

## From the Rector: Stewardship—What it Really Means

Every time I heard the word “stewardship” I figured the Church was just trying to get my money again. Of course the staff has to be paid, the utilities cost money, and what’s left goes to help some poor people. So I put \$20 in the offering basin when it was passed around, and I felt generous.

Then I was elected to the Vestry, and I learned what really happens with our donations. The priest was paid (not nearly as much as most of the people who attend), and his job description included visiting people in hospitals and nursing homes, helping people with their problems, praying for a very long list of people, conducting services, teaching, studying and writing sermons, going to meetings, caring for anyone who called or walked in the door, and he rarely ever had a day off! There was a mortgage on the Church, and utility bills. But the building was used for worship services, Sunday School, Preschool, a lot of Church meetings including the Youth Group, Alcoholics Anonymous, feeding people who couldn’t afford groceries; I was amazed by how many very important things happened every day and night of the week! My church also sent money to the Diocese

which helped pay for summer camps, priests to work in small Churches that couldn’t afford to pay them, college chaplains, overseas missionaries, programs to help people find jobs and housing, and the Bishop of course who was on the road all the time visiting congregations and helping the parish priests!

I had no idea! I volunteered to help with our stewardship program. I attended conferences and received training. And I started collecting information about how much people give and what Episcopal Churches do. I discovered that we give 2-3% of our gross income to the Church, and most people don’t know what is done with that, or how much more we could do if we gave a little more. The Church is vitally important!

I invite you to learn more about St. Timothy’s. Find out what happens during the week. Talk to your clergy, staff, and ministry leaders. Attend a Vestry meeting. Look at the Church calendar. I think you will be amazed! And you might have a whole new understanding of what stewardship is all about. +

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## Christian Education: Preparing the Next Generation of Parishioners

Everyone could benefit from a basic understanding of the fundamentals of Christianity and the teachings of Jesus Christ. St. Tim’s Christian Education Ministry provides this opportunity, offering Christian education for the youth of the church, specifically children ranging from three years of age to seniors in high school. Lessons are presented Sunday mornings with two Godly Play classes for those in or younger than second grade. Older children are grouped in classes for grades 3 and 4 and grades 5 and 6. Grades 7 and 8 use a curriculum titled Rite 13, and high school students attend a specially tailored program called “Journey to Adulthood” (J2A).

“It’s an hour a week, looking at the role Jesus plays in our lives,” says Christine Hoyle, who assumed the position of ministry chair last May. “We have a fan-

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# Why I Support Saint Timothy's

by **Duncan Hutcheon**

Clichéd as it may seem, the statement that, "St Timothy's is a special place" is as true a statement now as it seemed to me 12 years ago when my wife and I first walked through the doors on sunny Sunday afternoon and talked with Father Brad in the Narthex.

And why is it so special? It is because of the people here! Pure and simple, it is the people that make it so.

Does that sound a little syrupy; some sweet hyperbole to make everybody feel good about their Church?

My response is, "No!" The community that is St Timothy's is good hearted, cooperative, generous with their time talent and treasure. There is a dearth of back biting, controversy, or "political" maneuvering.

"Well," you ask "is that not what a church should be?"

The reflex answer is "Yes, of course!"

The more reflective answer is the absolute opposite, "Why on earth would you expect it to be so?" For, to be truthful, the history of the Church from its very beginnings was one of rift and dissension. The Epistles were written as much to address disputes within the Church on doctrine and behavior as to "Spread the Word" - 1&2 Corinthians and John 1, 2 & 3 are excellent examples. There was a long running disagreement, perhaps even rivalry, between these two giants of the Early Church, Peter and Paul!

And things have not changed in the succeeding 2000 years. The history of the Christian Church is full of all sorts of atrocities, arguments, scheming and treachery. No more so today, there are

bitter disputes among Christians on all levels; inter-denominational, intra-domination, between bishops, priests and within individual churches. I am told St Timothy's has seen something of the latter in its past.

And why should this not be surprising? Human beings are competitive, opinionated, and capable of all sorts of intrigue and subterfuge in order to achieve their aims. The potential exists for such to occur in any grouping of humans. "Civilization" has occurred because God has granted us a sense that getting along together is preferable to everybody going it alone. Nevertheless, the potential always exists as does the temptation to indulge in such behavior, always (of course!) for the best possible reasons.

Where is this depressingly dark tale getting us? How is it relevant to St Timothy's?

"Why?" you might ask, "with all this un-Christian behavior going on has the Church been able to survive?" One first looks to the great saints of the Church, those martyrs who gave their lives that the Truth might not be lost. Great though their power to inspire might be, it is not there that our answer lies. St Timothy's is one of long unbroken line of communities who through the ages have ignored the big picture and concentrated on quietly following the guidance of the Holy Spirit in living their faith. It is such communities, where ordinary people following the articles of their faith to the best of their ability that have sustained the Church over the centuries.

Ordinary folks; they are what constitutes the people of St Timothy's. We are a congregation comprising many

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# A New Priest!

At 7:00 pm on Saturday September 29th, in St. Timothy's, our member Natividad Menjivar will be "Received" as an Episcopal Priest. Naty (as most of us call him) has been a Roman Catholic Priest for about twenty years. Apparently God had other plans for him, so he attended an Episcopal Seminary for a year, and will be Received as an Episcopal Priest by our Suffragan Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff. All 80,000 Episcopalians in the Diocese of Virginia are invited! Of course we can't accommodate that many people and most of them will not attend the service. But we do expect a few hundred. If you can help with parking, the reception after the service, setting up and cleaning up, we'd be most grateful; you can sign up in the narthex. +

# Sign Up for Christianity 101 This Fall

Our annual refresher discussion group for adults begins on Sunday September 16th at 7:00 pm and continues on successive Sunday evenings through November 4th. This is required for adults who wish to be Confirmed or Received from another denomination, but all adults are welcome. Fr. Brad leads the group which meets in the Narthex. All questions are welcome. +

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tastic, committed group of teachers,” she adds, noting that Ministry members include church parishioners who serve as lesson instructors. Some are even parents of the attending kids. Classwork is based largely on the Bible with a focus on the New Testament, and the Ministry continues to seek entertaining and engaging ways to share this important information, while allowing the kids time to develop friendships.

“I want to make this program as fun and exciting as possible; something that our kids are really driven to attend,” says Christine. “That’s the best way for them to learn,” she says, adding that she hopes other St. Tim’s kids will hear about what the classes are doing and want to get involved.

To make all of this possible, the Christian Education Ministry needs additional volunteers. If you would like to get involved and/or have children who would like to learn more about Christian Education, please contact Christine at [christineh@saint-timothys.org](mailto:christineh@saint-timothys.org). +

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different people with many different national and ethnic back grounds. People take their Christian duties seriously, but with humor and without fuss. I continue to be amazed by the lack of “ego” in this church, and by the ongoing spirit of cooperation, the quiet “can do” attitude, the lack of self-righteousness, the sense of doing the work Christ has given us to do, is as much an obligation as breathing. Consequently, we achieve so much in fulfilling St Timothy’s mission with seemingly so little. That last point became so clear to me when we analyzed the 8 phrases taken from the Mission Statement that you see expanded upon on the walls of Henry Hall. We are not a church of rich people, but when something really needs to be paid for, the money appears. No fuss. When something needs doing, people step up, seemingly from nowhere. It seems that when a need arises there are members who either discover they have a talent that (surprisingly to them) is of benefit to the church, or possesses a gift they did not know they had.

## Congregation Q&A

**Q. I heard Naty is being “received”, not ordained as a priest. What does that mean?**

A. Natividad Menjivar was a Catholic priest for 20 years. Roman Catholic priests are fully recognized by Anglicans as priests within Christ’s holy catholic church. The Anglican church does not seek to “re-ordain” a Roman Catholic priest or deacon. Instead, after a period of study and reflection at the bishop’s discretion, the person is asked to publicly declare assent to the doctrine and discipline of the Anglican church in front of the congregation. After this, Naty will be permitted to preside at the Eucharist, and will be eligible to be assigned a parish.

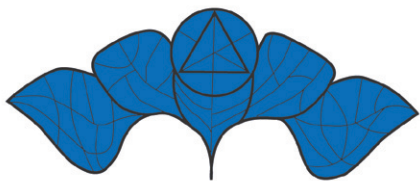
## Next Haiti Mission in December

Our next trip to Haiti will be December 1-7 this year. We will visit the school in Chapoteau and the children we support, see Pere Michelin and Pere Wisnel who are now in Leogane, and attend Pere Wisnel’s wedding in Port-au-Prince! Twelve of us will journey together, and to book our flights we need to know as soon as possible who is go-

ing. Please speak with Fr. Brad! We finance this trip (and all our mission trips including the youth mission to Dungannon in Appalachia and the adult trip to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota) with donations. So, even if you cannot go you can help by making a check out to St. Timothy’s, designated “Haiti mission”. Thank you! +

And why does this happen? Why now? Why here? You can point to the holiness and caring character of our clergy, their caring but uncompromising sermons on the Christian Faith, and you would be correct. However, if there is ever to be a source of dissension in an Episcopal Church, it is in the Vestry, the heart of the leadership of the church. Not in St Timothy’s! I have had the privilege of serving the Vestry of St Timothy’s for 7 of the past 8 years. That means I have served with around 45 different members and I have been continually impressed how well these disparate personalities just “get along”. We may talk a lot, but the discourse is always civil, and the voting is almost always unanimous – in essence the Vestry is a microcosm of the body of the church.

Now is the Vestry a reflection of the church as a whole or vica versa. I am not sure I can answer that, but I know one thing; if there is one thing that causes me to attend, support and serve St Timothy’s, Herndon it is seeing spirit of the Christian faith being lived out on a day-to-day basis by the people of St Timothy’s. +



## St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

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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](http://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](mailto:keith@saint-timothys.org)). Copies of The Word are also available in the office.

### Submission deadline for the next issue: Friday, September 28, 2012

Questions, articles, or ideas, and comments for The Word are always welcome. Send materials via email to [wordeditor@saint-timothys.org](mailto: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 or transferred their membership to St. Timothy's in the past month:

*Eric Otis Horne*

*Matthew David Horne*

*Christopher David James*

*Jade Anna Otis Horne*

*Muriel N. Turner*

*Sarah Danielle Druitt*

*Andrew Lowery Hamm*

*Carolyn Roberts Hamm*

*June Welch*

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](mailto:nikki.omalley@gmail.com)) or fill out the Parishioner Information Form: [www.saint-timothys.org/uploads/docs/info-form.pdf](http://www.saint-timothys.org/uploads/docs/info-form.pdf)

## 2012 Vestry

### **Rick Wilson, Treasurer**

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### **Ted Mankin, Senior Warden**

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### **Liz Ward, Junior Warden**

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### **Duncan Hutcheon, VoCoSuM**

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### **Sandy Wright,**

### **Open Arms & Hospitality**

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### **Mike Colie, Buildings & Grounds**

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### **Eugene Nkomba, Stewardship**

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### **Jeanne Bennett, Communications**

703-442-8542

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### **Beth Lumnitzer**

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## Church Information

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### *Associate Rector*

**The Rev. Leslie Chadwick**

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**Mr. Peter Waggoner**

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### *Director of Children and*

### *Youth Ministries*

**Mrs. Christine Hoyle**

703-437-3790 x17

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### *Director of Parish Operations*

**Ms. Keith Nelson Stroud**

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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 a.m.

Eucharist, Rite II

Godly Play, ages 3-9

Nursery Care

11:00 a.m.

Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday School

Godly Play, ages 3-9

Nursery Care

### **Wednesday**

12:15 P.M.

Eucharist and

Healing Service

### **Saturday**

7:00 P.M.

Latino Prayer Service