

The Word

October 2011



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
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The Blessings of Our Community

I am extremely grateful for your contributions to St. Timothy's and I hope you know how vitally important your gifts of time, ability, and financial support are. I also hope you know what a remarkable Christian community we have in St. Timothy.

Together we provide a sacred worship space for about 300 people every week; on Christmas Eve and Easter Sunday attendance swells to about 625 people. We host more than 230 services a year for more than 1000 individuals who are recorded members of our Church family. That's a lot of Bible readings, sermons, prayers, hymns, anthems, Altar setting and clean-up, flower arranging, Holy Eucharist services, Baptisms, Confirmations, Marriages, healing services, burials, receptions, and after-church refreshments. We also provide Holy Communion for people who are housebound, in hospitals, and nursing homes. During two of our Sunday services we have choirs, Christian education programs, and a nursery staffed with trained professionals. The nursery staff works on holy days and other special occasions too. All of these services and ministries are free; there are no fees for the Sacramental ministrations of St. Timo-

thy's.

But St. Timothy's hosts even more people during the week than on Sundays! An average of 15 to 20 people come to St. Timothy's every week seeking basic help (food, shelter, clothing, and financial aid to purchase medicines and pay for utilities). We have food in our kitchen for anyone who is hungry, we help in other ways when we can, and we make sure our neighbors know about other sources of assistance. Each person is warmly welcomed, greeted with genuine affection, and treated with great respect.

Approximately 130 children attend our Preschool, which has been operating since 1975! Some of our teachers have advanced degrees, and many of them have been with us for years. Our Preschool also provides a summer camp. We provide some scholarships, and we accept children of every nationality and faith.

Boy Scout Troop 159 meets every Monday evening in our parish hall; some of them are members of St. Timothy's. Over the years many of these young men have

received the Eagle Award. Our outdoor chapel was the combined effort of several individual Eagle projects.

We host Fairfax County's Parenting class on Tuesday evenings. The adults receive parent training for twelve weeks, and the evening meal is provided by volunteers.

Math tutoring is available on Wednesdays and Saturday mornings.

The Voce Chamber Singers rehearse in our Sanctuary on Monday evenings. And their seasonal performances are held in our Sanctuary as well. The Washington Post proclaimed them the premier vocal chamber ensemble of the metro area.

If you drop by the Church during the week you may hear the captivating and ethereal melodies of a violin. Monika Dorosheff practices in our

In this Issue

Rector's Newsletter

Water Conference

Stewardship

Open Letter to the

Congregation

News

Sanctuary several times a week, and she gives lessons. She is extraordinarily gifted. She, her husband and sister, have given benefit concerts to help us raise funds to buy a new organ. In fact, they will perform for us right after our 11:00 am service on October 9th!

There's a Bible study on Wednesday mornings. "Wee got the beat" meets on Thursday mornings. La Leche League and Tai Chi are on Thursday evenings. In addition, for people who are afflicted with the disease of addiction, and for those who love them, there are twenty-three Twelve Step recovery meetings every week.

Of course people involved in Stephen Ministry, the Shawl ministry, Church finance, Vestry, Regional Council, Service, support for people with Multiple Sclerosis, mission trips (to Dungannon VA, Pine Ridge SD, and Haiti), music and voice lessons, Education for Ministry, Lay Eucharistic Ministry, Altar guild, Flower guild, Youth ministry (the community Halloween party, the 30 Hour Famine, Antietam, etc.), Open Arms Ministry, Ministry Leaders, ECW (Episcopal Church Women), Christian Education, Buildings and Grounds, our Food ministry, Stewardship, our capital campaign "Gifts to glorify the Lord," counseling with our clergy, Parish clean-up days, (the actual list of activities is too long to print), also gather in our building. And Zumba is coming soon!

Our facilities are in use from 7:30 am to 10:00 pm just about every day of the week all year long. We provide a lot of essential services. And our financial gifts (not to mention our gifts of time and talent) allow transformative, miraculous, wonderful things to happen.

After providing what my family needs, supporting the ministries and missions of St. Timothy's is the most important work in my life. And contributing to the good that comes from St. Timothy's gives me great joy. It is humbling, and profoundly satisfying.

I invite you to make a significant pledge to our annual fund, and to invite your families, friends, neighbors, and co-workers, to participate in our worship and service. Share your blessings, and share the joy of being an instrument of God's grace!

Water 2011 Conference

One of the missions of the Episcopal Church is to encourage parishioners to be good stewards of the earth. To that end, in 1992, Bishop Peter Lee created the Committee on Stewardship of Creation (SoC) to be the Diocese's main point-of-contact and information on this important issue. One of the primary goals of the SoC is to hold a yearly conference on important environmental issues, and to distribute information to the parishes on a regular basis. The hope is to have a Steward of Creation contact (so-called "Parish Partners") at each parish in the diocese that would receive information from the Committee and pass it on to the editors of the weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters so church members can learn ways to be even better stewards of His Creation.

Toward this goal, on Saturday, September 10, 2011, a conference on Water Sustainability was held at Saint Stephen's Church, Richmond, Virginia, and anyone who was interested was invited to attend. The conference attendees learned from Kurt McCoy, U.S. Geological Surveyor, and Brad White from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, a better understanding of how water flows in different parts of Virginia and how to judge the health of a well. From Kay Slaughter, a retired environmental lawyer, we learned all about the Clean Water Act and concerns over uranium mining and milling in the Commonwealth of Virginia. From Scott Kudlas, Director of the Office of Surface and Groundwater Planning for Virginia's Department of Environmental Quality, we learned about the alarming rate of the loss of usable water in the aquifer from the eastern coast all the way to Richmond due to population growth, new industries, and unwise uses of water. It's not just the desert Southwest that has water use issues — these issues are facing Virginians every single day.

Finally, sustainable landscape architects Chris Hale (BioForm Architecture) and Scott Kyle (Full Scale Architecture), gave the conference attendees practical advice geared toward sustainable landscaping and planning

both at home and our churches, to include:

- Watch water meter in your home or building during a day when no one's using the appliances or toilets to check for leakage.
- Retrofit toilets for duo flush.
- Install waterless urinals in public buildings.
- Put heating source near the appliance; consider a tankless hot water system.
- Replace asphalt with water permeable surfaces to reduce water going into the storm sewer.
- Use cisterns and rain barrels.
- Plant native and drought resistant plants.
- Be sure the property has grasses, native plants, shrubs, and trees, all categories, all heights.
- Consider rain gardens, bio swales, and green roofs.
- Consider storm water planters like those along the sidewalk on Capitol Street in Richmond.
- Reduce the square footage of lawn as much as possible.
- If you absolutely have to have irrigation for your plants, recognize that the system for your grass is not sufficient for flowers and not the same as a system for shrubbery. And use a low flow system, ideally with non treated water.

The SoC hopes to see you at next year's conference on Agriculture and Food Sustainability issues. For more information, please see the Stewardship of Creation's website at www.caringforgodscreation.net.

“Grace and gratitude belong together like heaven and earth. Grace evolves evokes gratitude like the voice of an echo. Gratitude follows grace like thunder follows lightning.”-Barth, Church Dogmatics

Saints in Our Midst

After a month of literal upheaval and earthly turmoil, it is time for the gratitude that follows the grace. The gratitude each member of the congregation feels as they walk through the doors every Sunday. How do you share God's Gifts with your fellow man? Everyone has talents, and we utilize those blessings to do the work

God has called us to do.

How do we lend our voice, both literally and metaphorically, to Saint Timothy's? As many a newcomer passes through church each Sunday, how do we affect the overall conditions for stewardship? A new year begins this month, and it is our duty to share the resources we hold and give those resources back through service, justice, compassion, and time. As we head into this church year, let us remember what we have as a church and share each of our individual gifts with one another.

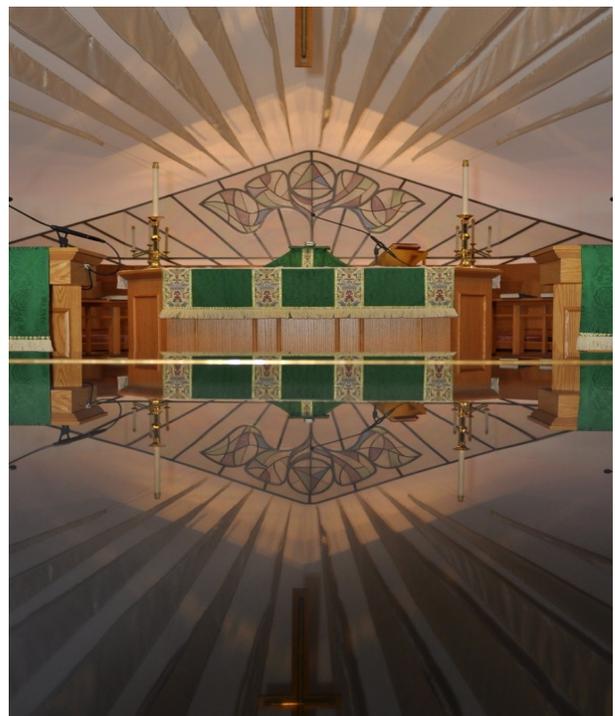
As I grow older at Saint Timothy's, I see the gifts of everyone, illuminated brightly. The giving of the congregation is just the beginning. The richness is of our spirit and soul. We live on an earth which is not ours, but belongs to God. We are his creatures.

Look around Sunday at Saint Timothy's and see the saints in our midst.

“As for the rich in this world, charge them not be haughty, nor to set their hopes on uncertain riches but on God who richly furnishes us with everything to enjoy...thus laying up for themselves a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life which is life indeed.”

1 Timothy 6:17:19

Ted Mankin



Open Letter From Our Rector

My sisters and brothers in Christ;

I thank God for you and for all of the individuals who are part of the St. Timothy's community. It is an honor and joy to serve as your Rector. I hope and pray you found refreshment for body, mind, and soul this summer.

As you know, we are conducting a Capital Campaign to raise funds to replace our much loved but aging and deteriorating organ. It's almost 150 years old! Our supremely gifted Music Director Peter Waggoner does an incredible job coaxing beautiful music from this instrument, but he encounters new problems every time he plays. He regularly has to change hymns and anthems on the spur of the moment, based on keys, pedals, and voices that are suddenly not working. Some of our guest organists have refused to play the old Tracker, while others have demanded three times the regular pay for a guest musician! The organ repairman says it is not worth his time to try to keep this organ operating.

This crisis has caused me to realize how important music is to who we are and what we do. Good music has power unlike anything else to draw out the pain that festers in the human heart, to lift the human spirit to new heights, to make us whole and well, to inspire us. Music is fundamental to our worship. It is an essential to glorifying God. By the grace of God and generosity of God's people it always has and will continue to open our hearts to God and draw us into the heart of God.

Of course replacing an organ is a big project, especially in these challenging times. Even so, I am very encouraged by the progress we are making. Thus far, 88 individuals, couples, or families have made a pledge to support this very important endeavor. These people will give more than \$340,000 over the next 3 years. That is about 40% of our goal, and of that amount \$46,000 will be placed in a reserve fund to cover large maintenance issues like putting new shingles on the roof, repaving of our driveways and parking lots, and replacing heating and air conditioning units that wear out.

I thank God for the dedication and generosity I witness everyday at St. Timothy's.

If you have made a gift or pledge to our "Gifts to Glorify the Lord" campaign, I most sincerely thank you. When we finally reach our goal and purchase a new organ, it will be a great gift to everyone who worships in St. Timothy's for many generations to come! If you have not made a pledge I humbly ask you to consider how important music is to you, and how the gift of a new organ will strengthen the faith of worshippers for another 150 years or more.

Our governing board, The Vestry, has wisely determined that we will not borrow money for this critical project, we will not take on any new debt; we will proceed only when we have the funds in the bank to pay for a new organ, make the enhancements needed in the choir area, and improve lighting. The Vestry, The Organ Committee, and I your Rector, are asking everyone in the St. Timothy's community to make a pledge for three years, installments made as scheduled by each contributor. For inspiration we have a list of creative ways to give that we can forward to you.

On Sunday, September 18, at 4pm St. Timothy's will hold a campaign benefit concert with one of the area's finest ensembles. The King Street Brass will offer a program of works for brass quintet and organ. Tickets will be available at the door for a suggested donation of \$25.00. All proceeds will benefit the organ fund.

Pledge forms are available in the Narthex (on the table near the red doors); a pledge or gift in any amount will help. And I invite you to contact me personally with your creative ideas, questions, or reservations. I am painfully and personally aware that some of our members are out of work, or experiencing financial hardship for other reasons. If you cannot help with this campaign, I understand. Your greatest gift to God and the rest of us is yourself.

Thank you for giving your valuable time to read this letter. I thank God for you, and pray that God's blessings fill you and the people you love, fill the entire world, with peace and joy. And may God increase our "Gifts to glorify the Lord!"

With overflowing gratitude,

Fr. Brad



St. Tim's Tidbits . . .

Funeral Services

Mrs. Emma Mae Amos Henri died on Monday, September 26, 2011. Her burial service will be held at noon at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church on **Monday, October 3, 2011**. The Henri family warmly invites all members of St. Timothy's to join them in a celebration of Emma's life.

Full Schedule for Monday, October 3, 2011:

11 am **Viewing** (and 2 songs on the Lute by Axel Henri, Jr.) in the Narthex

11:30 am **Viewing** and Alpha Kappa Alpha Memorial Service in the Narthex

12:00 noon **Burial Service and Holy Communion, Rite 2** in the Sanctuary, followed by interment at Chestnut Grove Cemetery

1:30-4 pm **Repast** (reception) in Henry Hall



Faith Formation Opportunity

The famous Southern writer, Flannery O' Connor, was also a devout Christian. Join literary nerds Kristie Rudolph, Ted Mankin, Cassandra Riedy, and Leslie Chadwick for a fun class on four of O'Connor's humorous short stories. We will explore how these stories shock us into living out the good news. The class will take place on four consecutive Sunday evenings beginning October 2 at 7:30 PM in B-1. Please sign up at the CE table in Henry Hall. **Leslie has extra copies of the four stories we'll be discussing in her office. For**

more information, contact Leslie at lesliec@saint-timothys.org.

Great Harvest Bread Sale!



Fall is around the corner which means it is time for the Great Harvest Bread Sale! The Service Ministry will be selling bread from Great Harvest after all the services on Sunday, October 30. The sale supports LAWS (Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter). LAWS draws clients from not only Loudoun County, but also from the Herndon-Reston areas.

Great Harvest will be baking these breads for St. Timothy; Apple Scrapple, Honey Wheat, Pumpkin Swirl (with a yummy cream cheese filling), Spinach Feta, and a special yeast bread just for Halloween. Also available will be two tea breads – pumpkin, and pumpkin and chocolate chip.

A \$10 donation for each loaf is appreciated. Thank you for supporting the Service Ministry...putting our faith to work.

If there is a question about this submission, please contact me at 703.785.8797

Thank you,
Holly Hartage

Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and if I were a bird I would fly about the earth seeking the successive autumns. ~George Eliot

2011 Vestry

Terms expire January 2012

Kathy Lombard-Senior Warden,

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Patrick Hobson

VoCoSum

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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

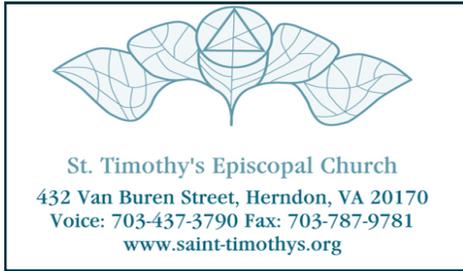
12:15 P.M.- Holy Eucharist And
Healing Service

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) 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). Copies of *The Word* are also available in the office.

The deadline for submission of material for the next issue is:
Friday, October 21, 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 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

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Mr. Peter Waggoner

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Terry Eswards

Christian Education

Cassandra Riedy

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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.*