



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

Creve Coeur, MO



In the church, as in nature, green comes-up after the fires. We mark this long season after Pentecost with the color green, out of which bursts life, growth, and new beginnings.

Dear Good People of Saint Timothy's,

The fall season is a time for the church to think about what we do, what we want to do and what we should do. It is the season for a clear eyed look at our mission and ministry. The best definition I have ever heard for the word stewardship is: "Stewardship is using the gifts God gives us to do the work God gives us to do."

At this time of the year we are asked to repent, that is re-think, our ways and our doings. I don't mean this in the sense that we are the wrong track, although in some ways we probably are. We are called to ask: what are our gifts? And what has God called us to do? Repentance is frees us from that which holds us back. Repentance redirects us to seek out the will of God and the ways of God for our service to the world. What I really mean is: how long has it been since we as congregation have come together to confess what gifts we have and to commit those gifts to the service of our Lord?

Our Episcopal Church has embraced the Five Marks of Mission as touchstones for this work:

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- To teach, baptize and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

We recognize with gratitude that the Five Marks of Mission, developed by the Anglican Consultative Council between 1984 and 1990, have won wide acceptance among Anglicans, and have given parishes and dioceses around the world a practical and memorable "checklist" for mission activities. What is our part in this great work?

I propose that we embark on a listening mission to hear the needs and expectations of the congregation and to ask what gifts our members would like to offer in God's work. We have no fixed expectations of the response, but God does! God expects our best. We are asked to do what we can, not what we can't, but God is the one who will decide whether we are being honest with ourselves.

Dire predictions are being made in our generation about the future of the church, as if we are in such a downward spiral that the end of the Episcopal Church, as we know it, is upon us. For me the caveat is "as we know it". If we cannot embrace our challenges and the necessity of change, we will struggle. But as for the rest of it, hogwash! I seem to remember a little scripture that says, "upon this rock, I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it!"

The church is built upon the foundation of the Son of God and is not dependent on human whims. If we are faithful, he will be faithful. If we are not faithful, he will still be faithful, but we will miss out on the great joy of living fully aware of the sunshine of his love. I want that joy and I know that you do also.

Love,
Marvin +

Update on the Search for a Clergy Associate

With the departure of four staff members last year, the need for St. Timothy's to hire another Associate was elevated to the highest status. The Stewardship team invited parishioners to increase their pledges so we could assure a salary, and you responded with the usual enthusiasm and generosity St. Timothy's is known for. Our search began in earnest in February. Expecting a large pool of eager young candidates, we set out using the tools of the Office of Transitional Ministry and employing the contact network of the Canon to Ordinary. This person is tasked to assist parishes with hiring new clergy. As timing would have it, our search began as candidates were wrapping-up their seminary placement assignments, and as our Canon took a leave of absence. In the interim period, the Bishop suggested that we suspend our search until this fall, so we are ramping-up our efforts once more. As of last month we have a new Canon, the Reverend Joseph Chambers in place and we are revising our job posting to get the good word out about the opening here at St. Timothy's.

I offer my appreciation to lay leaders who have rallied to fill some of the gaps that we have experienced: Robert Phillips, Interim Sunday School Director, Michael Wyland, Senior Warden, Joy Rouse, Junior Warden, Jane Hood, the Chair of Pastoral Care, Caroline Kelsey, Rick and Karen Sharp, and the entire Vestry. Let me also acknowledge the work of our staff, who have gone above and beyond to keep things flowing and vibrant ministry happening: Heidi Clark, my Lay Associate, Alice McLaughlin, Parish Administrator, and Mark Scholtz, Music Director. I am so thankful for the excellent work of the Reverend Paul Metzler, our quarter time Clergy Associate.

I believe that the challenges of this search have made me more attuned to how this process will work best. I am giving renewed energy to it and will enlist the leadership of parish to keep us on task so that we can move forward effectively. I am as eager as all of you to see this position filled, to move us more fully in the proclamation of the Gospel. Pray for us and for the person that God will send to us.

Marvin+

Music Notes

OK, let's talk ...

You've been thinking about joining the Choir, but have been reluctant. I have a sneaking suspicion that, given a chance, you'd really enjoy the experience. The Choir is a very loving group of people united by their dedication to music-making and the worship-life of St. Tim's, and always eager to welcome new folk to the fold. The best time to *try* the Choir is at the beginning of the season when everyone is refreshed, invigorated, and ready to get back to singing. Think about it, pray about it, talk to singers, talk to the Director!

Our first rehearsal for the season will be Thursday evening 10 September. Though we usually rehearse from 7:30-9:00p.m. in the Choir Room (and will do so thereafter), this particular week we'll begin at 7:00 so that we can spend some social time together following rehearsal. The Choir's first service will be at 10:45 Sunday, September 13.

Come and give it a whirl. Who knows, you might just find that the Choir really is a place where you can plug in and make a very wonderful contribution to the worship-life of St. Tim's!

Pax,

Mark

Mark R. Scholtz

Director of Music

Habitat for Humanity Needs You!!

Our next build date is September 12 – Interior Finishes. If you are able to volunteer, please go to <http://bit.ly/1lvMV6p> and you will be on the Methodist Episcopal Partnership Build Day page, scroll down and you will see all the build dates, click on the ones you will be able to volunteer and complete the registration. Thank you all for your time and talents!

Vacation Bible School Wrap-Up

Wednesday evenings in July saw the first Vacation Bible School in many years at St. Timothy's, with over 30 adult and youth volunteers running four consecutive week-night VBS sessions for 25 different children. Using the curriculum "Splash! In God's Word," the children learned about Jonah and the Big Fish, Noah's Ark, Jesus and the Woman at the Well, and Jesus walking on water. Each session, the children participated in games, crafts, and science "workshops" tied to that week's theme and story, and also enjoyed snacks and music. Preliminary planning for next year has already begun, with great hopes for improving and expanding the program to draw in more participants including more families from outside the parish.



Our many volunteers deserve recognition for their hard work, especially our overall activity organizers Jessica O'Bryan and Nancy Setzer, session chairs Caryl Fox, Danielle Pennel, and Mitzi Uyemura, activity coordinators Carolyn Moore and Sarah Keeley, child shepherds Cindy Perkins, Meghan Collins, Louise Pooley, MaryLou Blackhurst, registration coordinator Angela Mitchell-Phillips, music coordinator Steve Crock, and snack coordinators Holly Wilson, Tony Corey, Ellen Lindsey, Maryanne Coley, Diane Hoff, and Paul Pennel. I also

want to thank our many youth volunteers: Olivia Buckley, Julia Fox, Andrew Hexem, Rebecca O'Bryan, Keith Pennel, Aidan Phillips, Duncan Phillips, Owen Uyemura, Dylen Perkins, and Rhyen Perkins, and Sara Vanacht.

Robert Phillips

A bit of announcement etiquette ...

When you're making an announcement in church please keep in mind that it will be helpful to the congregation if you give your name first. Newcomers will get a face to put with a name and current members a reminder of who you are.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 - Peter McCullough Patrick McCullough	9 - Dee Dee Stone	17 - Joan Dewey Jessalyn Kohn
2 - Becky Porter	11 - Maxine Sharp	20 - Teresa McDowell
4 - Bob Rouse Mary Wrausmann	13 - Lenene Andre	23 - Larry Thomas
5 - Jack Danforth	14 - Elise Zwickelmaier Dick Gold	25 - Bud Bosanquet Percy Vanacht
6 - Jon Hotra Sonia Spencer	15 - Adam Barnes Marin Moenkhaus	26 - Sarah Johnson
8 - Jim Hinrichs Milton Duckworth	16 - Gretchen McCay	27 - William Crock Robin Turner
Connor Smith		Caroline Kelsey
9 - Lance Kramer		Leah

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

5 - Peggy and Keith Boyd	14 - Jane and Michael Wyland
7 - Sally and Jack Danforth	14 Hopey Gardner and Vishal Viswambharan
10 - Robin and Chuck Turner Rita and George Podolsky	20 - Linda and Larry Lawless



Ministry on Racial Reconciliation: Book Discussion

We invite you to join us on Wednesday, September 23, at 7 p.m. in St. Timothy's Library. We'll discuss five stories in the book, When Race Becomes Real, edited by Bernestine Signley. The five stories are, Jim Schutze (pg 3), Kimberly Springer (pg 71), Robert Jensen (pg 143), Tim Wise (pg 225), and Lisa Dodson and Odessa Cole (pg 273). We have copies of the book to loan. Contact Leslie Corey for a copy at lesliecorey@mac.com or [314-223-7459](tel:314-223-7459).

Also, mark your calendars for a showing and discussion of the movie "Crash" on Wednesday, October 28 at 6 p.m.

Financial Snapshot July 2015

For the first 7 months of 2015:

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Target revenues and expenses (Budget %)	58%
Actual plate receipts	48%
Actual pledge receipts	60%
Actual expenses	54%

While we had a \$6,173 shortage for the month of July, our year-to-date revenues still out-paced expenses in by \$29,587. The main driver of the shortfall was in July we paid our quarterly property insurance and Rector pension bills. The good news is we're now paid ahead a couple of months on those expenses. The Finance Committee kicked off the detailed 2016 budget planning each ministry representative on Sunday, August 23. Thanks for your support!

St. Timothy's Mission Statement

Inspired by the Spirit of Christ, we glorify God by being a welcoming Christian community with meaningful and joyous worship, challenging education and care and respect for all God's creation, while proclaiming the Gospel and reaching out to the world.

Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church
808 North Mason Road
Creve Coeur, Mo 63141-6306

Address Service Requested

The Rev. Marvin Lee Foltz, Rector
Church Office (314) 434-5906
Fax: (314) 434-4103
Web Site: <http://www.saint-tims.org>

The Rev. Dr. Paul A. Metzler, *Clergy Associate*
Heidi Clark, *Associate to the Rector*
Mark R. Scholtz, *Director of Music*
Alice McLaughlin, *Parish Administrator*
Susan Moenkhaus, *Editor*

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