

# The Word

September 2011



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church  
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The summer is almost gone and life in this area will soon jump into high gear. For the next nine months we will be racing from one thing to the next, barely connecting with the most important people in our lives – including ourselves – and barely connecting with God. And we know (because we've all done this) that there is a price to pay, including feelings of loneliness, depression, burn-out, difficulty sleeping, and a longing for serenity. We need to pay attention to our soul.

Check in with yourself, run a body scan. Start with your toes and work your way up to the top of your head. Notice the tension you load in various areas. Tighten those muscles for ten seconds, then release for ten seconds; repeat this simple exercise until the tension melts away; match your breathing to the rhythm of tightening and releasing. And imagine God's Spirit moving into your body, imagine healing light entering your feet and moving up your body, filling you with peace (you can start at the top of your head and work your way down if you prefer).

Eat slowly and actually taste what you're eating. Feel your stomach; stop when you've had enough.

Listen to music, but choose the kind that relaxes you. Or just turn everything off (pc, tv, radio, ipod, etc.).

Resist the compulsion to race through your day. Take short breaks from your work several times a day. Take a walk. Notice nature. Breathe deeply. Say a silent "Thank you God" for every good thing, for the good people in your life. Drink less caffeine.

Create time to sit and talk with the people who are important to you. Skip the superficial conversation; ask them about their dreams, their hopes for themselves and the world, their faith. Don't anticipate what you will say; just listen.

Sit with God too. Say whatever you want to say, then just be quiet. God is with you, always, even when you don't sense God's presence.

Don't think of St. Timothy's as just another place that drains you. Give what you can – no more and no less. Think of the ministries as opportunities to help other people, the annual fund campaign and capital campaign as opportunities to share your financial blessings, and Sunday morning as your time to connect with God. Very simply, in our worship we receive the

love of God, and we give our love to God.

Remember that you are precious and unique. When you doubt that, read the Gospel stories about Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection. You are of ultimate value to God. Take care of your body, your mind, your spirit. Make your physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health your highest priority.

Slow down. Take it easy. Live and enjoy your life, and the people who love you.

*Fr. Brad*

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# Our Cupboards are Almost Bare!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

All summer you have faithfully and generously supported our Food Table Ministry. Your contributions are so appreciated by the ministry leaders but even more important, they are profoundly meaningful to those who depend on us for sustenance...both spiritual and physical. This is so apparent when you see members of our community come to us and when we hear that the "word out there" is that St. Timothy's is the place to come when you are in need. This is stewardship at its most elemental and at its greatest. Thank you for all that you have done to make such a HUGE difference in the lives of these men, women and their children. You all identified a need and in a simple and straightforward way and have made strides to meet the need.

**Our pantry is almost bare right now. We need your help to fill it up again.** Please help by looking over the list below and contributing something to the cause. If everyone brought a little something, there would be ample. Stone Soup. Here's the list of what is needed: single serving sizes of fruits, mac and cheese, fruit juice boxes, applesauce, Chef Boyardee pasta heat and serve entrees (microwavable), Raman Noodles. Again, your stewardship of our collective gifts to help serve others is what makes St. Timothy's "the place to be." Please bring your pantry donations to the kitchen this Sunday and leave them on the counter. The ministry volunteers will sort and pack it into the cupboards. In advance, thank you for your continued responsiveness to this ongoing need. God bless you all.

*Keith Stroud*  
*Parish Administrator*



## The General Convention of the Episcopal Church

Delegates from every Diocese of the Episcopal Church meet every three years. And it is anticipated that the 2012 General Convention will approve liturgy for same gender blessing. No Priest will be required to officiate at a same-sex blessing, but those who believe this is right, and have the permission of their Bishop, will likely have an approved liturgy after the

General Convention in the summer of 2012. In this Diocese same gender blessings will only be conducted if the Vestry and congregation are supportive.

## Homosexuality in the Bible

The Episcopal Church has been discussing this for decades, particularly with regard to passages in the Bible that address this subject. The relevant texts are Genesis 19:1-14 (the sin of Sodom), Leviticus 18:22

and 20:13 (male to male sexual intercourse is explicitly forbidden), Romans 1:18-32 (unnatural sexual practices are condemned), 1st Corinthians 6:9-11 (homosexual lust is condemned) and 1st Timothy 1:8-11 (which talks about sexual perverts). As we study these and determine who wrote them, when they were written, to whom they were written and why, we must also consider why we completely ignore other Biblical passages like the injunctions against eating shellfish and pork, admonitions in Exodus 21:17 to kill those who curse their parents, and the teaching of Jesus on divorce and remarriage. Why do we accept some passages of Holy Scripture as true, and dismiss others?

## The Historical Context

Beginning with the migration of the former slaves of Egypt and their encounter with other tribes and other faiths, the people of the Exodus had two very significant concerns. (1) The people they met (Amorites, Hit-

tites, Jebusites, Perrizites, Canaanites, etc.) had their own religions, their own gods and goddesses; they did not worship Yahweh, the “One True God.”

In addition, the gods and goddesses whom the residents believed most powerful controlled fertility of the land, of herd animals, and of humans. Of course each tribe had to be successful in gathering or cultivating crops, breeding herd animals, and producing offspring, or they would perish. So the various tribes prayed to these gods and goddesses, made sacrifices (of food, animals, and people), and practiced rituals to appease their deities. The rituals included sexual acts to excite the gods and goddesses to bless the people and make them fertile. The Jewish people took very strong exception to these "false religions" and to the sexual rituals (orgies) the believers practiced. The Jewish people considered these an "abomination."

(2) The people of God, the Hebrews, also encountered a widely practiced Greco-Roman institution called pederasty (from which we get the word "pedophile"). It was customary throughout the ancient Middle East for fathers to give their young sons to another man who would train them in a skill (like carpentry or masonry). And it was understood that these teachers or mentors would have a sexual relationship with the young boys in their charge. The Jewish people took strong exception to this practice, believing instead that a father should teach his own son(s), and that adults having sex with children is abhorrent.

Adult homosexuality - erotic and romantic love between two men or two women - was fairly common and socially acceptable in the ancient Middle East. Most Biblical scholars agree that Old and New Testament passages about "homosexuality" actually denounce false religions (false gods and goddesses), indiscriminate sexual practices (religious prostitution and orgiastic rituals), and pedophilia (sex between adults and children) – not love between two men or two women. The Gospels do not record Jesus saying anything about homosexuality.

We understand that some people are attracted to their own gender, that orientation is not a choice. So, we must ponder, can two men love each other, or two women love each other, even as a man and a woman

love each other? Can an intimate relationship between two women or two men be blessed? Can their love enrich the lives of the people around them? To what standards does our Creator hold all of us regarding our erotic desires and our yearning for love?

*Fr. Brad*

## Welcome Our New Seminarian!

Mrs. Terry Edwards, a student at Virginia Theological Seminary, will join us as our new seminarian in September. Terry is in the Masters in Theology program and is a Candidate for Holy Orders from the Diocese of Southern Virginia. She is married to John and they have two adult children, Jonna and Jonathan. They are eagerly awaiting the birth of their first grandchild this fall.

Before being called to ordained ministry, Terry and her family lived in Virginia Beach where she taught communication skills to students performing below grade level in the Norfolk Public Schools system.

She is very happy to join our church family, “On my first visit I knew I wanted to team with Rev. Brad and Rev. Leslie. Also, comments from my friends Peter and Wiznel, visiting the adult formation class and joining in the celebratory occasions, especially the one honoring the teen group gave a warm impression about a caring faith community,” she said.



*“On my first visit, I knew I wanted to team with Rev. Brad and Rev. Leslie.”*

## Choir Schedule for Fall 2011 –Spring 2012

**Tuesdays, beginning September 6<sup>th</sup>**

**St. Cecilia Choir Rehearsal, 6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.**

Ages 8 and older, sings for the 9:30 a.m. service each Sunday

**Handbell Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.**

Ages 14 and older, plays for both Sunday services about once a month

Thursdays, beginning September 8<sup>th</sup>

**Jubilate Choir Rehearsal, 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

Ages 8 – 14, sings for the 11:00 a.m. service about twice a month

**St. Ambrose Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

Ages 14 and older, sings for the 11:00 a.m. service each Sunday

If you are interested in joining a choir or would like more information, please contact Peter Waggoner, Director of Music, at 703.437.3790, ext. 16 or [peterw@saint-timothys.org](mailto:peterw@saint-timothys.org).



## Concert Series and Evening Services

***Sunday September 18<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 p.m.***

**“Gifts to Glorify the Lord” Benefit Concert**

Featuring : The King Street Brass

As St. Timothy’s begins a new season of music, we welcome the return of one of the area’s finest ensembles. Featuring members of the U.S. Air Force Band and St. Timothy’s parishioners, the King Street Brass will offer an evening of music for brass quintet and organ. All proceeds from this concert will benefit the pipe organ building fund of the capital campaign.

***Sunday October 16<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 p.m.***

**TAIZÉ Service**

Please join us for a service of reflective prayer and music from the Taizé Community. Because of its elegant simplicity, music from Taizé has become widely recognized across the world by many denominations, especially over the past decade. The service is brief and includes time for prayer, meditation, and silence.

***Sunday November 6<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 p.m.***

**Choral Evensong for the Feast of All Saints**

Please join us for a service of sung evening prayer on All Saints’ Sunday. An ancient tradition of the Anglican Church in England and the Episcopal Church in the United States, Evensong is a choral service of Evening Prayer or Vespers, during which the prayers are chanted and sung by the clergy and choir.

***Sunday December 11<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 p.m.***

**The Voce Chamber Singers Christmas Concert**

Further details will be available soon! For more information, please visit [www.voce.org](http://www.voce.org).

***Sunday December 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.***

**A Christmas Festival of Lessons and Carols**

Following the order established by the King’s College Choir in Cambridge, England, St. Timothy’s will again offer this joyous service of nine lessons and carols featuring all of the choirs. All proceeds from donations will benefit the organ building fund of the capital campaign.



# St. Tim's Tidbits . . .

## Capital Campaign Update

The CC Committee is excited by the commitment, support and enthusiasm offered by the whole church family so far and looks forward to continuing to develop our Gifts to Glorify the Lord. THANK YOU!

All who pledged their support by Kick-Off Sunday should have begun receiving weekly donation envelopes in the mail to their home address. If not, there are spare Campaign donation envelopes on our table in the Narthex for you to use. PLEASE remember to mark your checks and donation envelopes with your desired distribution between the Organ/Building and Reserve funds.

Our pledge status and percentages achieved toward our goals to date:

- Total (88 pledges) - **\$339,070 - 40%**
- Organ Fund - **39%**
- Reserve Fund - **46%**

## Another EfM Update!

St. Tim's To Offer An Additional EfM Opportunity – Beginning in September with a school-year schedule, EfM (Education for Ministry) will meet weekly on Tuesday's from 9 am -12:30, co-mentored by Janet Koch and Rebecca Page. A new class will meet Sunday Evenings from 6:00 – 9:30 pm. Keith Nelsen Stroud and Tim Lally will be co-mentoring this new group. Through study, prayer, and reflection, the EfM groups move toward a new understanding of the fullness of God's kingdom. In-class discussion and guided reflection provide us with an opportunity to deepen our understanding of the reading materials. More important is the development of skills in theological reflection. The goal is to learn to think theologically. By examining our own beliefs, participants can learn what it means to be effective ministers in the world. St. Tim's currently offers EfM with a calendar year schedule that

meets on Tuesday morning and will reconvene after our summer hiatus on September 6. Additionally, the new class will meet on Sunday evenings from 6:00 to 8:30 pm in room B1. Our first Sunday class will meet September 25<sup>th</sup>. The deadline for registration for the Sunday class is August 21<sup>st</sup>. Contact Keith at [keith@saint-timothys.org](mailto:keith@saint-timothys.org). or Tim Lally [tlally99@yahoo.com](mailto:tlally99@yahoo.com) or Jan Koch [jankkoch@gmail.com](mailto:jankkoch@gmail.com) or Rebecca Paige at [sr3page@verizon.net](mailto:sr3page@verizon.net) to get an application form. Scholarship assistance is available as well. *Dessert will be served at the Sunday class.*

## New Members 2011 (B: baptism or T: transfer)

	06/14/2011	
	John Kirby Druitt (T)	
	06/14/2011	
	John Christian Druitt (T)	
02/27/2011		
Anthony Vincent Rigas (B)	06/29/2011	
Zoe Evelyn Rigas (B)	James Kent Kidwell (B)	
03/05/2011	07/06/2011	
Natian A Menjivar-Garcia (B)	Nicholas G. Draper (T)	
03/06/2011	07/13/2011	
Theodore Joseph Milans (B)	Emily S. Draper (T)	
05/01/2011	07/10/2011	
Brayden McLaughlin Cuadro (B)	William Michael Byford (B)	
05/08/2011	07/11/2011	
Devin Jaymes Mustard (B)	Peter Theodore Horyczun (B)	
05/15/2011	07/24/2011	
Dylan Mason Bacha (B)	Adelaide Ann Hixon (B)	
05/29/2011	07/31/2011	
Cooper David Schumann (B)	Dylan Marie Antwine (B)	
06/01/2011		
Kathryn Christine Byford (T)		

**2011 Vestry**

*Terms expire January 2012*

**Kathy Lombard-Senior Warden,**

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**Patrick Hobson**

*VoCoSum*

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**Cheryl Brock**

*Worship*

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**Jeanne Bennett**

*Alternate*

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**Beth Lumnitzer**

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**Rose Berberich**

*Registrar*

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*Terms expire January 2013*

**Ms. Allison Dodd**

*Finance*

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**Duncan Hutcheon**

*Stewardship*

703-376-8288

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**Ted Mankin**

*Junior Warden/ Service*

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**Liz Ward**

*Communications*

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**Sandy Wright**

*AdHoc*

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**Mike Colie**

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*Treasurer*

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**Donna Cornwell**

*Christian Education*

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**Services**

Sundays

**8:00 a.m.-** Holy Eucharist, Rite I

**9:30 a.m.-** Holy Eucharist,  
Rite II

Children's Chapel

Godly Play, ages 3-9

(Nursery Care Available)

**11:00 a.m.-** Holy Eucharist,  
Rite II

Sunday School

Godly Play, ages 3-9

(Nursery Care Available)

Wednesday

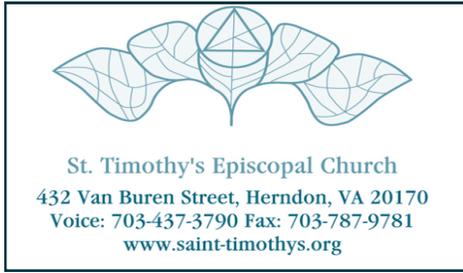
12:15 P.M.- Holy Eucharist And  
Healing Service

**Office Hours**

Monday-Friday

9:00 a.m. –5:00 a.m.

For appointments, please call  
703-437-3790



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 Keith Nelson Stroud in the church office ([keith@saint-timothys.org](mailto:keith@saint-timothys.org)). Copies of *The Word* are also available in the office.

The deadline for submission of material for the next issue is:  
**Friday, September 23, 2011**

Questions, articles, or ideas for *The Word* are always welcome as are your comments. You may send materials via email to Jillian Hajdasz at [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.

**Church Information**

*Rector*

The Reverend Brad Rundlett  
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The Reverend Leslie Chadwick  
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*Music Director*

Mr. Peter Waggoner  
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*Seminarians*

Terry Eswards

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*Parish Administrator*

Keith Nelson Stroud  
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**Our Mission:**  
*As people of God, we joyfully worship God, spread the WORD of God's love, treasure all people, and serve others everywhere in the name of Jesus Christ.*

*Therefore, with God's help, We:  
Open our doors to everyone,  
open our hearts in worship,  
open our eyes to the Spirit's gifts and  
open our arms to embrace God's work.*