

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

From Our Rector

With overflowing gratitude

With all the news about the economy, I think this Thanksgiving is going to be very different. Some members of our Church family are now out of work, and many others are understandably insecure. People's retirement accounts and savings for college are in jeopardy. Some large businesses have failed and others may follow suit. A lot of people in this country have lost their homes through foreclosure. Things may get worse before they get better, and "better" may be a long time coming. It all makes me wonder, how much "thanks" will there be this Thanksgiving?

With all that's shaking our foundations, I think God may be calling us to realize that at least some of what we think is so vitally important actually isn't, and that so much of what really is important we have long taken for granted. We so easily forget that all we have and all we are is a gift. We so readily fail to appreciate that every moment and every person is precious, and that life is precarious. Current events are putting a lot of things back into focus. Maybe our values have been misplaced. Maybe it's time to reconsider and re-order our priorities. Maybe it's time to remember who and what is really important.

More than ever, I am very, very thankful for my wife and best friend Cecile, for my children Annemarie, Ethan, Evan and his son Austin, and for Keira who has resided in Heaven for twenty-eight of her thirty-three years. I am even thankful for Baxter, our 75 pound black lab, whose barking makes me nuts but who thinks everyone in the world is his best friend. I am blessed with a comfortable home, good health (not perfect but still exceptional), nutritious food in great variety and abundance, clothing for all kinds of weather and occasions, wonderful people who honor me with the gift of friendship, a truly magnificent Church community, and all the promises of our Savior Jesus Christ – for love, forgiveness, grace, new and everlasting life, God's constant and abiding presence, an eventual and eternal reunion with everyone I love. I am grateful as well that life is making me pause and re-evaluate how immeasurably blessed I am.

Because our values and priorities get all turned around, I suspect that God is using current events to set things in proper order again. In these turbulent and troubling times God has helped me realize more than ever before, that I have everything I need, and a great deal more. Hence, in spite of, and even in light of what's happening these days, I am filled with gratitude; I rejoice. And I think this may actually be the best Thanksgiving yet.

~ Fr. Brad

From Rev. Leslie

You've probably heard that the Youth are the Future of the Church.

They are. But they are also the present.

On Friday night, 25 youth sat in the front two pews of our sanctuary at midnight and said the nighttime prayer Compline together.

They were tired. Their schedules are more hectic even than ours. Many of them had a band competition the next morning.

They had all chosen to spend the evening together. The event wasn't on the original calendar. The idea for the lock-in came from the youth, and their energy made it a success.

We are at a turning point in our youth program. Our strong older teens value the younger members. Brave younger members are willing to bring their friends and risk sharing themselves with a new group. Parents and parishioners go the extra mile not only for their own children, but for all of the youth. A gifted new young adult has jumped in to help. The program is aching to grow.

In our vision budget, we have asked for money to hire a part or full-time youth leader. On Sunday mornings, this youth leader would be present for the sole purpose of connecting with the more than 60 remarkable young people in our congregation. During the week, that leader and I would work with parents and youth to coordinate exciting new youth-led events and to build community among our young people.

I am here because the adults in my congregation and diocese understood that youth are not only the future, they are also the present. They understood that young people are in constant motion. Neither they nor their spirits stand still. If the program stands still, they'll fly right on past it. If it grows with them, their energy and creativity will ignite it by the grace and power of the Holy Spirit.

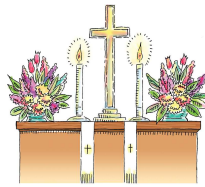
~Rev. Leslie

Move your clocks!



Remember that the time changes on Sunday morning Nov. 2. Set your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, Nov. 1.

Ministry of the Month: Altar Guild Serving the Congregation One Service at a Time



The altar is the focal point of the Episcopalian church service, so there's a certain irony when Brenda Donnelly, coordinator of the St. Timothy's Altar Guild, describes her crew as working "behind the scenes." Guild volunteers are visible every Sunday—dutifully replacing votive candles, washing chalices and patens, and preparing the bread and wine. Operating from the Sacristy, the small office directly behind the organ, this diligent group is tasked with managing the appearance of the sanctuary and the general presentation of the service.

The Altar Guild supports baptisms, marriages, funerals, music events, and even Diocese of Virginia Bishop Peter Lee's visit for the recent confirmation and blessing of our Courtyard of the Saints. As you might imagine, these volunteers are particularly busy during the Christmas and Easter seasons.

Much of the Altar Guild's work focuses on the Holy Communion, whether it's addressing the appearance of the area where the Eucharist will be performed or the acquisition and preparation of the communal elements to be shared. Remembering that communion is the rite we perform in remembrance of the Last Supper, one begins to fully grasp the importance of this behind-the-scenes ministry. These member volunteers assist the clergy to ensure that you and I are able to receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ.

In many respects, this attention to others exemplifies one of Jesus' most important messages for us. As Mark noted in his Gospel (10:45), "The Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve . . ."

Providing weekly coverage to spiritually feed the members of our parish and prepare the sanctuary requires more support than you might think. Ergo, the Altar Guild is a large organization compared to other St. Timothy's ministries. The group consists of a special board, which provides guidance and direction, and five teams each composed of four members.

The Altar Guild Board includes Brenda who, as previously noted, serves as the group coordinator, or primary point of contact. Jackie Clattenburg manages special events and flower duties for the ministry, Bobbe Duquette directs all of the Guild's communications, and Kerrie Wilson oversees the scheduling and training of the teams. A fifth position acts as liaison with the Worship Ministry and handles budgetary and inventory matters. However, this spot is vacant and is currently supported by the four others. Altar Guild board members hold three-year terms.

The Altar Guild teams (currently totaling 20 members) work on two-week rotations and labor together to provide a seamless transition between the three Sunday and

one Wednesday lunchtime services, as well as other demands. In addition to the tasks mentioned, volunteers wash and change the altar's frontal linens; colors are coordinated to match the church seasons and service themes. The symbolist within the group, Kerri points out that the corporal linen, on which the chalice and paten are placed, represents the shroud placed over Jesus' face, when he was laid in the tomb. The Fair linen symbolizes the linens his body was wrapped in.

Guild team members also refill the paraffin in church candles, clean and straighten, and coordinate the weekly presentation of flowers.

Providing flowers on a weekly basis can be an expensive endeavor, and Jackie encourages members to help defray the cost by making offerings to dedicate flowers for a given service. Flowers can be dedicated to loved ones or special anniversaries or events. Flower arrangement remembrances appear in the weekly church bulletin (both the Friday e-mail and the Sunday paper versions) and church members can sign up using the flower chart, which is posted outside of Brad's and Leslie's offices.

"Volunteering to work with one of the Altar Guild teams is a great way to meet people, make new friends, and, at the same time, serve the church" says Brenda, who notes that her ministry is always looking for church members who want to get involved. Parishioners who would like to learn more about the Altar Guild can call Brenda at 703-437-4129 or e-mail her at brendad120@aol.com.

Tending to the needs of others is an Episcopal calling, and participating as a member of the Altar Guild is a meaningful way to provide necessary assistance to the church. Please contact Brenda and find out how you can help St. Timothy's minister to others.

Community Thanksgiving

Our community Thanksgiving Service this year is being hosted by our good Christian neighbors at Trinity Presbyterian Church on Dranesville Road. The service will be on Sunday November 23, at 7:00 pm. The Associate Pastor of Holy Cross Lutheran Church will preach. This annual service is sponsored by The First Baptist Church of Herndon, Herndon United Methodist Church, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, and Trinity Presbyterian Church. All monetary and non-perishable food offerings will go to LINK, our community food pantry. The service will be Holy Communion according to Presbyterian tradition. Everyone is invited and welcome.

November Services at St. Tim's

On November 2 we will celebrate the Festival of All Saints' and St. Timothy's 140th anniversary. And November 23 is the Feast of Christ the King. We have a Holy Eucharist service on Thanksgiving Day every year at 11:00 am. Mark these very important days on your home calendar, and plan to attend one of our services. Give thanks and praise to God.

Thoughts on Stewardship

I have been reflecting on the fact of us launching our stewardship campaign at this particular time, and the following thoughts came to mind

- So, the world's financial system is in turmoil,
- So, all of us probably feel less secure than we did 6 months or a year ago
- So, St Timothy's decides to start its Stewardship campaign. Now!
- Folly and foolishness?

It certainly makes you think!

Well, it made me go back to the Lectionary and Sermons tab of our webpage and review the excellent sermon given in May by our last seminarian, Kim Seidman on her final Sunday with us on the familiar text, "the lilies of the field". I would urge you to do the same, but I can sum up it as follows

- Her message was not comforting to us as people but challenged us Christians. She reminded us that, "we are not owners but stewards", and with that comes responsibility.

In contemplating your own thoughts and prayers on stewardship I suggest you contemplate these two paragraphs from the sermon.

"Anxiety is an enemy of the kingdom of God, because anxiety keeps us focused on ourselves and obsessed with meeting our own needs. Striving for the kingdom of God means lifting our gaze to see and respond to the needs of the world around us."

"God is not going to deliver manna from heaven to feed the poor. And God shouldn't have to. After all, we are the body of Christ in this world. The Holy Spirit is in us, we are God's hands and feet, and stewards of God's resources, and that there are still people starving and naked in this world two thousand years later means the church has a long way to go. Our worry about tomorrow is costing people their lives today."

I challenge you to consider the following

- Clearly, that stewardship includes our families and ourselves, but not to the exclusion of our mission to others.
- St Timothy's offers us a means of fulfilling that responsibility to others through the myriad aspect of its mission within the church building, locally and elsewhere.

So, I would like you to consider;

- The Vestry want you to be more aware of how we can exercise our stewardship by inviting you to our second parish dinner on November 9 where we will discuss the Vision Budget we requested of our Ministries.
- For those of you who did not make our first dinner or who have not made a booking for November 9, I urge you to do so and learn just how much we can achieve with just a modicum of effort.

I look forward to having the opportunity to speak with as many as possible of you at the November 9 Dinner.

~Duncan Hutcheon, Senior Warden

Holiday Shop – November 8



Come to Henry Hall on Saturday, November 8 to visit our Holiday Shop from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. There will be a variety of vendors and good food for sale. This is a great opportunity to support our Youth Group and get a head start on your Holiday shopping!

Calling All Webelos Scouts!

Aim high!

As you begin to look at Boy Scout troops and prepare for bridging, be sure to check out St. Timothy's own Troop 159 and explore everything the Boy Scouts of America has to offer. Monthly outings, merit badges, bike rides, lock-ins, catapults and more: Troop 159 has it all. The troop meets every Monday evening here at the church. If you're looking for the opportunity to grow as a Scout with a great group of kids, drop by one of our meetings to see us in action. We will also be at the upcoming Webelos-ree where our troop is easy to spot--we are the ones who build and fire a catapult. Our Scoutmaster is Drew Mehan. For more information, contact Mariane Mears: email mearshomeschool@yahoo.com or 703/476-4458, You'll be glad you checked us out!



Kid Safe Chemical Act

A big part of the proposed Kid Safe Chemical Act would be the so-called "precautionary principle", which forces manufacturers to prove that a substance is safe, rather than regulators having to prove that it isn't. The American Chemistry Council (ACC) opposes the precautionary principle and even said "Better safe than sorry is one thing, but then there is throwing the baby out with the bath water, too" (Marty Durbin, ACC). The chemical industry lobby is gearing up to fend off a broad legislative overhaul that marks a significant shift in the way that chemicals are regulated in America. This sounds like a wise move to protect the public from possibly dangerous chemicals and chemical additives. (A message from your Steward of Creation, Craig Dubishar)

November AGAPE "LAWS"

The Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter opened in 1985 to provide temporary emergency shelter, food and emotional support to women and children who were escaping domestic violence and abuse. Currently LAWS offers a wide range of direct services to more than 1,200 Loudoun citizens annually, including crisis intervention, legal counseling, sexual assault services, and youth and children services. Through its many programs, LAWS seeks to empower survivors of personal violence so that they may live their lives free from fear, anxiety and danger. Helping with their many needs, St Timothy's has been a supporter of this organization for many years. Prayerfully consider a donation with an AGAPE offering in November, and write LAWS in the memo line of your check. Donations to their "WISH LIST" can be left in Henry Hall through Nov.

LAWS WISH LIST

Gift Cards/certificate (\$10-50 amounts – gas, Target, Wal-Mart, Shoppers Food Warehouse, Safeway or Giant)

Phone Cards International phone cards

Paper towels Toilet paper Dryer sheets

Garbage bags (Kitchen and large black sizes)

Diapers (larger sizes 4,5,and 6)

Children's board games

Children's winter coats (size 4T through boys\girls 10/12)

Winter women's clothes (all sizes), **Ladies PJs** (all sizes)

Stephen Ministry

FAQS:

What is Stephen Ministry?

It is God's love in action. A caring relationship through Christ between a Care Receiver and Care Giver (or SM), one on one, fully confidential.

How does it work?

We do the caring, God does the curing. Through active listening we enable the Care Receiver to make their way through their process and heal.

When is it appropriate?

Whenever someone is hurt, lonely, ill, or terminal.

For whom is it appropriate?

All of us, even Stephen Ministers, Stephen Leaders, and Clergy.

Why do we support it at St. Timothy's?

Because we have many people who need just a little help and care now and then. We have helped over 20 in the past. And since we have reconstituted our ministry in the last several years we have been able to keep our growing staff of SMs busy with Care Receivers.

I say growing, because we have seven new SMs going through the 50 hours of required training to become Care

Givers, and in February when they are commissioned we will effectively double our caring resources.

If you think you might need a SM or know of someone who might, please come see either of our clergy, or Jane Perry or me, as we are your SM referral team. In fact, you can come to any SM.

Thank you, your support through your prayers and generosity to St. Timothy's Stephen Ministry training is greatly appreciated.

~Peter Hwoschinsky, Stephen Leader

Jubilate Choir For

Everyone

The Jubilate Choir has, from its beginning, been open to people ages eight and older. The *older* part, I believe, has become too under-emphasized.

Over the past two years, I have heard the Jubilate Choir referred to as the "children's choir", or "youth choir". Many churches have choirs that would fit these descriptions, and from what I understand, this was the case here at St. Timothy's years ago.

The original plan this time was to create a choir in which people in grades 3 – 12 would be able to participate. My goal was to include any singers who were still in school and had an interest in being a part of a choir here at St. Timothy's. Ideally, the choir would be made up of singers from a wide range of ages, 8 to 18 years old.

In other choirs I've worked with, I've seen the younger members do so well when they have older, more experienced singers to look up to and to learn from. It's also a really important opportunity for the older singers to serve as examples in a kind of teaching role towards the younger ones.

The choir now meets on Thursdays from 4:30 pm to 5:00 pm, and we have seven to eight loyal and energetic singers, both female and male. We sing anthems for use on Sunday mornings, those when everyone will be here to sing, and also learn the basics of music reading and singing technique, etc. We have fun and still get a lot of work done.

My hope is that the old picture of a "children's choir" won't discourage anyone from coming to check out the Jubilate Choir. We're always looking for new singers and hope to continue growing this year!

~Peter Waggoner, Director of Music

That is God's call to us - simply to be people who are content to live close to Him and to renew the kind of life in which the closeness is felt and experienced.

~Thomas Merton



Join us for Evensong November 2

Please join us on Sunday November 2 at 5:00 pm, for Choral Evensong for the Feast of All Saints. The service, sung by our combined choirs, will feature the music of composers Thomas Tallis and Michael Praetorius.

Christmas Eve Singers Welcome

If you are interested in singing with our choirs for the Christmas Eve services at 7:00 and 10:00 pm this year, please contact Peter Waggoner at (703) 437-3790, ext. 16 or peterw@saint-timothys.org. All are welcome and no further commitment will be required.

The Closet

Our volunteer days at the Clothes Closet are November 11 and 25, and December 11th. We need a coordinator to serve on the board (4 meetings per year, 9:30 am to 11:30 am at Trinity Presbyterian) who will also publish our volunteer days and encourage participation! The next board meeting is December 3rd.

The Sound of Music

This year, Herndon High School's Theatre Department plans to kick off its season with a classic favorite, Rodgers and Hammerstein's *The Sound of Music*. Led by new theatre director Zoe Dillard, vocals coach Dana Van Slyke, and pit orchestra conductor Chris Cunningham, the show promises to be everything that has come to be expected from Herndon High School and much more. The show will be performed November 13, 14 and 15 at 7:30 pm with the CAPPIES Production November 16 at 2:00 pm. Ethan Rundlett is in the musical.

The department will also be doing a Children's Theatre production, directed by seniors, of *The Jungle Book and Dopey Fairy Tale*. Performances will be December 12 at 7:00 PM and December 13 at 2:00 pm. Be sure to mark your calendars!

Antietam,
2007



Evensong,
2007

Youth Group Calendar

Here's a revised Youth Group calendar for November & December:

November

Nov 2: 5-6 PM
Nov 8: 10-2 PM

Nov 9: 12:30- 2:00 PM

Nov 16, 12:30-1:30 PM

Nov 21, 7:00 PM
Nov 23, 5:30- 6:45 PM

December

Dec 5-7
Dec 7, 5:30-7:30 PM
Dec 14, 5:30-7:30 PM
Dec 21, 12:30-2 PM
Dec 21, 7-8:30 PM

Dec 24, 2-4 PM

Evensong (St. Tim's)
Holiday Shop
Fundraiser (+clean-up/set-up)
Local Outreach Project and lunch
Prepare bagged meals for Embry Rucker Shelter
3rd Sunday Brunch (VA Kitchen)
Challenger Dance
YG Gathering

Antietam Trip
YG Gathering
YG Gathering
3rd Sunday Brunch
Caroling at Harbor House
Christmas Luminaria at St. Tim's (clean-up Dec. 26)



Caroling at
Harbor House,
2007





Ken Mansfield Event

Photos by Craig Dubishar



Youth Group Mini Lock-in

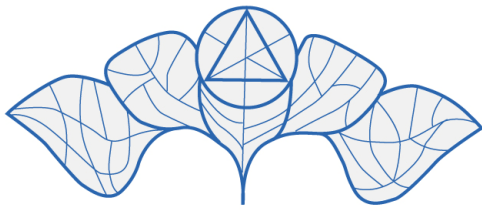
On Friday night, Oct. 24, the Youth participated in a Mini Lock-in at St. Timothy's, from 6:00 pm – 12:00 am. The youth had fun playing video games and setting up for the Halloween Party. Photos by Lisa Erdeljon.



Youth Group Halloween Party

The Youth held a Halloween Party on October 26 for the children of the community. Photos by Lisa Erdeljon and Fr. Brad Rundlett.





St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

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

The deadline for submission of material for the next issue is:
Thursday, November 20, 2008

Questions, articles, or ideas for *The Word* are always welcome as are your comments. You may send materials via email to office@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.

2008 Vestry *Terms expire January 2009*

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Church Information

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Music Director

Mr. Peter Waggoner
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Parish Administrator

Ms. Carol Frost
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Services

Sundays

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

Wednesdays

12:15 pm - Holy Eucharist and Healing Service

Office Hours

Monday - Friday, 9 am to 5 pm (and by appointment).
Clergy are off on Fridays.

Upcoming Events

Nov. 01 - Move your clocks back one hour
Nov. 02 - Choral Evensong for the Festival of All Saints
Nov. 09 - Holiday Shop
Nov. 14-16 - ECW Retreat
Nov. 21 - Challenger Dance
Nov. 23 - Community Thanksgiving Day Service at Trinity
Presbyterian Church
Nov. 27 - Thanksgiving Day Service
Nov. 30 - First Sunday of Advent