

The WORD

December 2025

Dear St. Timothy's Family,

One of my favorite pieces of Scripture is nestled in the Apocrypha, in the 44th Chapter of the Book of Ecclesiasticus (Sirach). I first discovered these verses not in church, but while reading Shelby Foote's magisterial *The Civil War- A Narrative* as a teenager. They open the second volume as an epigraph and their beauty and wisdom still resonate with me today.



Verses 7-10 read:

*All these were honoured in their generations,
and were the glory of their times.*

*There be of them, that have left a name behind them,
that their praises might be reported.*

*And some there be, which have no memorial;
who are perished, as though they had never been;
and are become as though they had never been born;
and their children after them.*

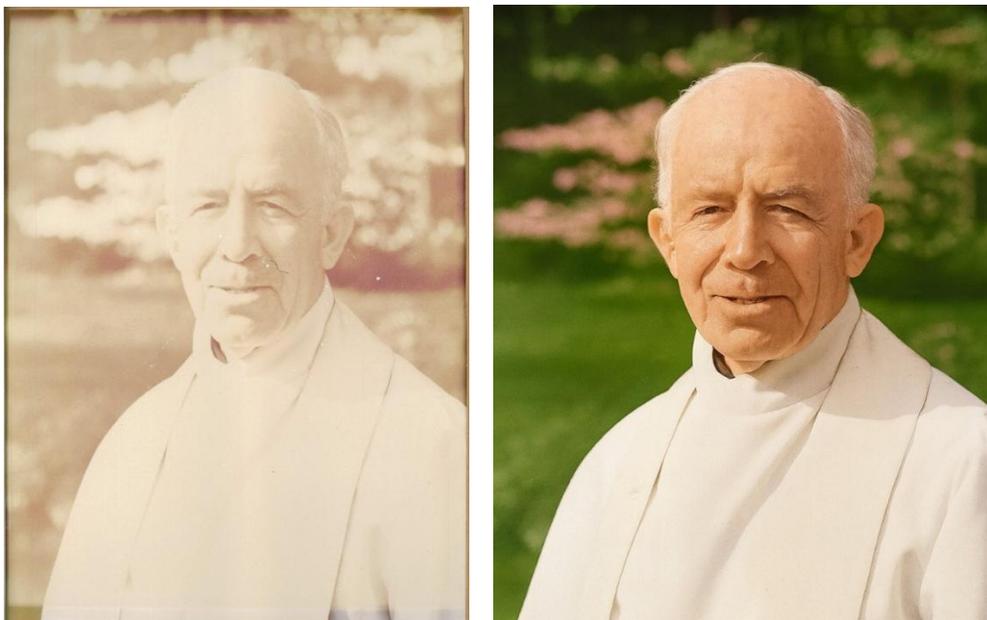
*But these were merciful men,
whose righteousness hath not been forgotten.*

Reading Foote and watching Ken Burns' *The Civil War* inaugurated a life-long interest in the American Civil War and in how history helps us to understand life.

Recently I have been watching Burns' *The American Revolution* and looking forward to, with both eagerness and trepidation, our country's 250th Anniversary next year. I am hoping that we can incorporate the *semiquincentennial* into our common life at St. Tim's in 2026, as we both celebrate our independence and reckon with the more difficult aspects of our past. Be on the lookout for opportunities to learn in the Sunday Adult Forum classes and to connect at fellowship offerings

Before we get there, I would like to share a few items from our parish history, specifically on a trio of my predecessors—indeed, *merciful men, whose righteousness hath not been forgotten*—who served here at St. Timothy's.

First, I have been thinking a lot, during our 2026 Stewardship Campaign, about John C. Henry's pastorate (Rector, 1958-1974) and his remarkable navigation of St. Timothy's from a "country" church in a "map dot" depot town into what it has become in succeeding decades. Henry's portrait in the hallway outside my office, however, is beginning to show its age, so we made the decision to replace it with an updated version. The indefatigable Andy Hamm took the original out of the frame and has lovingly restored it in vivid technicolor:



Needless to say, the restorative effort brings Henry's essence to life; his true likeness reveals a kind priest with a loving nature. As a fellow graduate of the Virginia Military Institute (2003 versus Henry's 1930), I have always felt a kinship with Father Henry and I am keen to hear more from (the dwindling number of) parishioners who knew him.

Following Father Henry was, of course, the Rev. Dr. Ralph Bayfield (Rector, 1974-1995.) Ralph's 2nd wife, Maeva Harris Bayfield, died this year on November 10. Maeva was also an Episcopal priest and was remembered by the Diocese of Virginia.



Thanks be to God for the life of **the Rev. Maeva Harris Bayfield**, who died on November 10, 2025. She was the spouse of the Rev. Ralph Bayfield, who is retired and served lengthy tenures at St. Timothy's, Herndon, and St. Thomas', Richmond.

A service will be held at **Shenandoah Valley Westminster-Canterbury, 300 Westminster-Canterbury Drive, Winchester**, on Sunday, Nov. 16, at 1:30pm.

Please keep the Bayfield family in your prayers.

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Grant, O Lord, to all who are bereaved the spirit of faith and courage, that they may have strength to meet the days to come with steadfastness and patience; not sorrowing as those without hope, but in thankful remembrance of your great goodness, and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. And this we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

- Book of Common Prayer p. 505

We have included Maeva in our prayers these last few weeks and will continue to pray for Ralph during this time. The order of service for the liturgy held at Westminster Canterbury can be found [here](#). The plan is to bury Maeva's ashes in her native Hawaii at some point in the months to come.

Finally, the Reverend Brad Rundlett (Rector, from 1994-2012) died on July 5th of this year. A memorial service was held in July, and his ashes were inurned in our Columbarium in September. A project to collect memories and pictures of Brad's tenure has been a labor of love but, as tends to happen with these sorts of things, it took a little longer than we thought to compile and edit all the remembrances. **I can report that the Reverend Brad Rundlett's Memorial Project has been completed! Hard copies of the document can be picked up at the church or you can click [here](#) for a digital copy (or on the image on the next page.) Copies can also be mailed to folks who are unable to pick them up in person.** My hope is that you read the stories about Father Brad and share them with your neighbor during this holiday season.

In these three examples, and in so many others in our life together, I am reminded of the great inheritance that we have received at St. Timothy's and the great future that God has afforded us on account of that legacy. Such a history indeed echoes the remaining words from Ecclesiasticus (44.11-14):

*With their seed shall continually remain a good inheritance,
and their children are within the covenant.*

*Their seed standeth fast,
and their children for their sakes.*

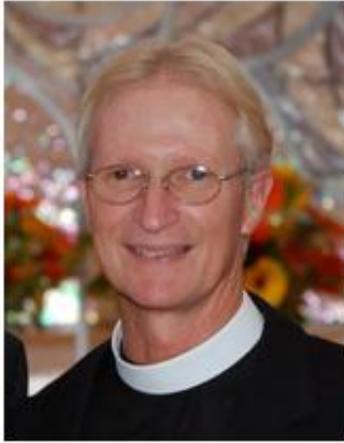
*Their seed shall remain for ever,
and their glory shall not be blotted out.*

*Their bodies are buried in peace;
but their name liveth for evermore.*

God Bless,

The Reverend Charles R. Cowherd
20th Rector of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Herndon, VA

P.S. I finished the above message prior to the death of Keith Sinclair. His funeral is schedule to be held at St. Timothy's today. I can't think of a more appropriate person to add to the above trio, and the words from Ecclesiasticus likewise are most fitting description of Keith.



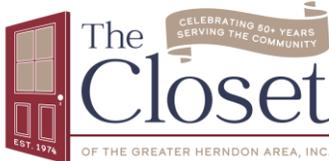
Memories of Brad



*In celebration
of the ministry
of the Rev.
Bradford A. Rundlett
at St. Timothy's
Episcopal Church
of Herndon, VA
(Rector, 1994 to 2015)*



CLICK on the PICTURE above to ACCESS the DOCUMENT



News from The Closet

The Closet needs volunteers - there are jobs for those who prefer to sit, jobs for those who wish to participate in our voucher program, jobs in the retail space and even volunteer jobs for cashiers (you will be trained.) The Closet asks that volunteers commit to a 3-hour shift. Students are welcome and their volunteer time will be counted by their middle or high school. Student volunteers must be middle school age or older. For additional information, please contact one of the St. Timothy's Closet Board members:

Betsy Bosworth
kb1c@verizon.net

Maria LaWalt
mjlawalt@verizon.net

Holly Hartge
mhhvirginia@verizon.net

Also, please see the letter below from Gene Wiley, President of the Closet

Respectfully submitted by, Holly Hartge

Letter from The President of the Closet

Dear Friends and Community Partners,

As we enter the heart of the holiday season, The Closet of the Greater Herndon Area, Inc., is proud to share meaningful news about our collective impact. At a Special Board of Directors Meeting, the Directors considered distributing an additional round of grant support to organizations fighting hunger and food insecurity in our region. After thoughtful review, the Board of Directors reached a unanimous decision to move forward with this unsolicited distribution of grant funds.

We are honored to announce that The Closet of the Greater Herndon Area, Inc., will distribute an additional \$53,000 in grant funding to local shelters and nonprofits serving individuals and families in need of food assistance this winter:

- Cornerstones
- LINK, Inc.
- Dulles South Food Pantry
- FISH
- South Lakes PTSA Food Pantry
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And we want to be absolutely clear: this giving is possible solely because of YOU, our customers, donors, volunteers, and supporters of The Closet Thrift Shop. Every item you donate, every purchase you make, and every hour you volunteer directly fuels the resources we are able to pour back into the community.

At The Closet, giving back isn't seasonal, it's something we do in real time, every single day. Through our voucher program, families receive free clothing and household essentials. Through our thrift store

operations, we generate funding that supports dozens of nonprofits across the region. And through initiatives like our Holiday Food Drive, we work alongside our community to meet immediate needs with dignity and compassion.

Your continued support allows us to expand our reach and respond to urgent needs as they arise, and this new \$53,000 in grants is a direct reflection of that shared commitment.

Thank you for making The Closet a place where generosity circulates, community thrives, and care is a daily practice.

Warmly,

Gene Wiley, President

The Closet of the Greater Herndon Area, Inc.

Preschool Corner

In November we took a bit of a break between our big party seasons (Halloween and Christmas) to focus on community, service, and thankfulness. The weekly themes for our lessons included “Community Helpers,” “Thankful Turkeys,” and “Feast Days!” By the time we arrived at Thanksgiving week we were back in party mode with the children sharing a preschool-appropriate Thanksgiving feast (e.g., popcorn, muffins, fruit salad) before inviting their parents in to enjoy a performance of several songs.

Among the month’s activities were a food drive for LINK and making placemats for use at a feast following our Saturday worship the week before Thanksgiving. Our families were most generous in their contributions to LINK. And the students had so much fun creating the placemats – which were adorable!

Respectfully submitted by Allyson Showalter



From the Service Ministry

Suddenly it's December! Advent candles, holly, snow and mistletoe, twinkling trees, moments for quiet and moments for, well, *Reveling! The Service Ministry thanks YOU for everything you've done for our neighbors in 2025: Food drives for LINK, the Lenten Outreach drive for used sports equipment, Hypothermia dinners, Snack bags for the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, Backpack and school supply drives, and of course, ****Angel Tree Gift Cards for Kids (currently underway)**. That's not all – but it's been a terrific year for “*putting our faith to work*” to make a difference in our community!

Here's what's on-deck for the first quarter of 2026, so mark your calendar for:

- LINK Food Drive, January 10th, 17th & 24th
- Martin Luther King Day of Service Project, January 19th
- Dinners for the North County Hypothermia Shelter, February 21st and 28th
- Lenten Outreach Project, February 18th – April 2nd
- Haiti Agape, month of February

There will be more information about each of these events so stay tuned for further developments. In the meantime, drink the hot chocolate with extra marshmallows and know that the Service Ministry wishes you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

*Christmas Revels on Friday, December 19th at 6:00 pm

**Donations for Angel Tree Gift Cards (in support of Cornerstones) will be accepted through December 3rd; by check to St. Timothy's with Service Fund on the memo line, or by credit card on the church website, checking “Service Ministry” from the drop-down box.

Respectfully submitted by Tom Bosworth and Carolyn Hamm

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
703-209-7661



Midori Yanagihara (2026)
midorijon@erols.com
703-709-0860



Varun Lal (Alternate)
703-244-1544
Varun.p.lal@gmail.com



Matt Schumann (2027)
matthew_schumann@hotmail.com
703-843-5465



Rob Huizar (2027) – *Junior Warden*
(713) 391-5214
rhuziar@gmail.com



John McGrath (2028)
jdksmcgrath@verizon.net
(703) 376-1176



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



Emily Litz (2026)
Emhas001@goucher.edu
201-887-2173



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
 432 Van Buren Street, Herndon, VA 20170
 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

January 2026 issue:

Monday, December 22

***No exceptions* due to holiday**

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 Advent and Christmas Season

We go on waiting,
knowing you have come,
yet we are not ready to be transformed.
Give us your Presence and we'll carry on.
The day is long ahead of us.
And we'll carry on.

(Adapted from the Monks of Weston Priory)

