe the Word of God is alive, that we are continually guided, often in strange new ways, and that fidelity to God's will requires careful discernment.

We believe The Episcopal Church is governed by our Savior Jesus Christ whose love and will are revealed to all of God's people. So our national structure is in evidence locally: ministries and missions are determined and conducted by all the Baptized members of the parish; the Vestry manages the property and allocates resources; the clergy (with the assistance of other members) provide sacramental, educational, and pastoral support. Thus all Baptized members in good standing of St. Timothy's are welcome and encouraged to served on the Vestry and participate in the ministries to which we are called by God.

*~ Fr. Brad*

## Dungannon Youth Mission Trip

As you read this article, we will be in Dungannon and starting to work on the various projects assigned to us. I would like to take the time to thank all who have supported us with your time and donations. I would like to ask you to pray that we are up to the tasks assigned and we remain safe during our trip.

We will put together an article for a future edition of the WORD to talk about the projects and try to include pictures so you can see what we accomplished.

If you have questions contact Chris Brock by sending an email to [christopher.brock2@verizon.net](mailto:christopher.brock2@verizon.net)

## A Note From Your Parish Administrator

Since I began working at St. Timothy's in April of 2005, I have received so much from you. I have learned many technical things about computers, heating & air conditioning, lighting, elevators, accounting, and plumbing. I learned who to call when something was broken, such as toilets and sump pumps.

More than the technical things, I have had the pleasure of working with the people here. The staff has always been so caring and kind to everyone, no matter what path they are walking on. The volunteers in the office have been fabulous! They consistently give of their time and talents to help us continue our ministry in the office. And then the rest of the congregation - I have had the joy of working with you who are always giving in each of your ministries. Whether I have directly worked with you or talked with you, you have been very welcoming to me.

I feel like I am part of the team and a part of this church. It has been my privilege to have two churches, the one I attended for worship and ministry and here at St. Tim's, where I have worked, worshipped, and received love. I take that back - it has not been work to be here - it has been a ministry - all of us together. I am the one who has most certainly received much from each and every one of you.

Now God has called my husband, Tom, to the church ministry. He is the Pastor at Cunningham United Methodist Church in Palmyra, VA, which is about 20 miles east of Charlottesville. He has begun his ministry there in a country church, and it is time for me to join him in his ministry as the Pastor's wife. It will be a new journey for me, but as Tom has been called, I am called to go with him. I believe that my time at St. Timothy's has helped to prepare me for the next step in my life.

I cannot begin to name all of you who mean so much to me. I thank God for each and every one of you, and will keep you in my prayers. If you are ever wanting a 2½ - hour road trip, do come to visit - 5436 Ruritan Lake Rd., Palmyra, VA 22963. House phone (and church office!) 434-589-8423.

God Bless,  
*Carol Frost*

## OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

### OPPORTUNITY: Community Volunteer at the Closet (Service Ministry)

#### ***Who is Needed for This Opportunity?***

Anyone with a passion for furthering the mission and ministry of the Church through lending an occasional helping hand at the Closet. No prior experience required!

#### ***Why Are You Needed?***

The Closet, a nonprofit thrift shop in the heart of historic downtown Herndon, was founded in 1974 by St. Timothy's and a handful of other churches to assist low-income families by selling used clothing at a nominal price. Over the years, this mission has expanded, largely thanks to the generosity of volunteers. Every year the Closet donates approximately 90% of its proceeds after expenses to a variety of worthwhile causes in our local community—the total donations now exceed more than \$2 million. The Closet is chiefly run by volunteer help—you can make a tangible difference in the lives of others through giving a few hours of your time. Another way to help The Closet is to donate items on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday between 10 am and 2 pm. For more information about The Closet, go to the website [www.theclosetofgreaterherndon.org](http://www.theclosetofgreaterherndon.org).

#### ***What Do You Have to Do?***

Duties are non-demanding and varied, depending on need and number of available volunteers, so flexibility is the key. Here are some examples of tasks that you might do:

- Make price tags and place on clothes;
- Hang priced clothes on hangers and move to sale area;
- Organize and stock shelves with priced items;
- Bag items that are sold;
- Work the jewelry counter;
- Supervise the dressing room area;
- One of our younger volunteers once dressed Barbies during her volunteer time at the Closet!

#### ***How Do You Do It?***

It's simple! St. Timothy's is assigned days (may be during the week or on a Saturday) for providing volunteer help. A volunteer shift is 2 hours (10 am – 12 noon or noon – 2 pm). Contact our Closet volunteer coordinator Holly Hartge (see below), then show up 15 minutes before your assigned shift. The Closet manager will give you a short tour and assign you a task.

#### ***Who Do You Contact?***

For more details or to volunteer your service in this ministry, please contact Holly Hartge; [mhhvirginia@verizon.net](mailto:mhhvirginia@verizon.net); 703-318-8292.

### Buildings and Grounds Ministry

**Our Mission:** It is the objective of this ministry to maintain the building and grounds in good repair and appearance so that St. Timothy's will continue to be a pleasant and safe place to worship and to carry on God's work.

The Building and Grounds (B&G) Ministry maintains the facilities and surroundings of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church. This responsibility includes installing new drywall, painting, repairing plumbing and broken fixtures, replacing light bulbs, and other comparable jobs. The Ministry oversees the church's landscaping, HVAC (heating, cooling, and ventilation systems) and snow/ice removal maintenance contracts.

If you are a member of St. Timothy's with a talent or fondness for fixing things, please consider occasionally wielding a hammer, screw driver, or paint brush for our parish. Your time and efforts will be greatly appreciated, and we promise not to abuse either!

Please contact: John Moone at [Moonej@aol.com](mailto:Moonej@aol.com) or Steve Page at [sr3page@verizon.net](mailto:sr3page@verizon.net)

*Remember that Jesus was a carpenter.*



## MS Capital Challenge Walk



The Multiple Sclerosis National Capital Challenge Walk is October 3-4, 2009. **St. Tim's STRIDES for MS** is a group of almost 20 church members and friends who have come together to take the challenge. In 2007, we participated in the Challenge Walk as **Brock's**

**Walkers** and raised \$11,000 in about 6 weeks. We have started earlier this year and hope to beat the amount raised in 2007. We need to raise \$1,500 for each person who will walk the two-day, 50- kilometer course. Our goal is to raise money for the society and participate in the challenge walk. The money is used to fund research, to facilitate professional education and to provide programs and services to help people with MS and their families move their lives forward. We are very excited about this undertaking and hope for support and encouragement from our friends and families.

Our first fundraiser was the MS Capital Challenge Walk Dinner at Herndon United Methodist Church on May 20. On Thursday, June 11, we held our second fundraiser at Jimmy's Old Town Tavern raising \$1,138 that evening. We are currently over 30 percent of our goal and are very excited! We want to thank everyone for your generosity and support for us to reach our goal.

The Yard Sale at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church on Saturday, July 11, 2009 was a huge success. We raised \$1,930 for our cause which will allow one plus walkers to participate. We would like to thank all who donated their time, gently used items, and made purchases to help us get closer to our goal.

More information will follow for upcoming fundraising events; see your weekly bulletin for details.

Also, please consider volunteering to help out at these planned events or in any other way you can. The positions available on the team are walker, crew member, and volunteer. Please check out our team website by using the below link or by going to [www.msandyou.org](http://www.msandyou.org), look for the Challenge Walk and then choose Team Information. Contact Chris Brock at [Christopher.brock2@verizon.net](mailto:Christopher.brock2@verizon.net) or 703.437.3968, or Hollis Colie at [hollis211@aol.com](mailto:hollis211@aol.com) or 703.499.7936 with any questions.

Link to STRIDES for MS team web site:

[http://main.nationalmssociety.org/site/TR/Challenge/DWCChallengeWalkEvents?team\\_id=151171&pg=team&fr\\_id=10771&et=y8l96\\_H7NJWp0AEPPN0r4Q..&s\\_tafld=104989](http://main.nationalmssociety.org/site/TR/Challenge/DWCChallengeWalkEvents?team_id=151171&pg=team&fr_id=10771&et=y8l96_H7NJWp0AEPPN0r4Q..&s_tafld=104989).

## Diocesan Stewardship Conference

Save the date: our 2009 Diocesan Stewardship Conference will be September 12<sup>th</sup> at St John's Church in Richmond. The featured speaker will be Stephen B. McSwain, author of The Giving Myths. The cost will be \$55, which includes lunch, refreshments and a dramatic reenactment of Patrick Henry. The conference is limited to 150 participants. Please contact the church office for more information, including carpooling, as it becomes available.

### **New Registered Members for July 2009**

The following individuals became registered members of St. Timothy's in July:

Max Conroy Norcross

Riley James Farmer

Registered members are baptized, confirmed, or received at this church or are baptized in another congregation and transfer their membership to St. Timothy's. Membership has its privileges: you can vote in St. Timothy's church elections, be elected a member of St. Timothy's Vestry, or register your child early for St. Timothy's fabulous pre-school. If you would like to become a registered member of St. Timothy's, please complete and return a Membership Transfer Form (available in the church office) or the form can also be accessed at [www.saint-timothys.org](http://www.saint-timothys.org).

## Join Us for Breakfast!

Each month men and women from St. Timothy's gather for breakfast. This is an informal group and everyone is welcome to come. We gather at Virginia Kitchen (in the K-Mart Shopping Center) in the back room at 9:00 in the morning. The women meet on the second Saturday and the men meet on the fourth Saturday. For more information or to have get a monthly email reminder, please contact Susy Nixon ([senixon@verizon.net](mailto:senixon@verizon.net)) for the women's group or Chris Brock ([christopher.brock2@verizon.net](mailto:christopher.brock2@verizon.net)) for the men's group. If you plan to come, please email Susy or Chris so they can add you to the reservation count.

## Music Ministry Calendar Fall 2009

### **Rehearsals Resume Tuesday – Thursday September 22-24**

#### *Rehearsal Schedule*

Tuesday 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. St. Cecilia Choir  
Wednesday 7:00p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Handbell Choir  
Thursday 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Jubilate Choir  
Thursday 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. St. Ambrose Choir

#### **Upcoming Events**

Choir Retreat – End of September – Location and Time TBD  
Choral Evensong for the Feast of All Saints – Sunday November 1, 5:00 p.m.  
Herndon Community Christmas Concert – Trinity Presbyterian Church –  
Sunday December 20, 6:00 p.m.

#### **NEW THIS SEASON**

St. Timothy's will offer a Taizé Service every fourth Sunday of the month, beginning on September 27th, at 5:00 p.m.

#### Star Trek Meets The Steward of Creation

The Canadian Press recently released a report on the good and the bad of Nanotechnology. The good includes that nanoparticles are likely to be used in cleaning up contaminated sites because of their ability to break apart toxic molecules. They are also likely to reduce global energy demand because of the efficiency they bring to electronics. The bad suggests that little is known about how nanoparticles interact with living systems, including what makes them toxic, whether they can move up food chains or even how they can be detected. Unfortunately, consumers have learned, time and time again, that there are trade-offs for nearly every thing in our lives. Teflon-coated cookware are easy to use and clean, but have been found to release plastic molecules into one's food. Nalgene bottles come in every shape and size but, when made with BPA plastics, were found to, once again, release plastic into the food substance left in continuous contact. Nanotechnology has great potential, and, quite possibly, great risk. Be aware of your choices and pray. (A message from St. Timothy's Steward of Creation)

#### The EPA's Ability To Assess Toxic Chemicals Found Lacking

A recently released congressional audit concluded that the Environmental Protection Agency's ability to assess toxic chemicals is as broken as the nation's financial markets and needs a total overhaul. The Government Accountability Office has released a report saying the EPA lacks even basic information to say whether chemicals pose substantial health risks to the public. The GAO calls for actions to streamline and increase the transparency of the EPA's registry of chemicals. The GAO also calls for measures to enhance the agency's ability to obtain health and safety information from the chemical industry. Not to make you panic . . . just keeping all of St. Timothy's Stewards of Creation aware and educated! (A Message from St. Timothy's Steward of Creation)

#### New Deadline for September WORD

Please note that the deadline for the September WORD is Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. Traditionally, the deadline is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, and your editor prefers to be generous about granting extensions to those who need them – the more articles the better! However, your editor is traveling in August, and she must strictly enforce the deadline in order to publish the September newsletter on time. Thank you very much for writing your articles a little earlier next month!

## Desiderata

Go placidly amid the noise and the haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible without surrender, be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even to the dull and the ignorant, they too have their story. Avoid loud and aggressive persons, they are vexations to the spirit.

If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain or bitter; for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself. Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.

Exercise caution in your business affairs, for the world is full of trickery. But let not this blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals, and everywhere life is full of heroism. Be yourself. Especially do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment it is as perennial as the grass. Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth.

Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness. Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.

Therefore, be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be. And whatever your labors and aspirations in the noisy confusion of life, keep peace in your soul. With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams; it is still a beautiful world. Be cheerful.

Strive to be happy.

--- *Max Ehrmann, 1927*



### St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

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[www.saint-timothys.org](http://www.saint-timothys.org)

St. Timothy's newsletter, *The Word*, is published monthly and emailed to members and friends on the first day of each month. It also appears in full color on the website ([www.saint-timothys.org](http://www.saint-timothys.org)) home page under Downloads. If you wish to receive a copy by mail, please notify Carol Frost in the church office ([office@saint-timothys.org](mailto:office@saint-timothys.org)). Copies of *The Word* are also available in the office.

The deadline for submission of material for the next issue is:

**Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

Questions, articles, or ideas for *The Word* are always welcome as are your comments. You may send materials via email to [wordeditor@saint-timothys.org](mailto:wordeditor@saint-timothys.org) and put *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.

#### 2009 Vestry

*Terms expire January 2010*

**Mr. Michael Cook**  
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**Mr. Keith Pinkard**  
*Liaison to Youth*  
703-758-2583  
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**Ms. Pat Rhoads**  
*Liaison to Service*  
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**Mrs. Genevieve Zetlan**  
*Liaison to Open Arms Ministry*  
703-456-7230  
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*Terms expire January 2011*

**Mrs. Hollis Colie**  
*Liaison to Christian Education*  
703-787-0272  
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**Mr. David Hixon**  
*Junior Warden; Ad Hoc Liaison*  
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**Mr. Jim Hendrick**  
*Liaison to Stewardship*  
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**Ms. Tricia Mussante**  
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*Terms expire January 2012*

**Ms. Cheryl Brock**  
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#### Church Information

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*Seminarian*  
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*Newsletter Editor*  
**Ms. Allyson Showalter**  
[wordeditor@saint-timothys.org](mailto:wordeditor@saint-timothys.org)

#### Services

##### Sundays

- 8:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, Rite I
- 9:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Children's Chapel (nursery care available)
- 11:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Christian Education (nursery care available)

##### Wednesdays

12:15 p.m.- Holy Eucharist and Healing Service

#### Office Hours

Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (and by appointment). Clergy are off on Fridays.

#### Upcoming Events

- Aug. 1     Dungannon Mission Trip begins
- Aug. 3     Preschool Summer Camp – All Week
- Aug. 8     Dungannon Mission Trip Returns
- Aug. 8     Godly Play Teacher Workshop
- Aug 10    Preschool Summer Camp – All Week
- Aug. 24    Vestry Meeting