

The WORD

October 2025

Dear St. Timothy's Family,

I recently received a beautiful email from the Scoutmaster of St. Timothy's Troop 159 with the title "Campfire Fading." The message stated that the leaders of the troop had made the difficult decision to disband. It's a beautiful email, and I have reprinted it in this issue of The WORD with permission.

I share this because it relates to the topic of volunteering and the challenges and opportunities related to our shared ministry at St. Tim's. In [last month's issue](#) of the WORD, I detailed some of the exciting changes in our ministries over the course of this calendar year. I ended by promising, in a month's time, to "highlight some gaps in our ministries and emphasize inviting all of you to consider joining in the holy laboring that is doing the work of St. Timothy's Church."



When thinking on this subject, the Biblical image of pruning (John 15:1-2) comes to mind as I am reminded how ministry is constantly evolving and changing. There are seasons of growth, seasons of decline, and seasons of pruning. Thus, with the Boy Scouts, we are saddened that the Troop is disbanding, but we give thanks for the decades of fellowship and Scouting that did occur.

We do a lot at St. Timothy's, and we do so much well. The "secret sauce" is calibrating our ministries so that:

- A) We are doing the urgent work that God is calling us to do, including adding new ministries.
- B) We are able to say goodbye to the ministries that have run their course.
- C) We are constantly working to make sure that the existing ministries have enough support in terms of volunteers, funding, etc.

This month, our Stewardship Campaign 2026 will detail the funding aspect, and it will draw attention to the "treasure" needed to support our ministries monetarily. Here I would like to share the "time" and "talent" part of stewardship.

I will begin by naming some Sunday morning ministries that are in need of volunteers:

Ushers: Our 10 AM service has only 6 ushers on its roster; three pairs rotate with some teams serving more than once a month. **Might you consider becoming an Usher?** Please email [Rick Wilson](#) if you feel so called.

Coffee Hour: Everyone enjoys coffee hour. It's a time after our 10 AM service where we can gather and chat. Some even call it a "Sacrament" in the Episcopal Church! It is entirely volunteer run, however, and it also tends to be carried out by a small number of folks. Sign-up [here](#) or you can always email [Brooke Nunnally](#).

We have other ministries that require a different type of commitment and gifts. These entail the (dreaded?) committee work that feature planning and decision-making over a sustained period of time. Here are a few in need of support:

Shrine Mont Retreat Coordinator: Rob Huizar has done a magnificent job leading our Shrine Mont retreat. Rob also currently serves as our Junior Warden, however, a position which tends to feed into becoming Senior Warden. Since Rob already has helped make Shrine Mont such a success that our **next Shrine Mont Retreat coordinator** is a good role to step into. If anyone thinks that they might have the gifts to help Rob in this role, please contact [Rob](#).

Haiti Ministry: We have been supporting our friends at St. Mathieu's in Chapoteau for over a decade. Every year we have an Agape fundraiser that raises money for the school and, despite our distance, we remain connected to our brothers and sisters in Haiti. Many folks give generously every year to this school. The **Haiti Ministry** proper, however, consists of just a couple of folks faithfully carrying the weight of this important ministry for years. Please contact [Carolyn Hamm](#) to see how you can participate.

Christian Education: Saint Timothy's currently has no formal Christian Education "Committee." As of this writing, the CE Programs (Godly Play, Adult Education, Vacation Bible School, etc.) are coordinated by staff (me!) and keep growing *despite* that lack of overall direction. One program that is particularly short-staffed is our Weekly Sunday School program for 'tweens and teens. Alex and Matt Schumann gamely collect our youth every Sunday and do a short faith lesson outside or in the Youth Room during the 10 AM service. When they are not there, it does not occur. Even worse, they have not heard a Sermon of mine in years 😊. **We desperately need trusted adults to help out with our youth!** Please let [me](#) know if you are so inclined.

Buildings & Grounds: The perpetual church bugaboo! Our campus is thousands of square feet on 8 acres. As Andy Hamm once told me: "it's like taking care of eight separate good-sized houses." The building and its grounds are the lifeblood our parish, maintaining them to do ministry effectively and safely is holy work. We have doors to be replaced, HVAC to be fixed, IT to be serviced, elevators to be checked, trash & recycling to be managed. The list goes on and on. Any jobs that can be done "in house" thus avoiding expensive contractors are greatly appreciated. **Please see the "advertisement" later in this issue for the types of jobs needed.**

Stewardship: Finally, we also currently have no Stewardship Committee. All of the work for the Annual Stewardship Campaign is done by Church Staff. I list this Ministry last because a lot of people don't like being asked for money, and almost everyone does not like being the one asking for it! Never fear, we have that taken care of. **What is needed are folks gifted in marketing, graphic design, editing, spreadsheeting, and finance.** The added plus: you get to work with me! Email me at stewardship@saint-timothys.org.

In closing, I fear that I might have left out other ministries that also need mentioning. But I am almost on to my third page, so it's time to wrap it up. I will close though with this note, as a word of advice to any ministry looking to recruit. Here are some tried-and-true steps needed to get more folks involved in your

ministry:

- 1) *Put it in the ENEWS* (people tend, however, to ignore those after a few times)
- 2) *Mention in my October WORD article* (what you are reading now)
- 3) *Mention it during Announcements* (the classic "Pulpit Pitch")

Those are all well and good. My favorite is the following:

4) *You and I can walk ourselves through the Directory and make personal 'asks' of folks who might be interested.*

Please consider the above in bold and also consider yourself warned about #4!

Yours in Christ,

CHARLES+

Reverend Charles,

Saturday September 20, 2025

Troop 159 has enjoyed wonderful support from St Timothy's for 40+ years. I am sorry to share that, despite our best efforts over the last 3-4 years, we have been unable to reverse the downward trend of Troop membership.

Early in 2024 we received an influx of three new Scouts, this was a breath of fresh air (and fuel) which allowed us to continue implementing engaging meetings and activities for the Scouts. Unfortunately, this did not infuse the critical mass needed to sustain the program. The Troop Committee had to make the unfortunate decision to dissolve the Troop: something we never wanted to do.

In the hopes that the remaining Scouts might be able to continue on their own Scouting journeys, we have suggested they Transfer to other local area Troops.

Again, at St Timothy's, Troop 159 has benefited from an extremely supportive Chartered Organization. We want to make a smooth transition and, as part of this, are offering to clean out Scouting - and possibly other - equipment/materials from the Attic. We can work with the office on particular dates and, to help identify what other items in the attic we could help clean out while we collect the Troop Gear. We'd probably do this as a clean-out + Pizza Party and cast a wide net of current and past members.

Personally, it has been a pleasure to get to know you. I expect to continue to volunteer in Scouting in some capacity and hope there are future opportunities to serve the St Timothy's community through Scouting (Parking Lot support 2026???).

Yours in Scouting,

Enrique Lara
Troop 159 Scoutmaster

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



We Need Help From You!

**Training and Support
Provided**

- ✓ Inspect Building and Grounds
- ✓ IT Skills
- ✓ Software Updates
- ✓ Phone Technologies
- ✓ Painting and Minor Repairs
- ✓ Work with Contractors



IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN
HELPING AND SHARING
YOUR TALENTS, PLEASE
CONTACT THE CHURCH
OFFICE AT OFFICE@SAINT-TIMOTHYS.ORG.

Your paragraph text

News from the Service Ministry

Autumn is in the air and with it comes beautiful fall colors, bountiful harvests and festive celebrations such as Halloween, Dia de los Muertos, Oktoberfest, Diwali, and Thanksgiving. While many of us look forward to cooler nights, shorter days, and wearing sweaters, some of our neighbors will find this time of year more difficult. Many families in our community will be stretching their family budget to buy warm winter clothing and are already worrying about heating bills, not to mention putting food on the table. School is underway and children with working parents need safe after school care. Resources that have previously been available to support families in need are in short supply right now due to reduced government support to schools and other social services for the poor.

What does that look like in our community? The Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) website provides the following:

- Over 35% of the FCPS student population are economically disadvantaged (meaning they qualify for free or reduced-price meals (FRPM))
- Three of Herndon's elementary schools are classified as Title 1, with 57% or more students eligible for FRPM (Herndon, Hutchison, Clearview).
- FCPS identified 1,936 homeless students as of April 2023 and estimated that more than 2,300 students would experience homelessness in the 2024-2025 school year.

Children living in poverty are likely to suffer from hunger, anxiety, sadness, isolation and fear. Organizations like Cornerstones, LINK, FISH, She Believes in Me, and others, often supported by faith communities like Saint Timothy's, work hard to offer wrap-around support that includes food and rental assistance, out-of-school-time programs, emotional support, and to address other human services challenges experienced by too many families in our neighborhood.

St. Timothy's supports food insecurity through LINK, and partners with Cornerstones for back-to-school drives, gifts for kids' programs, hypothermia meals, and support to the local community shelter. In the next upcoming weeks, the Service Ministry will be identifying ways to support and build community beyond the walls of our sanctuary - by "***putting your faith to work" for our neighbors.***

Thank you, St. Timothy's for, making a difference in our community!

LINK Fall Food Drive

The Service Ministry will be hosting the last food drive of the year in October. We will be handing out the blue bags on October 12th and collecting food on the following two Sundays (October 19th and October 26th). The bags will have a list of items that are most in need. In particular, we appreciate non-perishable vegetables such as onions and potatoes and fruits such as apples and oranges/clementines. Blue bags may also be picked up at the office during business hours and you can drop food off anytime at the LINK basket as you approach Henry Hall. The food we collect will go to families who need help during the Thanksgiving and Christmas season.

More Bang for Your Buck - Want to donate items to LINK without spending a dime?

For those on Medicare, check to see if your Medicare plan provides a monthly "use it or lose it" stipend for you to spend on Over the Counter items. Any money not spent at the end of the month is lost. Why not use that money to buy items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, protein drinks and shaving cream etc. and donate them to LINK? Blue Cross and Blue Shield offer this program and other Medicare programs may as well. This is a win/win situation. You use up your excess benefits and LINK receives much needed items as well.

Many of you have Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs) where you need to spend money by the end of the calendar year. If you have excess money, you can spend unused money on Over-the-Counter Medications and products. LINK would be grateful if you would consider donating to LINK by buying needed items with the unused balance of your FSA account.

Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Hamm



**Spooktacular
Pipe Organ
Concert!**



Featuring...
Todd Grivetti
on
St. Timothy's Pipe Organ

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24 AT 7:30 PM

*** Halloween costumes are welcomed and encouraged! ***
-Reception to follow in Henry Hall-

Preschool Corner

Our hallways are once again filled with belly laughs & little giggles, the sounds of tiny little “walking” feet, and the walls are beginning to showcase our beautiful student artwork. St. Timothy’s Pre-School’s 51st year is off to a great start!

We want to give a huge **THANK YOU** to the members of the church for supporting our fall catalog fundraiser! It was a huge success, thanks in no small part to the orders and donations from parishioners.

October promises to be a busy month with our 2nd Annual Scholastic Book Fair, our 5th Annual Trunk-or-Treat event, and our annual Halloween Parade and Festival for the current students and their families. So much fun to be had!

Once again this year the Scholastic Book Fair is a combined Church/Preschool event. We are setting up on Monday, October 13th, and the Book Fair will continue through Sunday, October 19th. Those of us who love books – and who doesn’t? – are looking forward to seeing Henry Hall transformed into a book store for the week! For information about the Book Fair, online ordering, setting up an eWallet for the child in your life who might be shopping the fair, or the Share the Fair program for getting books to students who cannot afford them, please visit the preschool’s Book Fair web site at <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/sttimothypresch>. For information about volunteer opportunities and to sign up to help, please visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4EACAE2FA4F5CF8-58993454-scholastic> or contact the preschool at sttimothypreschool432@gmail.com or 703-437-4767.

Our 5th Annual Trunk-or-Treat will be held on Saturday, October 25th from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. The actual trick-or-treating part starts at 11:00 a.m. This much anticipated event is a lot of fun for the youngsters and a fundraiser for the Pre-School. Some of our returning students have been planning their costumes since the beginning of the school year (or longer).

See the flyers on the next page for more information, hope to see you at one or more of these events!

Respectfully submitted by Allyson Showalter



St. Timothy's 5th Annual Trunk or Treat

all funds toward Pre-School & Playground Upgrades

What is Trunk or Treat?

Adults decorate cars and hand out treats from their trunks. Children dress in their Halloween costumes and go car to car collecting candy.

How do I decorate my trunk?

Decorating your trunk can be easy. It can be as elaborate or as simple as you wish. There are many great ideas like fall harvest, sports, animals, Legos, cartoons, games etc. Not creative? Just pop open your trunk, bring a lawn chair, put out a treat and enjoy all the wonderful costumes. Pinterest has many fun ideas if you need inspiration.

**Please remember this is a family event when planning your theme for your decorations. Try to avoid anything scary for the little ones. We all want to have a fun day together.*

When & Where?

SATURDAY, October 25th
St. Timothy's Parking Lot

9 a.m. – Parking lot opens for set up & decorating

10 a.m. - All participating cars must be in place

11 a.m. - Trick or Treating begins

Questions? Email

Sttimothypreschool432@gmail.com

In order for this event to be successful, all families participating must register their car and distribute a treat.



Registration for each family is \$25. All registrations must be received by Wednesday, October 22nd. Please email the Pre-School to register and inquire about payment options. Thank you for your participation and/or contribution. We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing your creative trunks and Halloween costumes!



BOOK FAIR

MONDAY, OCT 13 - SUNDAY OCT 19

OCT 14 STUDENT PREVIEW
9:30am - 12:00pm

OCT 15 OPEN TO SHOP 12:00pm - 2:00pm
5:00pm - 8:00pm



OCT 15-17 OPEN TO SHOP 9:30am - 3:30pm

OCT 18 OPEN TO SHOP 6:30pm - 8:00pm

OCT 19 OPEN TO SHOP 8:30am - 12:00 pm



For more info & online ordering, scan this QR code



For Volunteer Opportunities, scan this QR Code



Vestry 2025



Rick Wilson (2027) – *Senior Warden*
rwilson20@verizon.net
703-629-4972



Vilma Iveth Lemus Magano (2026)
lemusvilma3@gmail.com
240-299-5522



Wanda Rixon (2028)
SQueenofE@aol.com
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Midori Yanagihara (2026)
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Varun Lal (Alternate)
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Matt Schumann (2027)
matthew_schumann@hotmail.com
703-843-5465



Rob Huizar (2027) – *Junior Warden*
(713) 391-5214
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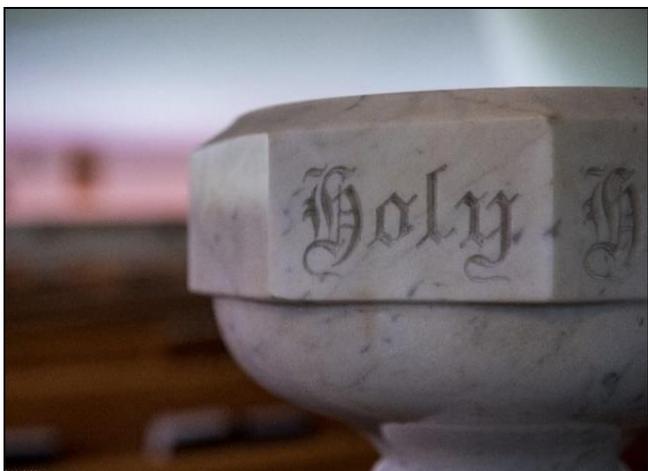
John McGrath (2028)
jdksmcgrath@verizon.net
(703) 376-1176



Johnny Ellis (2028)
Jellis.ems@gmail.com
845-926-7673



Emily Litz (2026)
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201-887-217



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

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Voice: 703-437-3790 Fax: 703-787-9781

www.saint-timothys.org

Service Times

Saturday:	7 pm	Spanish Service/Rite II
Sunday:	8 am	Rite I (English)
Sunday:	10 am	Rite II (English)

Also available via Zoom
(Livestream on
YouTube/
Facebook/Website)

Please check the website for up-to-date information about opportunities to worship.

Welcome New Members

To transfer your membership to St. Timothy's or to find out if you are a registered member, contact the church office (office@saint-timothys.org) or fill out the Parishioner Information Form.

Editor of The Word

Ron Boggio

wordeditor@saint-timothys.org

Submission deadline for the

November 2025 issue:

Thursday, October 25th

If we do not have an email address for you and your family, or if your email has changed, send the information to office@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.

Rector

The Rev. Charles R. Cowherd

priest@saint-timothys.org

703-437-3790 x12



Organist/Choirmaster

Mr. Todd Grivetti

music@saint-timothys.org

703-437-3790 x16



Parish Administrator

Ms. Deb Stolar

office@saint-timothys.org

703-437-3790



Bookkeeper

Ms. Deb Angerman

bookkeeper@saint-timothys.org

703-437-3790 x13

St. Timothy's Pre-School Director

Ms. Allyson Showalter

sttimothypreschool432@gmail.com

703-437-4767



Duane Hartge – Treasurer treasurer@saint-timothys.org
Rose Berberich - Registrar

Prayer for the Season of Pentecost

Spirit of God

Spirit of God, be for us joy, healing gift of love, creating a new heart. Longing to be spirit alive: very life of God, be rooted within us.

Voice which calls us beyond scattered dreams, barren days to receive and give of God's love.

May you kindle our hope in the morning of life; may you bring us peace with day's end.

'Though exalted our hopes no less real shall they be; in compassion faithfulness thrives.

Spirit of God, be for us joy, healing gift of love, creating a new heart, healing gift of love creating a new heart.

- *The Monks of Weston Priory*

