



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

Creve Coeur, MO

December, 2015

**Thanks
for
Giving!**



St. Timothy's collection for the
Circle of Concern Thanksgiving food drive

Dear Good People of St. Timothy's,

Something awakens in me during in the holy season of Advent and Christmas. I feel such a warmth within even as there is cold, often deep and bitter cold, in the outside world. Through all the long years of beautiful exile on the islands of Hawai'i, as Advent drew near I would feel a great longing for the rich traditions of this season of God's coming near as it is celebrated here in the Midwest.

St. Timothy's has graciously welcomed me into the tradition of observance here, bending a little here and there, but keeping faith with what has gone before. I love St. Timothy's traditions of choral music, of brass and bells, of the trees, the crèche and candles. We learn from each other and we welcome the wisdom that newcomers and the younger generation bring to our celebrations. The church is a living thing; an organism constantly stirring with newness, dynamic and vital. We are alive when we are grateful and appreciative of the gifts of others. We are alive as we keep traditions and make room for fresh streams of love to flow. We each and all bring our treasures to offer to the Christ child.

Advent begins with surprising notes of warning; wake up calls, if you will. The Collect for the First Sunday of Advent sounds the trumpet:

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

We are called to look back to the first coming of Christ, the humble one, and to look forward to the second, the glorious one, so that by our devotion and discipline so that we may ready to be humble and to delight in the prospect of coming glory.

We are to stand very consciously in the present moment, in the clarity that the gift of love has come and is here, and that it has not yet arrived in its fullness. In it is in the Advent light that we can see our own shortcomings and amend our lives. In this light we dare to dream of our future. The mystery of the incarnation embraces our whole human experience.

From the Rector, cont'd.

This recognition of our place and our time in the midst of this mortal life makes us deeply aware that we must cast away the works of darkness. The recent violence and terrorism in Paris, Beirut and Baghdad call for renewed commitment to putting on the armor of light, trusting that we will have the courage and power to do the work that God calls us to do. We must never surrender our hope in God and the promise of a healed world. Jesus is coming!

Love,
Marvin +



Angel Tree

Spread the joy of Christmas again this year by giving gifts to the 3 adopted families from Circle of Concern and to the youth in detention at Lakeside. Look for the Angel Tree late November with the colorful tags. The gifts need to be returned by Dec. 13th. To make it very easy, movie tickets for the Lakeside youth and gift cards for the families can be purchased through the script table. Thank you for your generosity.



Christmas Services

5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve

9:30 p.m. Carol Sing

10:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Christmas Day 10:00 a.m.



Grief and the Holidays

Holidays – whether religious or secular – are especially painful for bereaved individuals and families because they emphasize **the absence**. When all are gathered there is the empty chair. The missing voice. The missed laughter. There is one less place setting, one less present to buy. One less to receive.

Nothing can take away these painful emotional realities because they are true expressions of grieving. Someone special is missing and his or her absence changes everything.

Yet the pain is also a push toward a new way of living. Individuals and family systems are pressed by the emotional pain to organize in new ways, especially for holidays. In ***Understanding Mourning*** (Augsburg Press), Glen Davidson offers these suggestions for approaching the holidays:

1. Decide what you can handle comfortably and let this be known to your family and friends.
2. Don't be afraid to make changes in your customary ways of observing the holiday.
3. Your greatest comfort may come in the experience of doing something for someone else.
4. Ask: *"Do I and/or my family really enjoy doing this?"*
5. Know that whatever you do this year, you don't have to do it that way next year.

Additionally, religious services during such special days can be both challenging and consoling. Talk with your faith leader about how to best approach which services you will attend to find comfort but not feel too overwhelmed.

These ideas can help individuals and families to make choices about how the holidays will be observed. A new pattern of life is emerging during grieving and the holidays are a time when this aspect of grief is especially underscored.

The Rev. Paul A. Metzler, D.Min.

Dismantling Racism Workshop Location Changed

When: Saturday, January 16 – Sunday, January 17, 2016

Where Changed: From St. Timothy's to Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 9 South Bompert Avenue, Webster Groves, MO 63119

Mark your calendar for December 6 at 4 p.m. for A conversation with John C. Danforth “The Relevance of Religion: How faithful people can change politics.” This will be open to the public, but reservations will be required. Copy this URL into your browser to register.

<http://www.saint-tims.org/danforth-book-signing.html>



St. Tim’s Awarded Diocesan Grant!

A “New Ventures in Community Ministry” grant was awarded for their model of Young Adult Ministry in the parish, and the potential growth within the model for the ministry to expand across the diocese. More info in the latest issue of Seek - <http://media.diocesemo.org.s3.amazonaws.com/seek/SeekNov2015v2.pdf>

After high school and college, young adults face major transitions which leave many falling through the cracks, lonely and disconnected, especially from the church. St. Tim’s hopes to reengage these young adults. To begin making these connections, Father Marvin hosted a dinner for the young adults of St. Tim’s earlier this past summer. They discussed future opportunities for fellowship and service, and an impromptu ‘Steering Committee’ began to surface.

This Steering Committee wants to reach out to young adults that have aged-out of the Diocesan Youth Activities, but still want to engage, and be engaged by, the church. The grant creates a “framework for this age group, encouraging them to reach beyond themselves, for their own community and for the wider region.”

They think that St. Louis area Lutheran Young Adults would also be interested in the planned social, service, and educational gatherings. Building on a successful ALS walk, breakfasts, and a Haunted House excursion, they plan to expand the group with a communications blitz on social media, posters and mailings to all metro Episcopal and Lutheran churches, to share news of their forming. Even though this grant will include and serve to connect young adults outside St. Timothy’s, it will be fully supervised by the Congregational Vitality committee and ultimately the Vestry of St. Tim’s. For more information please contact Meghan Collins (med4342@gmail.com) at St. Timothy’s.

The Holiday Pantry is Coming December 5 and 6, Before and After All Services

St. Timothy’s Holiday Pantry is a wonderful opportunity in the church to purchase jams, mustards, and other yummy items to give away as gifts or buy for yourselves. All proceeds collected will go toward St. Tim’s programs. In the past, Pantry proceeds have supported outreach programs for women, the Giving Tree; and in-reach programs, including the center counter in the new kitchen. This year, part of the monies have been designated to remodeling Father Marvin’s office.

We will be setting up on Fri. night, Dec. 4, starting at 6 p.m. & will again serve clam chowder & light refreshments to volunteers. If you are interested, please call or email Sue Ann McAvoy (suzieq1809@sbcglobal.net) or Beverlee Critchell (beverlee49@clark-clark.net).

MUSIC NOTES

It seems as though the choral season at St. Tim's has only just begun, and we're already preparing for Advent and Christmas! Perhaps the adage that "time flies when you're having fun" is apropos. In any event, there are many things to think about, and a number of seasonal activities to enjoy.

The Choir is very well along in preparation for Christmas Eve. As noted elsewhere in this issue of *The Angler*, our late service this year will begin at 10:00, with Carols and Anthems of the season commencing at 9:30. A featured work will be a fresh setting of the text *Go, tell it on the mountain* by a classmate of mine, John Abdenour, Organist and Choirmaster at St. Paul's Church, Fairfield, Connecticut.

Beyond the environs of St. Tim's, there are many opportunities that might help to quench the appetite for seasonal music, three of which are highlighted here:

* A SEASON OF FESTIVITY – Mid-Day organ recitals featuring the new Schoenstein & Co. pipe organ at Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church (9450 Clayton Road). The recitals are on Thursdays during Advent and begin at 12:15, concluding by 12:45. The church's organist, David Erwin, will be the featured performer on December 3 and 17, and yours truly will be the guest organist on December 10. The recitals are free.

* THE CHOIR OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ST. GEORGE (6345 Wydown Boulevard) will sing *A Candlelight Service of Advent Lessons and Carols* Sunday afternoon December 6 at 5:00. Then, on Sunday, December 20, the Choir will sing *A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols* also at 5:00.

* Saturday afternoon December 19 at 2:00, the NATIONAL LUTHERAN CHOIR will present their Christmas Festival *The Spotless Rose* at First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood (100 East Adams Avenue). You may order tickets online at www.nlca.com by clicking on tickets and events. For those ordering up to 2 (two) tickets, you may use the special discount code **SLCHOIR20** when ordering. There are also special incentives for groups of 10 or more if you call 888.747.4589.

Pax,

Mark

Mark R. Scholtz, Director of Music,

MINISTRY OF RACIAL RECONCILIATION

Dear Friends: When Michelangelo painted human creation on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, he depicted God reaching out to touch Adam. And when five-year old Gertie wanted to communicate with an alien, she reached out to touch ET.

Both Michelangelo and Steven Spielberg recognized that touch is an essential part of human interaction – as did Paul Haggis, the director of the movie “Crash”. St Timothy’s Ministry on Racial Reconciliation recently had a showing of this movie at our church. The movie opens with the narrator recognizing that “...It’s the sense of touch. ... We’re always behind this metal and glass. I think we miss that touch so much, that we crash into each other, just so we can feel something.”

St. Timothy’s Ministry of Racial Reconciliation also believes in the power of touch. From time to time we will reach out and touch someone, because we are committed to working on dismantling racism through education, discussion, experiences and action. We will touch other parishes, other ministries, and our neighbors because it is this creative action of touch that allows us the privilege of seeing the face of God in each other.

This ministry embraces all who are questioning or uncertain. We recognize that we are all at varying points along our personal and spiritual journeys and we will meet everyone (ministry, church and community) where they are, using a loving and spiritual-based approach.

If you are interested, please feel free to get in touch with one of the ministry members. Thanks for reading.

Cathy Agne	Kim Dressel	Rose Marie Bell	Judy Demarco
Will Bolden	Caroline Kelsey	Agnes Bolwell	Laverne Riebold Moseley
Amy Conard	Cathie Muschany	Leslie Corey	Rob Muschany
Tony Corey	Holly Wilson		

Adult Forums

Dec 6th – *The Cave Paintings and the Ancient Art of Prayer*. Cathie Horrell will present and reflect on the cave art from Lascaux.

Dec 13th and 20th – Jim McCullough will explore the relationship between art and spiritual formation. During the first week, he will focus on Orthodox icons, especially those of Mary and the Christ Child. The second week will include TS Eliot’s poem “Journey of the Magi.”

Dec 27th/Jan 3rd – No Forums

Jan 10th – Meet the Ministries: A look behind the Annual Report, to know the names, faces, and opportunities behind the Ministry Teams and initiatives at St. Timothy’s. Sponsored by the Stewardship Ministry Team.

Jan 17th – Meet the Candidates for Vestry, Diocesan Convention Delegates and Endowment.

Jan 24th – St. Timothy’s Annual Meeting. Abundance: Going Forth to Grow the Church

St. Tim's Celebrates Two New Eagle Scouts

Jared William McAvoy, 17, son of Joe and Sue Ann McAvoy, has earned the highest advancement award the Boy Scouts of America offers to Scouts, the Eagle Scout Award. He completed his project on June 6, and completed his Eagle Board on September 2, 2015. He was recognized in ceremonies on November 8 at Eliot Chapel in Kirkwood. A member of Troop 325 out of Robinson Elementary School, Jared is one of approximately 4 percent of all Boy Scouts who attain the Eagle rank. Each candidate must earn 21 merit badges and successfully complete a community, church, or synagogue-related service project to earn his Eagle.



For his project, Jared chose to build a children's climbing fort at Eliot Chapel Nursery School in Kirkwood. Jared earned 32 Merit badges and has served his troop as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (3), Order of the Arrow Representative (2), Quartermaster (2), Den Chief (1) and Librarian (1). He attended all the Boy Scout High Adventure Camps-, Philmont Scout Ranch (2012), Florida Seabase (2013), Summit Bechtel (Jamboree-2013), Northern Tier OA

Voyage (2014); earning the prestigious "Triple Crown" of scouting. Other awards include the God and Me Religious Award, God and Family Religious Award, 50 Miler Hiking, 50 Miler Canoeing, Messenger of Peace, Summit Challenge, Order of the Arrow Brotherhood, OA Centennial Service Award, Leave No Trace Trainer, Whoosh! Nova Award, and the World Conservation Award.

Jared is active at St. Timothy's, serving as a Eucharistic Minister at the 7:45 service. He has been active at St. Tim's in Sunday School program and was confirmed in 2014. Jared is a Senior at Kirkwood High School where he is on the Varsity Wrestling Team (3), a member of the National Honor Society, and a member of the German Honor Society. He is also a much decorated State Fair Jam and Jelly winner at the Missouri State Fair.

Adam Barnes has been a Life Long Boy Scout since 1st Grade, in Parkway Bellerive Elementary. He witnessed his brother, Elliott, becoming an Eagle Scout and just knew he would become one, too. Adam,



was approached by the Columbarium Committee to see if a Walk Way, for in-between the two levels of Niches, would be a possible project for his Eagle Project. After doing some research, Adam realized it met all the requirements and accepted the job. He was overseen by Holly Wilson and Caroline Kelsey during the whole project. Adam, asked the whole Boy Scout Troop of 492, to start the project on Saturday, April 4, 2015 at 8:00 am. Adam and his workers, worked by moving and leveling dirt, laid black Landscape Fabric in between the two levels of Niches, and then topped the Landscape Fabric with River Pebbles. After sweat and many wheel barrel trips, the finished project was completed by 2:00 pm that afternoon. Just before the 5:00 Easter Vigil was to start. To help Adam, he had much of the Troop and some of his High

School friends. Lunch was provided by Emma Barnes and once the project was completed, All enjoyed Root Beer Floats. Once Adam received the final approval from Holly Wilson and Caroline Kelsey, Adam then completed the required Project Books to be handed over to the Boy Scout Council.

Adam had his final Board of Review with Council on September 23, 2015 and was granted Eagle Scout that evening. In celebration, Adam's parents, Brad and Jennifer, had a Eagle Scout Ceremony on October 24, 2015, which was held in the Youth Center/Back Patio of St. Timothy's. In attendance were close friends and out of town family members, whom flew in from Michigan/Texas to celebrate this wonderful occasion. Personal letters from his Marine brother Elliott were read a long with his Sunday School Teacher, Steve Crock. The whole Troop was a part of the ceremony which made it even more special. After the ceremony on this wonderful day, lunch was served with Adam's favorite being...a Cheeseburger Bar and Chocolate Fountain. As Adam's brother stated in his letter to Adam. "This is something that No One can take from you. Be proud as I am, Lcpl, Elliott Barnes."

Spirituality Group Quiet Saturday Morning – December 5

9:00 AM	Gather in Fellowship
9:10 AM	Short Contemplative Reading - Food for Reflection
9:15 AM	Silence reflection in church, on the grounds and walking the labyrinth
10:00 AM	Breaking the silence sharing short reflections
10:15 AM	Prayer
10:30 AM	Back out into the world

A Prayer Before Communion - Revised

By Heidi Carter Clark, Lay Associate for Ministry

We do presume

We do presume

To come to this table

Trusting in our own righteousness.

Our hands on holy things

Blessing. Breaking. Sharing.

Remind us. Re-mind us.

That it is you on whom we feed.

Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us.

**We appeal to you, forgive our presumption when we come to this Table
for solace only, and not for strength;**

for pardon only, and not for renewal.

We do presume

We beg of you comfort; to be remembered. Known.

For strength, renewal, and hope in you.

Fullness of belly, heart, soul, faith – fullness of life. Amen

Thanksgiving Plans?

If you're not going out of town, or relatives aren't coming to you, or perhaps you just want to try something different this year, St. Tim's is the place to be along with your guests. We will have a late afternoon dinner on November 26 and we will have one planning meeting to decide on the menu and how to split up the various jobs involved with this feast. Sign up in the gathering space and either Nancy Setzer or Caroline Kelsey will call you. This is our second year to have this dinner—last year's dinner was great fun.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3 - Toby Hafeli Molly Hladky	Duncan Phillips 14 - John Loomis Mary Robert	John Wischnowsky 22 - Louise Pooley 23 - Steve Cameron
4 - Pat Hutchison	15 - Julie Thake	24 - Ginni Campbell
5 - Kurt Zwickelmaier Jane Wyland, Heath Lindsey	16 - Stewart Rayfield	Brooke Mason
8 - Nancy Setzer Marlene Gruber Clark	18 - Kate Mitchell Cindy Perkins	27 - Mike O'Neil 28 - Rose Marie Bell
10 - Dennis Whittington	19 - Louann Boyd	31 - Katie Omahen
11 - Gabe Porter	20 - Jerry Evans John Hexem	Jason Mihal
12 - Jane Perna	21 - Nya Moenkhaus	



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

11 - Hongxia Wang and Marc Vanacht	24 - Marylen and Gary Stansbery
15 - Jane and Tommy Gordon	27 - Beverly and Larry Rhea
19 - Lynn and Dennis Whittington Marj and Dick Gold	29 - Ruth and Wayne Birch

Advent Event

Sunday, Nov. 29, 9:00-10:15

Parish Hall

'Tis the Season! Begin your preparation for Christ's birth at the annual Advent Event. This is an intergenerational event features making advent wreaths*, ornaments, crafts, small gifts, and general merriment! Cookies and other holiday snacks will be served.

If you would be interested in:

- working a table (helping children with the activities-no planning, the crafts will be ready to go)
- would like to host a table (if you have a craft you would like to plan & organize)
- would like to bring cookies or snacks to share

Please sign the Purple Volunteer Sheet on the Bulletin Board in the Gathering Space or contact Madeline Zwickelmaier [314-983-0693](tel:314-983-0693)/ kurtzwick@charter.net

Catch the Spirit of the Season!

**nominal fee for greenery and advent candles*

Financial Snapshot for October 2015, the first 10 months of the year

Target revenues and expenses (Budget %)	83%
Actual plate receipts	74%
Actual pledge receipts	73%
Actual expenses	77%

Year-to-date revenues continue to outpace expenses by \$16,769 but we did have a \$2,178 shortfall in October. If you have not already, please send in your pledge card as soon you can so we can create a solid 2016 budget. Thanks to those who have sent in their pledge card for 2016.

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.

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