



The Word

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church Newsletter • Herndon, VA

December 2016

From the Bridge Interim Rector Anne Turner

On my last trip to Trader Joe's, I saw that among their other holiday-themed items were Advent calendars: 25 days of chocolate to count down. I remembered when a kind parent brought them in for all of the children in my daughter's preschool class. The parent explained to the kids that Advent was a way to mark the days until Christmas Day, when Jesus came.

Well, yes and no.

Advent does invite Christians to think about time and about waiting. But we are not waiting for the infant at Bethlehem. We are not waiting for the day that Jesus came. That day has come and gone. We are waiting for the day when Jesus *comes*—for the second coming, for the Son of Man to be among us. We are looking forward with expectation for the time that God in Christ makes all things new.

It's maybe a hard concept to explain to preschoolers. Honestly, it's kind of hard for grown-ups. But the distinction has profound implications. We are not looking back at something that has already happened. We are hoping for something that has been promised. We are not commemorating the past. We are looking to the future. And we are looking with hope.

Here at St. Timothy's, there is much waiting, and there is much thinking about time.

We are waiting for the organ to return. Many had hoped the instrument would be back in place by now; instead, we are still waiting for its sound in the nave.

We are waiting to see what direction our Spanish-speaking ministry will take. Father Adolfo Moronta, after a year of faithful service, has accepted a call to a church in New York. The

vestry and the Latino ministry are continuing to discern what that ministry will look like after his departure.

And, of course, we are waiting for a permanent rector. As I begin my work among you, I am aware of your deep hunger for a stable and consistent leadership. I know that the Search Committee has been working faithfully towards preparing the materials that will allow you to call such a leader.

Advent reminds us that—amidst all this change—we look to the future. And we look with hope. We are not waiting to return to a time that has already been. That's not enough. We are expecting God's promises to be fulfilled in ways that are new and good and surprising and probably beyond whatever we can imagine.

And because of that expectation, we do not have to be anxious when things change. As Christians, we respond to change not with fear but with hope. It is, after all, the first thing the angels always say when they appear with pronouncements from God: Do not be afraid. God has told us that he is ahead of us as well as behind, in our future as well as in our history.

Jesus came among us, thanks be to God. But Jesus *comes* among us still. I look forward to discovering what his presence will mean in this community in the weeks ahead.

Blessings,
Anne+

*Celebrate
Christmas
@ Saint Tims!*



Feel free to invite friends, family, & neighbors to attend one of our Community Christmas Services!

Saturday, December 24, 2016

Community Christmas Eve Services

- 4:00 p.m.*** Children's Service with Nativity Play
- 7:00 p.m. *** Bilingual Festival Eucharist
(Music Prelude Begins at 6:30 p.m.)
- 10:00 p.m.** Festival Eucharist
(Music Prelude Begins at 9:30 p.m.)

Sunday, December 25, 2016

Community Christmas Day Service

- 10 a.m.** Christmas Day Service
(We will not have our regular Sunday 8 a.m. Rite I Service)

We'll kick off 2017 with one service, Rite II, at 10 a.m. on New Year's Day, Sunday, January 1!

*** Nursery Care on Christmas Eve at 4 & 7 p.m. only.
No Nursery on Christmas Day and New Years Day.**

An Invitation from the Bishops of Virginia

Below is an invitation from our bishops to a "Service of Light and Hope." This service came about as a response to the presidential election, and in particular to the fear that immigrants in our churches feel during this time. It is intended to be an opportunity for Episcopalians from all backgrounds to stand in solidarity with one another, affirming the unity that Christ has given us in baptism. Saint Timothy's is blessed in its diverse membership, and we have already made a witness to this kind of solidarity through our Latino Ministry. We have much to contribute to the dialogue in our churches and in our country at this time, and I hope that many of us will be able to attend the service. --Anne+

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, during this time of changes and uncertainty after the presidential election, the three bishops of the Diocese of Virginia invite you to a Service of Light and Hope. We will pray together for the light of Christ to shine in the darkness. In the words of Saint John, "*the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.*" John 1:5. Join us the second Sunday of Advent - December 4, 2016, at 5 p.m. at Iglesia de Santa Maria (7000 Arlington Blvd. Falls Church, Va). Let us walk together in the light of th Lord

Rector Search Committee Update

The season of Advent is particularly meaningful to the Rector Search Committee (RSC). Similar to the Advent period of preparation and expectation, the Search Committee continues to work on your behalf toward the coming of our new rector. We intend to deliver the Office for Transition Ministry (OTM) Portfolio to the Vestry for approval before the December meeting. The Portfolio is a multi-page document the diocese requires from churches in a search process. Once approved by the Vestry the Portfolio will be delivered to the Office of Transition Ministry. The Diocese will then post the information on a website for potential candidates who will use it to determine whether to they wish to apply for the rector position.

This brings to mind who may be considered as a candidate for our new rector. We learned during Fr. Mark's time with us an Interim Rector may not be considered for a permanent Rector position as directed by the Diocese. However, we have received from the Diocese the following guidelines regarding our *Bridge* Interim Rector: Rev. Turner may be considered a candidate for the Permanent Rector position if she is interested. As a Bridge Interim, serving for less time than an Interim Rector, she is eligible. However, it is premature to assume the RSC work is finished. The Diocese, Vestry, and RSC remain committed to completing the search process. The RSC is striving to make every effort to offer all interested candidates fair consideration for the position. The patience and continued support of the congregation in allowing us to recommend a candidate is appreciated.

The contributions of the congregation through your feedback on the parish survey, the focus groups and general communication have given us excellent material with which to interview candidates. To allow all prospective candidates equal advantage for consideration we will share the results of the parish survey once our new rector has been announced.

Finally, we are grateful to all the ministry leaders who have submitted updates and revisions to the church website. Improvements to the website to provide the most current and clear information about St. Timothy's continue. Further corrections

and changes are welcome. Please send website edits to Catherine Lamoureux, catherine@lamoureux.us. Regardless of whether you are a ministry leader, if you have suggestions for changes to the website please send a message to RSC@saint-timotheys.org.

The RSC is thankful that we are close to completing the current phase of our rector search. Your continued support and prayers are appreciated. *Heavenly Father, thank you for your infinite blessings and for making us instruments of your holy work during this time of renewal and discernment as we prepare to welcome our new Rector to St. Timothy's.*

-Shon Beury

Search Process Progress

Vestry chooses a search committee
Search Committee is commissioned
Committee selects Chair, Vestry approves
Self study with congregation input

Draft church Portfolio

Portfolio approved by Vestry and Bishop
Candidate names received
Office of Transition Ministry vets
candidates

Finalist candidate selected

Vestry votes on finalist

Call extended to finalist

Vestry negotiates letter of agreement

Candidate, Senior Warden and Bishop sign
the letter of Agreement

Visit of Bishop Gulick

St. Timothy's welcomed The Rt. Rev. Edwin F. "Ted" Gulick, Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia, on Sunday, November 20. Bishop Gulick Confirmed six and Received nine congregants.

Congratulations to those Confirmed:

Katie Brennan
Ian Gough
Will LaWalt
Anthony Mazza
Alex Mbonu
Max Norcross

Welcome to those Received:

Felix Hernandez
Ana Hernandez
Maritza Hernandez
Rhina Castillo
Carlos David Castillo
Miguel Serrano
Rafael Carpio
Vidai Genovez Andres
Lorena Duenas

A luncheon was served after the 10:00 a.m. service in honor of the Bishop's visit, the confirmations and those being received. Thank you to Beth Lumnitzer and all the volunteers who helped prepare lunch, set up, serve and clean up. Thank you also to Nikki O'Malley for preparing the certificates for the candidates who were confirmed and received.

Chris Brock, New Senior Verger



Jane Perry and Michael Cook congratulate Chris Brock who was installed as Senior Verger on October 2.

The Endowment Fund

Re-start

The purpose of an endowment fund is long-term investment to guarantee the ability for future generations to continue and enhance the mission of our church. The Endowment Fund at St. Timothy's was started in 2000 to ensure that our parish will be able to continue its good works long into the future. A committee was established to oversee the fund and met quarterly until 2008 when activity stopped due to market decline and reduced interest rates.

The Vestry wants to re-start the committee educate the parish about gifts and bequests to the endowment. We are seeking three members with a variety of backgrounds and a willingness to serve no longer than three years to be elected at the Annual Parish meeting in January to serve on the newly established committee. If you are interested in serving or if you would like more information, please contact Hollis Colie at hollis211@gmail.com or (703) 499-7936.

Reflections from Jill Cox

A MUSIC FILLED THANKSGIVING

I am writing this on the eve of our annual Thanksgiving celebrations and realized as I checked the dedications for each of the days of this week in “Holy Women, Holy Men” were generally directed to those who had provided such great music for our worship and praise.

Not least among these dedications was one the on commemorating the patron saint of music, St. Cecilia, who is generally believed to have been arrested for burying two brothers whom she had converted to Christianity and were martyred for their faith. Cecelia was tried and sentenced to death, but several attempts to kill her failed but she finally succumbed to her injuries somewhere around the year 230 A.D. Remembered for the passion with which she sang the praises of God, Cecilia is often depicted in art playing the organ and several choral works and mass settings have been dedicated to her.

Three other composers of motets, hymns and anthems are also remembered this week, namely William Byrd, John Merbecke and Thomas Tallis, all of whom lived and worked in Chapels Royal and cathedrals at the height of the Reformation in the 1500’s.

Another great hymn writer, Isaac Watts, is also celebrated. Watts wrote more the 600 hymns, a quarter of which are still in current use. Among these are:-

Jesus Shall Reign; Joy to the World; I Sing the Power of God and that wonderful Passion hymn “When I Survey The Wondrous Cross” whose last stanza reads, (one of the most inspirational verses in my opinion):

“Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were an offering far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.”

Now we are anxiously awaiting the return of our wonderful organ and with the help of our talented choir and musicians, we shall be able to enjoy the wondrous music written by these persons and other modern composers to whom we are gradually being introduced and praise and worship the Lord with song and psalm each and every Sunday.

Gifts to Glorify the Lord (GtGtL) Update

At the time of The Word publication, we are still awaiting a definitive delivery date for our restored JD Moore organ. John & Kristin Farmer and their staff have been busily working to draw our project to a successful conclusion and prepare the organ for its safe return to our Sanctuary. For us serving on GtGtL, this Advent season of waiting and anticipation is combined with much waiting and anticipation for the organ. Please continue to keep us, our project and the Farmers & staff in your prayers, and please look for additional weekly updates in the December Sunday bulletins and E-news.

-Marty Brady

Annual Holiday Bazaar Summary

Proceeds from this year’s Bazaar will benefit the St. Timothy’s Building Reserve fund that provides long-term maintenance via Building & Grounds. This year was a transition year as GtGtL handed the event off to B&G and thanks to all the wonderful volunteers and craft vendors, it was a very successful event. A total of \$1468 was raised for the Reserve. **THANK you to all who participated either as a vendor, volunteer or buyer!!**

-Marty Brady

Are we an endangered species?

Many years ago, coal miners customarily took caged canaries with them into underground mines to warn of dangerous carbon monoxide and methane accumulations in the subterranean air they breathed. If a canary dropped dead, it was time to exit the mine — quickly.

For many years, we humans have had similar dire warnings when hazardous toxins contaminate the environment in which we live — hundreds of dead fish floating in poisoned streams; the disappearance or decrease of birds and other wildlife from septic habitats; hideous biological deformities among some species; incapacitating and often fatal diseases; and the like. In many such instances, we humans, too, have been affected by environmental contamination just as animals have. Studies show that city children growing up near heavily traveled interstate highways have a higher incidence of chronic asthma and other pulmonary disorders than do kids living in rural areas. Statistics indicate that urban residents breathing polluted air — even those who don't smoke tobacco — suffer a greater risk of contracting lung cancer than do country folks. And the current case of Flint, Michigan, offers a startlingly troublesome example of lead contaminating a city's supposedly safe and reliable supply of drinking water.

The list, unfortunately, goes on. In one sense, King Solomon cautioned us about this in the *Holy Bible*. It's found at Ecclesiastes 3:19-21 in the Old Testament: "For the fate of humans and the fate of animals is the same; as one dies, so dies the other. They all have the same breath, and humans have no advantage over the animals; for all is vanity. All go to one place; all are from the dust, and all turn to dust again. Who knows whether the human spirit does upward and the spirit of animals goes downward to the earth?" Some scholars interpret that biblical passage as seeming to indicate animals, too, might have souls and go to heaven when they die. For ardent pet lovers, that's a comforting thought — that a cherished dog or cat could join them in heaven. But, as Solomon asked, "Who knows . . .?"

Then there's Lewis Regenstein, president of The Interfaith Council for the Protection of Animals and Nature, an affiliate of The Human Society of the United States, and author of the near

encyclopedic *America the Poisoned: How Deadly Chemicals Are Destroying Our Environment, Our Wildlife, Ourselves and — How We Can Survive!* (Acropolis Books, Ltd., Washington, D.C., 1982) -- "We should have known better than to think we could poison our environment and our wildlife but not be affected ourselves," Regenstein wrote nearly 35 years ago, citing Solomon's biblical passage. "As the Bible tells us, the fates of humans and of animals are intertwined . . . In light of what we have learned in recent years, we can no longer plead ignorance. The predictable — and predicted — results of our massive and indiscriminate use of these poisons are now showing up as epidemics of cancer, miscarriages, birth defects, and other health disorders."

Beware. Our canaries, indeed, are dying.

(Article courtesy of the Creation Care Alliance, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Kilmarnock, Virginia)
-submitted by Craig Dubishar

The Closet of Greater Herndon

The Closet of Greater Herndon has moved back to its home location on Station Street — beside the veterinary and two doors north of Great Harvest Bread in downtown Herndon.

During its temporary move many improvements were made:

- tile floor installed in sales area
- repaired the roof
- widened door to dressing rooms
- relocated the service desk
- new racks and shelving installed
- freshly painted sales area

The Closet accepts donations Monday through Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Closet sales hours are Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Saturdays 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

If you would like to volunteer at The Closet please contact Maria Lally at marielally@yahoo.com or Holly Hartge at mhhvirginia@verizon.net and to learn more about The Closet check out their Facebook site.

-Holly Hartge

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
432 Van Buren Street, Herndon, VA 20170
Voice: 703.427.3790 Fax: 703.787.9781
www.saint-timothys.org

The Word is published monthly and emailed to members and friends the first week of the month. It also appears on the website. If you wish to receive a copy by mail, please notify the church office (office@saint-timothys.org). Copies of The Word are also available in the office.

**Submission Deadline for the next issue:
 Wednesday, December 20, 2016**

2016 Vestry

	<i>Terms expire January 2019</i>
<i>Terms Expires January 2017</i>	Eugene Nkomba, VoCoSum 703.715.8667 nkimba@gmail.com
Robert Henry, Sr. Warden 571.235.9466 rsh27892@gmail.com	Susy Nixon, Worship/ Music 703.437.0370 senixon@verizon.net
Stephanie Kenis, Communications 703.850.8104 Stephanie.kenis@verizon.net	Hollis Colie, Youth/CE 703.787.0272 Hollis211@aol.com
Bob Kimmel, Latino 703.437.3157 rkimmel818@verizon.net	Bill Outerbridge Sewardship 703.860.8537 outerbridge@aol.com
Larry Grantham, Service 703.450.4941 granthamlb@aol.com	<i>Officers</i>
<i>Terms expires January 2018</i>	Jean Shepherd, Treasurer jbshep78@gmail.com
Vilma Lemus Majano Open Arms /Hospitality 240.299.5522 lemusvilma3@gmail.com	Rose Berberich, Registrar 703.471.4988 rberberich@cox.net
Hal Hallett, Building & Grounds 703.793.5219 hal_hallett@verizon.net	
Genevieve Zetlan, Jr. Warden 703.475.9951 gzetlan@gmail.com	Office Hours M-Th: 9 am-6 pm Fri: 9 am – 1 pm For Appointment, please call 703.437.3790
Duane Hartge 703.318.8292 Duane.Hartge@verizon.net	

We have many active congregants who have been attending and donating to St Timothy's for many years who are not registered members. Our goal is to aid the transfer of all congregants interested in being registered members of St. Timothy's, Non-registered members can participate in all aspects of church worship except serving on the Vestry or participating in elections. However, the more registered members St. Timothy's has recorded the more delegates we can send to the conventions (thus giving us a stronger vote in diocesan matters).

If we don't have an email address for you and your family, or if your email has changed, update your information at www.saint-timothys.org or send the information to office@saint-timothys.org. 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) or fill out the Parishioner Information Form: www.saint-timothys.org/uploads/docs/info-form.pdf

Rector:

The Rev. Anne Turner
 703.437.3790, x 12
annet@saint-timothys.org

Director of Children and Youth Ministries

Mrs. Christine Hoyle
 703.437.3790, x 17
christineh@saint-timothys.org

Director, Parish Operations

Mr. Kevin Hamilton
 703.437.3790, x 10
kevinh@saint-timothys.org

Service Times:

Sundays: 8:00 am Eucharist, Rite 1
Sundays 10:00 am Rite II service with Holy Communion
 Godly Play ages 3-2nd grade
 SPARK+, 3-5th grade
 Christian Ed
 Nursery Care

Wednesday: 12:15 pm, Eucharist and Healing Service
Saturday: 7:30 pm Santa Eucharista

Vestry Update

October Giving: **\$53,520**

Revised 2016 Budgeted Giving: \$54,250

October Expenses: \$42,371

During the November Vestry meeting, held on November 28, The Vestry heard a report from Stewardship. 101 Pledges have been collected so far, for a total of \$399,812. Last year there were 161 pledges totally \$517,772. Stewardship reported that we have 13 new pledgers. While total pledges received are fewer than 2015 thus far, pledge amounts are up an average of 5%. Announcements will be made at Services to remind people to turn in pledge cards so the Vestry can anticipate budgeted income for 2017. Confirmations of pledges and their amounts will be sent to those who turn in a pledge card.

The Treasurer reported that a new credit card processing company is being selected which has lower costs and which allows individuals to manage their own credit card giving. The Vestry reviewed a Draft budget presented by the Treasurer for 2017, which included a modified income format to account for fundraising income. Given the anticipated giving for 2017, some Ministries with designated fund accounts may be asked to draw from those accounts until giving is anticipated to recover upon the hiring of a new permanent rector. Jeanne Bennet, Diocesan Convention representative, spoke to encourage the Vestry to raise our Region pledge by \$50 in 2017. The full budget as passed by the Vestry will be presented to the congregation at the Annual Meeting in January.

Susy Nixon reported that we do not yet have a date for the Organ's return and reinstallation. Paul Farmer is supposed to give us a date by November 30.

Christmas Eve services will be bilingual at the 7 pm service, and Christmas Day and New Year's Day services will be held only at 10 am. Vestry Elections will be January 8, with the Vestry retreat on January 21.

The December Vestry meeting is scheduled to take place at 7:30 pm on December 19 in B1. Vestry meetings are open and any member of the congregation is welcome to attend. Our Registrar will post complete DRAFT Vestry Minutes [online here](#).