

The Word

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

December 2017

A Message from our Rector

Dear Friends,

Much of our Advent preparation and Christmas Celebration use the theme of light to convey their message. This year I would like to introduce a new event at St. Timothy's called Christmas Revels that also uses light to convey a spiritual truth. Some Episcopal churches are beginning to celebrate an old tradition on or around the time of the Winter Solstice, which is December 21. The Winter Solstice is the day of the year when there is the least amount of sun light. The next day is the point at which the length of day light begins to increase incrementally.

The Celts marked this day as a turning point in their nature based religion long before the Christians arrived in Britain. They would go out into their fields on this night and build bon fires to drive away the darkness. Of course, along with the fire went drinking and carousing. Our version will be a bit tamer, but it will include joy and creativity. Like the Celts we will have an outside fire suitable for the making of S'mores.

I am inviting members of the congregation either individually or in groups to offer a gift at the Christmas Revels. The gift could be a song, poem, skit or other creative endeavor. One way 21st Century Christians can drive away the darkness is to allow the Holy Spirit to work through us in our creativity and celebration of Jesus' birth.

As Jesus is the light of the world it is appropriate to prepare for his birth by driving away the darkness using these offerings of creativity and love. Let your imagination free and join us for fun! No one must come up with something, but everyone is



invited to create something. We will gather on Friday, December 22, at 6:00 p.m. on the lawn outside the church. If it snows, we will still be outside. If it rains we will be inside *sans* fire.

Happy Advent,

Father Rich



Vestry Report

November 2017

October Giving: \$88,494

Budgeted Giving: \$47,223

YTD Expenses vs. Income: \$36,541

At the November vestry meeting Director of Parish Operations Kevin Hamilton presented a Welcoming and Assimilation Plan which included recommendations for inviting and embracing newcomers in a process connected to our mission statement. Proposals include a new logo for the church, refreshing the website, new signage, a Narthex refresh with a Welcome center, and a volunteer role for a Guest Services Coordinator to oversee the first-time guest process. The [full report can be found here](#).

Fr. Rich proposed starting a new service at 9 am in Henry Hall sometime during Lent. This service would be a half hour Children and Family service in English, and St. Timothy's would advertise it in the community and via direct mail. The vestry unanimously voted its approval of the idea.

Treasurer Duane Hartge presented the October Treasurer's Report, noting that we received a \$14,000 donation in addition to the \$28,000 raised thus far to close our 2017 budget gap. Together these donations put us very close to eliminating the gap entirely. Another anonymous parishioner has volunteered an additional \$5,000 in matching contributions between now and the end of the year. Any extra marked donations to the General Fund through December 31 will be matched, up to \$5,000. If we achieve the entire match, we can finish the year with net positive cash flow. Our current balance looks very good, primarily because a number of large expenditures had not hit.

Duane reminded liaisons to have their ministries submit all bills by December 15 so they can clear and close out end of year 2017 finances. Duane also presented an initial draft budget, which will be refined before being voted on at the December Vestry meeting.

John Nixon presented Stewardship campaign results. So far, we have collected 107 pledges totaling \$353,957.80. The good news is that

returning pledgers have overall increased their pledge by 5%, and there are brand new 18 new pledgers (pledging \$39,530). The more difficult news that is about 40 pledgers from 2017, totaling \$123,072, have not yet returned pledges for 2018. About \$40,000 of that is attributable to congregants who have died or moved away. Without additional pledges, St. Timothy's is facing the prospect of passing a deficit budget for 2018.

Susy Nixon and Sandy Wright reported on the Virginia Diocesan Convention. Bishop Ted Gulick is planning to retire, and Bishop Shannon Johnston has requested another Suffragan Bishop. While the search process is underway, there will be an Interim Bishop. The new Bishop will likely be elected in November 2018. All 11 resolutions passed at Convention, and the recap and resolutions can be read here: <http://www.thediocese.net/who-we-are/governance/annual-convention/223rd-annual-convention-/>

Genevieve Zetlan reported that the Search Committee will be thanked and honored by the Vestry on December 3 at the 10 am service.

Fr. Rich reported that he was pursuing the steps necessary to bring a Seminarian to St. Timothy's, likely in the Fall of 2018. He is also reviewing staff position descriptions, and plans to extend Roger Long's position as Interim Music Director for an additional 6 months while he does that. Once new descriptions are developed, Roger Long would be given right of first refusal on the position.

Draft minutes can be viewed [online here](#) once they are available. The meeting closed with the singing of the Doxology.

Genevieve Zetlan, Sr. Warden



On the occasion of the Rector's installment, Vidai Genovez offers Fr. Rich a gift from the St. Timothy's Spanish-speaking congregants

A Message from the Spanish Service Ministry

Dear beloved in Christ,

It is my first time writing to you through our monthly newsletter, *The Word*. Advent has begun, and with this time the countdown to 2017. Advent reminds us of the arrival of Our Savior to our lives, the one who one day left His Throne of Grace to be born in a manger in Bethlehem, a little over two thousand years ago, the same Baby of Bethlehem is presented every day in our lives. Today, as we prepare to remember His arrival to this world on this Holiday of Advent 2017, it is also necessary that we ask ourselves a question, examining how many times the same Jesus that was born in you and in me, and in those that we recognize him as our Savior, has come to our lives asking for a coat, a piece of bread, a word of comfort, a moment of company because he needed to be heard, etc. and we have ignored him?

The Sermon on Christ the King's Service drew my attention and made me remember about our mission as children of God: "share His love to others in all possible dimensions" but on several occasions we limit the love of God to one very famous phrase: "My thoughts and prayers are with you" but there is much beyond that, we must do works that involve moving in faith as well ("So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead" James 2:17 ESV) in other words, this is what happens with faith: by

itself, that is, if it is not demonstrated with facts, it is a dead thing. That is why in this time of Advent in which we traditionally await the birth of our Savior, let us remember that He was already born and in us, let's activate His love and let's move our hearts to share without barriers the love with which Christ loves us and may this Christmas be a rebirth of our hearts and our Christian life to share the love of the Child who was born in Bethlehem more than two thousand years ago who was wanted for three men from The East to adore him even without knowing him. May the joy of this Christmas fill our hearts.

Merry Christmas and a 2018 full of many blessings to you. Let me tell you in Spanish: ***Feliz Navidad un bendecido 2018.***

May God bless your lives.

Vidai Genovez-Andres
Spanish Service

The Rector's Discretionary Fund

Over the last several years the balance in the Rector's Discretionary Fund has increased to an unusual amount. This is a result of not having a Rector in place for almost two years. After discussing the issue with the Vestry I have decided to give a portion of that money to St. Timothy's for the purpose of supporting our Latino Ministry over the next two years. I think this is in keeping with the guidelines established for the use of these funds as they will aid primarily immigrants and those struggling to make ends meet. That being said, the reason I am sharing this information with the congregation is for the sake of transparency. I want to avoid any misunderstandings and ask that those who would like more detailed information to please contact me with your questions. This is a onetime gift that I believe will most effectively support some of the most vulnerable members of our congregation and citizens of our town.

Going forward I will continue to use the Rector's Discretionary Fund for emergency help to those in our community who are in crisis or struggling to pay end of the month bills. Since arriving at St. Timothy's I have used the Rector's Discretionary Fund to provide medicine, food, help with burial,

and prevention of utility shut-off. This is an important fund in our church as it does so much good behind the scenes. I want to personally thank everyone who gives to this fund, and ask you to continue to do so. While I do not know the names of individuals who give, I greatly appreciate the generosity and the willingness of St. Timothy's members to share from the abundance they have been given. Your gifts to the Rector's Discretionary Fund provide an invaluable service to the people of Herndon and the surrounding communities.

Thank you so much.

Father Rich

Poetry Corner

“The Door to my Heart”
by Jill Cox

The door of the calendar tightly shut
Waits for small fingers to open, but
What if the prize was not chocolate, nor toy
That starts this season of feast and joy.
Each door might reveal the true state of things
That poverty, war and self-interest brings.
Instead of a bell or a tree or a star,
There might be a flood or famine in land afar.
No candy, no stocking no doll be revealed
But misery and hunger tightly concealed.
Behind such closed door in each heart and mind
Prevents God's great plan for all of mankind.

So, the door of my heart might show a child
Asleep in the arms of a mother mild,
Or soft clothes to ease all chill and cold
Or a book with old story to always be told.
A door of my heart might show a flower,
Whose color and scent gives me the power
To brighten the day of the infirm and ill
And bring God's love to comfort them still.
A door to my heart might bring a star,
Which might shine on people in land afar

And give them some hope of help on the way
From people who never have to regret a day.
So I will open the doors to my heart and so pray
That our dear Lord will show me the way
To serve all His people and share His great love
Sent as a baby from Heaven above.

When all doors are open and each gift exposed
Then will the Spirit of Christmas be fully unclosed.
And doors to my heart will never be shut
So hard to crack open like a hard nut,
But open with joy to receive true inspiration
Of care, help and service and generous donation
To those in great need and in sheer desperation
In lands far away and in our own nation.



The Anglican Communion's Global Advent Calendar

Be part of the Anglican Communion's Global Advent Calendar. It's an innovative way to engage in the season of Advent with people all over the world. Simply respond to the daily meditation emailed to you with images and prayers that speak to your heart. Your images and prayers will appear in the Advent Calendar with others from around the world. Join us as we anticipate the coming of Christ, the fulfillment of our deepest longings. Sign up at www.adventword.org.

The Anglican Communion with the Society of Saint John the Evangelist Brothers invite you to:

- Sign up
- Pray through Advent
- Use your phone camera

Help create a Global Advent Calendar.

On Twitter & Instagram tag images and posts with #adventword & the tag for the day. Make sure that there is a space between the tags for example:

#adventword #shine.

On Facebook go to the AdventWord Page and write on page using #adventword & the tag for the day.

Visit: www.instagram.com/adventword

Visit: www.twitter.com/adventword

Visit: www.facebook.com/AdventWordOrg



Membership Records Update for Adult Children of Members

Any families in the system that have children turning 21 this year, please note the following information about our records update. Adult children (turning 21 or older) are being designated as their own record and will be labeled as a friend and family member of the church. If the adult child is an active member, please have them supply their current address, phone number, and email address to St. Timothy's or if easier to nikki.omalley@gmail.com. If the Adult Child does

not contact us, they will not receive regular mailings or birthday greetings so please encourage them to do so if they still attend. Thank you!

Next Baptismal Sunday

The next Baptismal Sunday is January 7, 2018. Anyone desiring to be baptized or to have a child baptized should contact Father Rich at 703-437-3790 or by email at rbardusch@saint-timothys.org immediately. Those who are to be baptized are to have at least two Godparents, both of whom must be baptized and members of a Christian church. It is permitted to have more than two God-parents, but two is the minimum.

Godparent preparation is scheduled for Wednesday, January 3, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in the church. Those adults being baptized and Godparents for all candidates must be present. Young children do not need to be present, but may if their parents wish it.

“Sponsors of adults and older children present their candidates and thereby signify their endorsement of the candidates and their intention to support them by prayer and example in their Christian life. Sponsors of infants, commonly called godparents, present their candidates, make promises in their own names, and also take vows on behalf of their candidates.”

It is fitting that a parent be included among the godparents of their own children. Parents and godparents are to be instructed in the meaning of Baptism, in their duties to help the new Christians grow in the knowledge and love of God, and in their responsibilities as members of his Church.” Book of Common Prayer, page 298.

2017 Vestry with Liaison Assignments

Genevieve Zetlan (2018) – Senior Warden
gzetlan@gmail.com

Eugene Nkomba (2019) – Junior Warden
nkomba@gmail.com
703-715-8667

Terms Expire 2020

Vidai Genovez (Andres) - Spanish Service/Misa en Espanol
vidaigenovez@live.com

Elizabeth Witter – Communications
egwitter789@gmail.com
703-244-7940 (C)

Sandy Wright – Pastoral Care
quiltdiva730@gmail.com

Gerritt Peck – Service
gpeck14@su.edu
571-232-0113

Terms Expire 2019

Hollis Colie – Formation
hollis211@gmail.com
703-499-7936 (C)

Bill Outerbridge – Stewardship
outerbridge@aol.com
703-860-8537

Susy Nixon - Worship
senixon@verizon.net
703-437-0370

Terms Expire 2018

Duane Hartge – Finance
duane.hartge@gmail.com
703-318-8292

Vilma Lemus Majano - Fellowship
lemusvilma3@gmail.com
240-299-5522

Hal Hallett – Buildings & Grounds
hal.hallett@verizon.net
hhallett@blm.gov
703-793-5219 (H) 202-557-1397 (C)





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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.

Service Times:

Saturday: 7:30 pm Santa Eucharista

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

Rector

The Rev. Dr. Rich Bardusch

Director, Parish Operations

Mr. Kevin Hamilton

kevinh@saint-timothys.org

703.437.3790, x 10

Interim Director of Music

Mr. Roger Long

rogerl@saint-timothys.org

703.437.3790 x.16

Bookkeeper

Mr. Fernanda Marinkovic

bookkeeper@saint-timothys.org

703.437.3790 x.13

Welcome New Members

We want to warmly welcome new members, including the newly baptized, to the St. Timothy's family:

+New Members 2017 (B: Baptism, C: Confirmation, R: Reception or T: Transfer)

11/5/2017

Elise Hein Flusche (B)

Please be aware that there are MANY active congregants who have been attending and donating to St. Timothy's for many years that 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 congregants can participate in all aspects of church worship with the exception of serving on the Vestry and participating in elections. However, the more registered members St. Timothy's has recorded the more delegates we can send to the conventions, giving us a stronger vote in Diocese 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

Submission Deadline for the next issue:

Wednesday, December 27, 2017

Submit to Ian Smith at

ids227@gmail.com



"Being a Christian is not essentially about joining a church or being a nice person, but about following in the footsteps of Jesus, taking his teachings seriously, letting his Spirit take the lead in our lives, and in so doing helping to change the world from our nightmare into God's dream."

Michael Curry
Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church
An excerpt from *Crazy Christians: A Call to Follow Jesus*