



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

# The WORD

Our 140th Year

For December 2007

Herndon, Virginia



## Be in the world but not of the world

In John's Gospel Jesus makes much of his being "in" but not "of" the world, and says the same of his followers "They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world" [John 17:16]. The Apostle Paul expounded on this in his letter to the Romans, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect" [12:2]. Matthew has his version too; according to him Jesus declared "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it" [7:13-14]. These are troubling passages, especially for twenty-first century North Americans. Just look around at all our buildings, automobiles, malls, cell phones, personal computers, and entertainment devices; we are so "of" the world.

As 2007 draws to a close, with Global warming and other environmental concerns in high profile, it is clear that we need to make some significant changes in how we live and move about on this planet. With a widening gap between the wealthy and the destitute of the world, it is clear that we need to look at our priorities – do we need bigger, more powerful vehicles? Do we need to drive as much as we do? Do we need more newer, fancier, faster, "stuff?"

If you come to St. Timothy's (and I hope you do, regularly) you will hear, every week, challenges and opportunities to be a little less "of" the world. It is fundamental to Christianity, to following Christ. And Sunday morning may be the only time in our lives when we hear such strong messages about compassion, sharing, and stewardship. We are the Church, God's people. We are called to devote a significant portion of our life energy, of our knowledge and abilities, of our material wealth, to improve the lot of people who are trapped in poverty, people who are suffering.

We are not here on this earth to make our own lives better; we are here to make the whole world better, for everyone. We are here to spread the Good News of God's love in Jesus Christ by word and deed.

St. Timothy's is committed to this mission. *Jr. Brad*

## Advent Waiting

As I write this newsletter article, I am waiting in the airport. Every time the gate agent announces a new delay, a collective sigh of exasperation goes up from the people. Waiting can be frustrating. We wait in traffic, in doctors' offices, and for parking spaces to clear out. Waiting takes on a new urgency when the stakes are high. It can feel like torture to wait for a college acceptance or rejection letter or for medical test results to come back.

### Please Read!

We wish to call your attention to the Vestry Notes on page 4. The Treasurer's Report topic is highlighted in red and bold type. We all need to look into our hearts and make sure that our giving for next year is truly a generous gift to St. Timothy's financial needs.

—The Editor

So when we hear that Advent is a season of waiting, we might be tempted to bypass it altogether. Jumping headlong into the rush of pre-Christmas might seem more satisfying and productive. When we are in constant motion, at least we can convince ourselves that we are going somewhere. We get caught up in the pressure to make Christmas special, to scramble to meet other people's expectations.

Advent invites us to remember that Christmas came the first time without our back-breaking effort. Advent promises that Christmas will come again with or without us. It reminds us that our job is not to meet other people's expectations but to wait expectantly to meet Christ whenever and wherever He appears.

When we accept the invitation to slow down, to be still, and to turn toward God in these four weeks, we find that God Himself prepares our hearts to meet Christ. The waiting is a gift in itself, not something to rush through. The waiting can be as simple as taking twenty minutes to be still in the midst of our other preparations. It can be as simple as taking the time to read a daily meditation or to let the music of Lessons and Carols wash over us. However we choose to wait on God this season, we know that our waiting will not be in vain. Love will come again. Christ will be born once more within us.

*Leslie+*

*Christ  
IS Coming!*

## True Faith

I got into a discussion recently with a certain young person who expressed frustration that Christianity is too easy. I listened; then asked some probing questions to test his assumptions. He was completely unaware, for example, that there are specific times everyday for Christians to pray – morning, noon, early evening, and at the close of the day. The Book of Common Prayer has “daily offices” as we call them, for congregations, for individuals and families too. I directed him to the later (prayer book pages 136-140). He seemed genuinely intrigued by this. We then talked about the vows all Christians make when we participate in a Baptism. He was fascinated with the fact that we commit, with God’s help, to life-long study of our faith, regular sacramental worship, and praying with other Christians. We pledge to resist evil, and to repent when we fail. We promise to share our faith verbally, by our choices and actions as well. We take an oath to treat every person like he or she is Jesus Christ. We promote justice and peace where ever we go, and swear to respect the dignity of every human being. He was impressed. We moved from there to a discussion about the ministry all Christians share – being like Christ, agents of reconciliation, devoting a significant portion of our life energy, our knowledge and abilities, and our material wealth, to promote faith, hope, love, peace, and joy, throughout the world. He was astounded. We ended our conversation with a brief consideration of some of the saints, how they risked or even gave their lives trying to help other people, which is what we mean by taking up our cross and following Christ. He said he had no idea, and then asked me how he could become a Christian. He told me he didn’t want to belong to an exclusive social club. He was ready to believe “in something real and true” he said, something that takes effort and makes a real difference. He reminded me that anyone can be a nominal believer. It takes a lot of faith and guts to be a real Christian. And that’s what a lot of people are looking for.

*Jr. Brad*



## Christmas Services

To celebrate the fulfillment of God’s promises in the birth of Jesus we will have a Festival of Lessons and Carols on Sunday evening, December 23rd, at 5:00 pm. We will also have our usual Christmas Eve services on Dec. 24 at 5:00 pm (a service created especially for young children; grown-ups are welcome), 7:00 pm, and 10:00 pm. And we will have a service at 11:00 am on Christmas day. Come give thanks to God, and bring your family and friends!

## What's New In Stewardship?

Before we start with what is new, let’s talk about what might be old. If you have not done so already, please submit your 2008 Stewardship Survey Form. You should have received one in the mail, along with a letter from your contemporaries at St. Timothy’s. If you did not receive one, then you can pick one up in the back of the church. The form is designed so that everyone can make a reply. We are hoping for a 100 percent response from the family of St. Tim’s. Please help us attain that goal by submitting your form as soon as possible. If you have already submitted your form, we thank you.

**Now to what is new!** You can now make contributions to the church’s general fund by using your Visa or MasterCard. These can be either recurring or one-time donations. Just visit our parish website, [www.saint-timothys.org](http://www.saint-timothys.org), and click on “Giving.” After entering your recurring or one-time donation amount you will be taken to a secure website run by the church’s credit card processing company to enter your credit or debit card information.

As an alternative, if you are not comfortable using a credit or debit card, but wish to have your donation automatically sent to St. Timothy’s, you may choose to set up automatic payments through your bank, like automatically paying your mortgage or utility bills on the specific day of the month which you designate. This option, often called Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), is free at nearly all banks (some require online signup, some in-person), and has three advantages:

1. You do not have to write checks!
2. The church saves on the cost of pledge envelopes, and
3. You continue to support the church even when you are away.

Banks may require the church’s routing number for electronic transfers. To obtain the routing or account number, please contact Parish Administrator Carol Frost by calling the office, or by sending her an e-mail at [office@saint-timothys.org](mailto:office@saint-timothys.org).

We hope these new methods of giving will help you maintain your financial support of St. Timothy’s. Of course, checks and cash are also welcomed at any time.

In closing, the Stewardship Ministry wishes to thank all the volunteers who helped in this year’s campaign. We also want to thank our clergy and staff, Brad, Leslie, Peter and Carol, Rick Wilson, our Treasurer, and our Senior Warden Keith Sinclair, and the members of the Vestry and Finance Ministries for their support and encouragement.

We wish you a happy, holy and healthy new year. And remember, there is a cost for doing good. St. Timothy’s needs your generous support to continue doing that good.

*Paul Conroy, Stewardship Ministry Chair*

## Lectionary for December 2007

12/2/07 First Sunday of Advent; *Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44*

12/9/07 Second Sunday of Advent; *Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12*

12/16/07 Third Sunday of Advent; *Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:4-9; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11*

12/23/07 Fourth Sunday of Advent; *Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25*

12/30/07 First Sunday after Christmas; *Isaiah 63:7-9; Psalm 148; Hebrews 2:10-18; Matthew 2:13-23*

### Attention Parishioners

#### We Need Your Greens Saturday December 22

The Altar Guild is in need of donations of freshly cut "greens" Saturday, December 22 between 9:00 and 11:00 am to be used with the Christmas decorations for the Sanctuary. If you need help cutting or transporting your greens, please notify me either by phone at 703-437-4129 or email at [BrendaD120@aol.com](mailto:BrendaD120@aol.com). We will also need volunteers on Saturday to assist in preparing the greens for decoration. It's a fun time and floral training is not necessary. For further information call Brenda Donnelly at 703-437-4129 or Jackie Clattenburg at 703-450-6493.

### FOR ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS

Dear members of St. Timothy's Altar Guild,

On Saturday, December 22, in the morning we will be pruning and preparing the "greens" for our annual decorations in the Sanctuary. We will actually be working on the arrangements on that date also. Also, at noon Saturday, December 22 the poinsettias will arrive and we need your assistance in bagging and preparing them for the Sanctuary as well as helping prepare the greens. We need volunteers on both December 22 and December 23 to help arrange and assist in decorating for the Christmas services. All teams are asked to help us in this large effort. For further information contact Brenda Donnelly at [BrendaD120@aol.com](mailto:BrendaD120@aol.com) or Jackie Clattenburg at [Woodbear@comcast.net](mailto:Woodbear@comcast.net).

### Christmas Flower Dedications

Please use the envelope enclosed in your bulletin, Dec. 2, 9, & 16 to make your donation to the Christmas flower fund and note on the envelope your dedication information in memory of friends and loved ones or in thanksgiving for someone or something special to you. For the "date Requested" insert "Christmas". The list of donors and dedications will be included in all the bulletins printed while the flowers are on display this season. Your gift envelopes must be received in the office by **Wednesday, December 19** to be included.



## The Pre-School Page

With the funds earned from Sally Foster orders, the pre-school is able to purchase a new piece of playground equipment! Thanks so much to all who participated in this fall fundraiser. The children voted on several options; a shiny new blue airplane is the winner!

A big thank-you also goes to those who contributed to Operation Pinecone - you've helped to bring the holiday spirit to our troops.

The pre-school is looking forward to celebrating the holidays with parties on Dec. 13th and 14th.

Merry Christmas to you!

—Liz Griffith

## Rev. Lauren Stanley at St. Timothy's

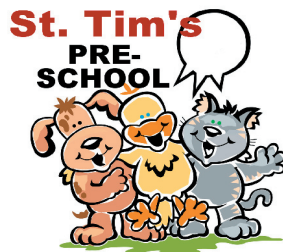
Rev. Lauren R. Stanley, Episcopal missionary and activist working in the Sudan, will speak during the Sunday, December 16 services about her most recent missionary work and the unwavering faith of the Sudanese people, despite the dire circumstances in this war-torn region of Africa.

Rev. Stanley recently served as a lecturer in theology and liturgy at the Renk Theological College in southern Sudan. Part of what drew her to this unique institution is the steadfast devotion and commitment of its staff and students. "The whole college is run on faith," she said. "Frequently, there's no money to feed the students or pay the staff, but the college keeps going anyway, because everyone believes in its work."

Rev. Stanley will address all three church services—8:00 am, 9:30 am, and 11:00 am—and will be available during the subsequent coffee hours to answer questions and show a brief video about the Renk Theological College.

## Boy Scouts having fun: it's a lock

December kicks off with a key activity – the lock-on – for Boy Scouts from Troop 159. They're pulling an all-nighter in church, although there won't be a lot of Bible study going on. The scouts will be spending the night playing games and participating in video game competitions while pigging out in a feeding frenzy. Later in the month, scouts will be getting the "lay of the land" by refreshing their orienteering skills in the nearby foothills. Then, after a holiday break, scouts return for their favorite campout of the year – Big Mac! That's where cold cabins melt under the heat from fiery furnaces. Think you can take the heat? Join Scouting! Contact Carolyn Edner @ (703) 742-9654 or cedner@cox.net.



## Vestry Meeting Notes

Notes from Vestry meeting November 26, 2007.

€ The Vestry voted approval for, and each member signed, a letter to the Diocese pledging spiritual and financial support to Marty Hager, who after spending this year in discernment, feels called to pursue ordination to the Diaconate in the Diocese of Virginia.

€ The Vestry approved a request by the Tuesday morning daytime Education for Ministry (EfM) class to place a white, locking bookshelf in B1 to hold Christian Education reference materials.

€ The Vestry recommended denial of a request by the Church of God of the Prophecy to use St. Timothy's space from 6-8 p.m. on Sunday evenings.

**€ The Treasurer's report indicates an impending financial crisis for St. Timothy's. The church is over planned expenditures this year by approximately \$17k, and has a revenue (income) shortage of approximately \$53k, leaving us with a projected loss of \$70k this year. Rick Wilson warned that if 2008 follows the same trend, we will have no cash reserves and will have to lay off at least one staff member. Unless pledges significantly increase, finance is planning a budget for 2008 based on actual '07 income (\$633k), meaning cuts from the 2007 level of funding.**

€ The Vestry has changed the date of its planned December meeting from December 24th to December 18th, at Senior Warden Keith Sinclair's home.

€ The Vestry accepted and agreed with the organ committee's recommendation that the current tracker organ's impending failure requires considering options for replacement. A subcommittee has been formed to assess the financial feasibility and implications of replacement. An article for the January issue of the Word, summarizing the organ committee's report, is being drafted.

—Genevieve Zetlan



If you know someone who would be comforted by receiving one of our handmade creations, please see Jackie Clattenburg, Janet Dopsovic, Donna McGrath, Jean Shepherd, Florita Tilden or fill out a form located in Henry Hall.

## Angel Tree Program

With the holidays just around the corner, it must be time for the beloved Angel Tree. Look in Henry Hall for St. Tim's Angel Tree filled with requests from children in need from Reston Interfaith and LAWS (Loudon Abused Women's Shelter). Once again the tree is filled with close to 200 individual gift requests. Please take one, two or several tags from the tree, shop for the requested items and return the gifts unwrapped with the original tags firmly attached to St. Timothy's by Sunday, December 9. We will hold a sorting party after the 11 am service on December 9, and volunteers are needed to sort and deliver gifts to Reston Interfaith and LAWS. For more information, contact Janet Dopsovic 703-391-9633 or Jill Norcross 703-435-7216. Once the gifts have been delivered, our Angel Tree becomes the collection point for scarves, hats, mittens and gloves for adult and children clients of Laurel Learning Center, the Embry Rucker Homeless Shelter and LAWS.

## Annual Parish Meeting / Vestry Election

Our Annual Parish Meeting will be convened on Sunday, January 13, at 12:30 pm in our parish hall; lunch will be provided. Every member in \*good standing will be given a ballot during the announcement period of our morning services, and will cast a vote for four new members for our Vestry, and two delegates to represent St. Timothy's in Regional and Diocesan Councils. Is God nudging you to serve on the Vestry? Or as a delegate to Councils? Do you know another member of this Church who would be an excellent candidate to serve in either of these very important ministries? We will be hearing very soon from our parish Nominating Committee. Meanwhile, please pray for discernment.

*\*Good standing: 16 or older, Baptism recorded in our register, regular in worship, contributing to the mission of the Church.*

## Hypothermia Shelter Update—Mondays in March

Reston Interfaith in cooperation with Fairfax County will operate a Hypothermia Shelter each night from December 1, 2007 through March 31, 2008. Once again, St. Timothy's has signed up to fill volunteer and food service needs for "Mondays in March." Please look in future bulletins and issues of the Word, to learn more about volunteer training, duties, and sign-ups. St. Timothy's will host each Monday in March by providing on-site volunteers and by preparing dinner, breakfast and lunches for those days. We are also looking for someone to serve as the St. Timothy's Hypothermia Shelter Coordinator (scheduling volunteers and serving as the liaison between St. Tim's and Reston Interfaith). Please note that volunteers are welcome and needed any time during the shelter's operation. You can contact Reston Interfaith directly at (571) 323-9565, if you would like to volunteer before our scheduled dates in March.

## The Gift of Faith

I can't begin to remember all of the Christmas gifts I've been given in my 58 years; far more than I need or deserve to be sure. The gifts I treasure most - family and friends, home, health, food, relative peace and security - can't be made or bought, wrapped, and placed under a tree. And the gift that puts all of this into perspective, that holds it all together, that gives it all meaning, is the gift of faith. My faith in God and Jesus Christ permeates and surrounds everything and everyone. It is at the center and edges of my life. It is above and beneath all my thoughts and feelings, all my life experiences. The commandments and prophetic revelations, the incarnation, life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ, the promises yet to be fulfilled in God's Kingdom, the congregation of God's people and the communion of the saints - these are the best and most important gifts.

During the 44 days from Thanksgiving through Christmastide we focus a lot on gifts, given and received. Christians especially focus on the gifts of God for the people of God, and give thanks for faith.

*Jr. Brad*

### Attention!

All articles submitted to the Word must be in MS Word 97-2003 format (files ending in .doc) The new Word 2007 format (.docx) is not compatible with our software and cannot be used.

Thank you., Charlie Clattenburg

### THE MISSION OF ST. TIMOTHY'S

As people of God

adopted 01/20/07

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.

## From the Music Director

### Music Ministry Upcoming Events

The Music Ministry continues an exciting 2007-2008 season of Sunday afternoon and evening concerts and services, including traditional services Christmas Lessons and Carols and Taizé.

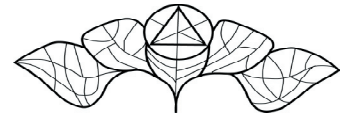
The Voce Chamber Singers return to St. Tim's on **December 16 at 4:00 pm** with a program of Christmas music of the 20th and 21st centuries including Franz Biebl, Morten Lauridsen, Kirby Shaw, and others. It will feature Alice Parker, renowned composer, arranger and leader of community sings, who will conduct the premiere performance of her new work, Magnificat, commissioned by Voce.

On **December 23 at 5:00 pm**, St. Timothy's choirs will again combine for a Christmas Festival of Lessons and Carols, which will include scripture readings (lessons) along with choral anthems and familiar carols accompanied by organ and brass.

Four afternoon presentations are scheduled for 2008, including a Taizé service and a Choral Evensong by our choirs, and two concerts by Voce. All concerts and services are open to the public. For more information about our events, including ticket prices and reservations for Voce, please contact Peter Waggoner at 703-437-3790, ext. 16 or peterw@saint-timothys.org.

Thank you all for your continued support! —Peter

Concert Series  
at  
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church



### Saints Alive.....

This is your opportunity to recognize "saints of God, patient and brave and true" – those joyous saints among us at St. Timothy's. You know them – the "saint" who went the extra mile in support of one of our ministries or the "saint" who quietly did the task no one else wanted to do. We are blessed at St. Timothy's with many wonderful servant-leaders who daily give of their talents and time. Let's celebrate them! It's simple -- nominate your "saint" by emailing the editor (cclattenburg@saint-timothys.org) with the name of the person and one or two sentences on your saint's deeds. Your name will not be published. That's part of the fun – you get to be the unknown angel that recognizes saints alive. Who knows? You may be one, too.

*We would like to recognize and acknowledge Carol Sinclair and Kim Savage for planning, organizing, and hosting another incredible ECW retreat.*

### Enrollment now open for EfM

Enrollment is now open for the Tuesday morning EfM (Education for Ministry) class. If you have questions or want a small (literal!) taste, join us for an open class session December 11 at 10:15 for snack, worship, and a theological reflection activity. Next year's class begins January 8, and the fee for the entire year remains the same at \$340. This exploration of faith makes a timely holiday gift that gives the whole year long! If you plan to attend or want more info, contact Genevieve Zetlan at 703-456-7340 or [gzetlan@gmail.com](mailto:gzetlan@gmail.com).

### Volunteers Needed for LINK Christmas Baskets

LINK, an organization of fourteen local churches including St. Timothy's, is having its annual Christmas basket distribution to needy families in Herndon and Sterling. LINK provides a week's worth of food to over 600 families each year every Thanksgiving and Christmas. Volunteers are needed to sort locally donated food prior to distribution, and for numerous duties on the day of distribution, including guiding recipients in choosing their food.

Sorting and distribution take place at both Trinity Presbyterian Church in Herndon and Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church in Sterling. Each volunteer is asked to serve for 2-3 hours on one day. The sorting days are December 10, 11, and 14, and the distribution day is Saturday December 15. The sorting hours are 9-12 am and 7-9 pm, and the distribution hours on the 15th are 7:30 am-5:00 pm. The last two hours on Dec. 15 will be primarily cleanup work. Volunteers please email Diana Lawrence at [diana@hamiltongroup.com](mailto:diana@hamiltongroup.com) or call the LINK phone line at 703-437-1776. If further information about LINK is needed, please call Rob Duchesneau at 703-450-4795.



Christmas  
Food Baskets

## St. Timothy's Youth Group Calendar December 2007

November 30 - December 2, Antietam Trip [Confirmands return with Leslie and another adult Saturday evening]

December 1, Holiday Shop Fundraiser

December 2, 11 am, Bishop Eastman visits for Confirmation!!

December 16, 12:30-2 pm, 3rd Sunday Brunch at the Virginia Kitchen

December 16, 7 -8:30 pm, Caroling at Harbor House

December 24, 2-4 pm, Christmas Luminaria at St. Tim's

### SAVE THE DATE:

January 6, 12:30-2 pm: Important Parent/Youth Meeting in Henry Hall (with food)

Leslie will be on maternity leave/vacation from mid-March-mid June and will need to know which youth/parents will coordinate events in 2008 before that leave begins. If you have any suggestions for next year's calendar (and are willing lead those events), please e-mail Leslie by mid-December (leslic@saint-timothy.org).

## The evANGELism Ministry: Opening Doors

"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise." (Proverbs 11:30)

The Bible repeatedly encourages us to practice our faith by spreading the good word and by reaching out to others. Although the call to evangelism is clearly intended for all Christians, the St. Timothy's evANGELism Ministry embodies this pursuit from a congregational perspective, sponsoring activities and events to bring the community into the Church and—just as important—to bring the Church visibly out into the community.

And yet this dynamic group has taken the idea one step further, recognizing that the promotion of our church and its beliefs requires the cultivation of an atmosphere of fellowship and camaraderie. The Ministry, with its members who serve as church ANGELS, looks out for all who visit St. Timothy's, making them feel welcome and at home.

Gayle Rippe, evANGELism chair, describes her crew as "a strong but small committee," adding that they "oversee the scheduling and training of greeters who welcome members and non-members alike as they enter the church for Sunday services. It's vital that people see a friendly face when they walk in the door."

In front of the sanctuary, the Ministry offers nametags to service attendees on the first Sunday of every month, and provides small gold newcomer crosses for newcomers to affix to these badges, ultimately encouraging parishioners and visitors to get to know one another. "This year, we initiated the delivery of a loaf of bread with a handwritten note of 'welcome' and 'thanks for attending' to every newcomer we can identify," said Gayle.

"The bread delivery has been a big hit," she added. "Members of the congregation who aren't Ministry members offer to help us with the delivery."

"Gayle's right. We've been surprised at the number of calls the office has received from people saying 'thanks for the bread.' It's been a hit not only with newcomers, but with the congregation volunteers," adds long-time Ministry volunteer Genevieve Zetlan.

The Ministry mails "You're Invited" brochures to all new residents in the 20170 zip-code region, reaching out to new transplants to the area and encouraging them to visit our church. EvANGELism also sponsors periodic wine-and-cheese receptions.

"There is such incredible strength in our group," says Gayle. "Genevieve and Shirley (Ratliff) have been with me from the beginning. Lee Wallace joined us just last year."

"Nikki O'Malley isn't officially on the evANGELism Ministry," adds Genevieve, "but she is absolutely vital to what we do. She maintains the parish register and sends thank-you letters to those who make a donation or who sign the guest book or a pew card. She also helps coordinate the bread delivery and has worked with us to update all of our information-collection forms in electronic format and get them online."

As you might deduce, this is an active but fun group—one that would welcome additional volunteers who like meeting people and getting involved. If the evANGELism Ministry sounds like your cup of tea, please reach out to one of the members, or ask Brad or Leslie to introduce you. The Ministry also encourages any creative suggestions parishioners may have that will draw new members to our church and make St. Timothy's a more welcoming house of worship and prayer.  
*John Perkinson, Communications Ministry*





## *Stephen Ministry at St. Timothy's . . . in the words of the Stephen Ministers*

Our Stephen Ministers were asked “How has the Stephen Ministry touched your life and faith?” The following are a few thoughts on Stephen Ministry from three Stephen Ministers, shared here with their express permission and edited slightly to insure confidentiality:

“By working with a care receiver, I have gotten the feeling that I’m doing what my Lord Jesus would have me do. Working with a care receiver has helped me to focus less on myself and more on another child of God. I feel blessed and privileged to be able to serve as a Stephen Minister.”



“Some things I’ve gained (that weren’t in the course description) from being a Stephen Minister:

- the special bonds that grow among us as trainees and later in our peer supervision groups, illuminating and encouraging each other, Christian love in action, begetting more love.
- the great big warm feeling in my heart when I see in my care receiver’s eyes that I have helped bring her relief and hope.
- the surprise and joy of learning that God indeed works through people like me to give love and comfort

to an aching heart. It’s not a matter of worthiness at all – if I invite it in, even I become a conduit of that love. This can be a hard lesson; it commands me to remain responsive to God’s love in the midst of busy earthly doings.”



“My Stephen Ministry training taught me so much, especially about intentionally reflective listening and about the importance of being a ‘non-anxious presence.’ As my care receiver and I continued to meet together, I became increasingly aware of the awe of God’s healing power and the true grace of walking together during a particularly difficult time in her journey. I now find that I make use of some part of my training almost daily, whether at home, at work, as a volunteer, or with my care receiver. I have truly grown spiritually through my Stephen Ministry experience, and I give thanks to the St. Timothy’s church family for their wonderful support of this ministry.”

Might you be called to become a Stephen Minister? The next 50 hour training session is currently being planned for January 2008. To find out more about Stephen Minister training, please contact one of our lay Stephen Leaders, Cheryl Brock (703-437-3968; [charlieandmaggie@hotmail.com](mailto:charlieandmaggie@hotmail.com)), Jane Perry (703-478-0032; [eperry2ster@gmail.com](mailto:eperry2ster@gmail.com)) or Jim Hendrick (703-430-4914; [jhendrick@udcc.com](mailto:jhendrick@udcc.com)) or clergy, Fr. Brad Rundlett or Rev. Leslie Chadwick at 703-437-3790.

## *One Person Really Can Make A Difference*

I was recently at an event here at church discussing “caring for God’s Creation” with another person. The individual said “one person cannot make a difference” and meant it. Hmm? I began to reflect on this thought -- Can one person really make a difference? Do the actions of one person really make a difference? Will the one plastic bottle or Styrofoam cup used and discarded really make a difference? Will my choices really make a difference? This thought continued to follow me and tug at my sense of what is right. Finally, this thought became a theme. Here we are approaching the time of Advent and, of course, one person can make a difference. Whether it is a central theme (and basis) to Christianity, or helping out in the community, or lending a helping hand to a neighbor, or caring for God’s Creation -- the answer is very clear. Of course, one person can make a difference.

Imagine using a coffee mug at work instead of a Styrofoam cup. That is one Styrofoam cup per day (conservative estimate) saved from going into the environment, five per week, and 250 cups per person per year (counting two weeks off for vacation). Wow, that seems like a lot of non-biodegradable waste for one person (and that’s just focused on this one example). Let’s say there are about ten coffee drinkers in your office. Now the number of Styrofoam cups NOT in a landfill per year has risen to 2,500 cups. That’s only one office. Now just pick one office building in Reston with, say, ten businesses located in this one building. Okay, now that is 25,000 Styrofoam cups NOT in our landfills. Okay, take ten office buildings in Reston (again, an extremely conservative number), and the number has quickly risen to 250,000 Styrofoam cups NOT in our landfills.

This same concept applies, of course, to plastic bottles used for spring water, or conserving energy at home, or . . . here at church. One person really can make a difference -- our hope for redemption and for a cleaner, better world for our children’s children depends on it!

Look for the new recycling bins at St. Timothy’s and thanks for helping out. Look for future articles on recycling tips and “what do all those recycling numbers really mean?”

—Craig Dubishar, Steward of Creation



## St. Timothy's Green News

### *Look Out - St. Timothy's Is Getting A Professional Recycling Center*

Actually it is three new recycling bins that will help us to identify and separate our trash from our recycling. There are some important things to remember:

1. "White" paper (with no colored post-its or inserts) should still be placed in the office white paper bin (any mixed paper in this bin will contaminate the white paper making it worthless as high-grade recyclable white paper and reduce it to low grade, less needed mixed paper recyclables).

2. Fairfax County only recycles Number 1 and 2 plastics. Look in the "three arrows" triangle symbol on plastic item. If it is a "1" or "2" then please place the rinsed/clean item in the recycling bin. If it is any other number (such as a "5" (most yogurt containers) or "7" (many large syrup or juice containers)) then, unfortunately these must be discarded. Mixing any other number but "1" and "2" will actually ruin the plastic resin during the remixing process making the entire plastic resin not usable at all.

3. Aluminum cans and plastic no. 1 and 2 bottles may be placed in the same bin (as Fairfax County will perform the final separation).

4. Mixed paper (cardboard, colored paper, inserts, newspapers -- any non-food stained paper-based product -- should be placed in the Mixed Paper bin.

Look for more details about how you can help. Thanks for caring!

### *Interesting Recycling Facts: Mixed Paper*

Glossy paper can be put in the mixed paper bin (not the white paper bin). No food stained items, but any paper-based items (glossy, newspaper, etc.). If you are so inclined, it is best to rip off the plastic clear windows that are on so many mailings and envelopes. The reason any non-food stained paper can be recycled as "mixed" paper is because the mixed paper is so limited in its reuse. Pure white paper (i.e., no yellow post-its, etc.) can be recycled many, many times into more white paper before it loses any strength. Therefore its value is high (about six cents a pound). Mixed paper is basically very low quality recycled material and, thus, gets used for insulation and that's about it (also another reason you do not want food in it as grinding up mixed paper to make insulation would still leave the food residue in the final product). Mixed paper is sold for about 0.5 cents per pound (so pure white paper is worth about 12x's the value of mixed paper!). The true reason for recycling mixed paper is to keep it out of the landfills (still a very good reason to take these actions!).

### *Reusable Bags Means A Better World*

Herndon High School's nationally recognized Students Against Global Abuse (SAGA) will soon be selling strong canvas bags to reuse again and again for all your grocery and carrying needs. The idea is not new (Trader Joe's actually has a drawing each month to give away \$50 in grocers to customers who bring in their own reusable bags!). Using less grocery store paper and plastic bags means less waste into our refuse system and landfills. A reusable bag from Herndon High School is a great way to show you care and to help our local school. Proceeds will go directly to helping to make HHS a "greener" more energy efficient building. The bags will sell for \$2 apiece or less. Please place your orders with Craig Dubishar (send an email to [wcdubi@cox.net](mailto:wcdubi@cox.net) or write your name, email address, telephone number and the number of bags you want on a piece of paper and place in the Steward of Creation box in the mail boxes by the main office at church). Thanks for helping to "green" HHS and protect Creation.





### *Dungannon Mission Presents Awards to St. Timothy's*

Natalie Dubishar, president of the Youth Group and Ken Vierra presented Father Brad and Rev. Leslie with pictures and certificates awarded to the Dungannon Team for this year's participation. This was Mr. Vierra's last task as former director of the Youth Group. He has retired after 10 years in this position and we will miss him greatly.



*"The child to be born  
will be holy;  
he will be called  
Son of God."*

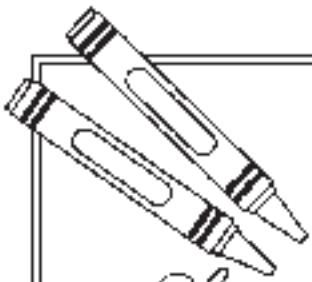
### *Luke 2:1-7 The Birth of Jesus*

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to his own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.



Luke 1:35, NRSV



# Just for KIDS

## The Son of the Highest

A new baby brings joy and the anticipation of what he or she will grow up to become. Jesus' birth was miraculous, but His life was prophesied and planned by God.

Unscramble the words below, matching them to their correct spelling. Then use the numbers to fill in the correct words to complete Luke 1:32-33 (NIV).

- |           |        |            |         |
|-----------|--------|------------|---------|
| 12. taerg | he     | 2. no5     | forever |
| 8. eh     | Jacob  | 11. seouh  | end     |
| 13. gHhi  | father | 5. northe  | Son     |
| 7. aDvid  | give   | 1. roevfr  | house   |
| 10. bocJa | great  | 6. dingmok | throne  |
| 3. reafth | High   | 9. den     | kingdom |
| 4. vieg   | David  |            |         |

"He will be \_\_\_\_\_<sup>12</sup> and will be called the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup>  
of the Most \_\_\_\_\_<sup>13</sup>. The Lord God will \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup>  
him the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup> of his \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup>.  
and \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> will reign over the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup>  
of \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup>; his \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> will  
never \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup>."

*Luke 1:32-33, NIV*



## The Shepherds and the Angels

### Luke 2: 8-20 The Shepherds and the Angels

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ[a] the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Answers: 1. forever, 2. Son, 3. father, 4. give, 5. throne, 6. house, 7. kingdom, 8. and, 9. never, 10. of, 11. will, 12. he, 13. the Most High



*Come, let us adore him!*



*St. Timothy's Word* is published monthly and E-mailed to members and friends on the first day of each month. It also appears in full color on the website main page under "Downloads" the same day it is e-mailed. If you wish to receive a copy by mail, please notify Carol Frost in the church office. Copies of the Word will also be available in Henry Hall for you to take home.

The deadline for submission of material for the January issue is Thursday, December 20 at 9 am.

Questions or ideas for *The Word* are always welcome as are your comments! You may send the material as an attachment to an e-mail message to: [Cclattenburg@saint-timothys.org](mailto:Cclattenburg@saint-timothys.org). The message subject line must mention *Word*. Photos are welcome. Please identify key people if possible. Articles or letters may be edited for brevity or appropriateness.

See our website for the up-to-the-minute monthly calendar. It's always current and covers several months.

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Editor's Comments: It's a new church year and is your faith up to the reason for the season? (Sorry!) Please read the Vestry Notes this month. The Treasurer's report is disturbing. On the bright side, we are looking forward to the VOCE concert on Dec. 16 and the Carols and Lessons on Dec. 23. Don't miss these great musical events. We wish everyone a joyful holiday season and a Merry Christmas. — *Charlie*



## News – Time Sensitive

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### Regular Services

8:00 am Sunday - Holy Eucharist Rite I  
9:30 am Sunday - Holy Eucharist Rite II  
(nursery care available)  
11:00 am Sunday - Holy Eucharist Rite II  
(nursery care available)  
12:15pm Wednesday - Holy Eucharist & Healing Service

### Office Hours

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