

# The Angler

Faith Fellowship Service

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

Creve Coeur, MO

August 2015



Off to Camp Phoenix



Campers and Staff



Dear Friends of St. Timothy's,

This month of August marks two years of our ministry together as priest and parish. These months of getting to know your stories and the way those stories are woven together into a tapestry of community and connection has been a rich and meaningful experience for me. St. Timothy's is a wonderful tribe. There is a culture of welcome and acceptance that runs very deep in the DNA here and our wonderful traditions of worship and fellowship provide ways that anyone can enter in.

These two years have been a season of change in parish life. We have not always welcomed these changes; staff and leadership transitions, old friends moving into retirement and away from St. Louis, and changes in the wider church and culture.

We have also experienced the happy kind of change: the opportunity to have the Reverend Chester Hines serve us in the final stages of his preparation to be a Deacon, the wonderful ministry offered to the parish by new staff and old, new programs for growth and training on Wonderful Wednesdays, a new ministry on racial reconciliation, new adult bible study opportunities, activities for families and new curriculum choices for Sunday School. We have been privileged to see new members received and confirmed into this church. And we have the happy prospect of more baptisms this fall.

This August 9<sup>th</sup> will mark one year since the shooting of Michael Brown and the subsequent focus on the terrible racial divide

that has always been a part of our reality. For many, it was hidden beneath the surface and for many others it has been the constant painful challenge of injustice in everyday life.

St. Timothy's will offer an opportunity for prayer and vigil on August 9<sup>th</sup> from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Weather permitting we will hold this vigil in the Prayer Garden with the opportunity to walk the Labyrinth in remembrance and hope.

The past few weeks have provided us with more than enough opportunities to test our commitments and confirm our covenants with God and with one another. We are called together to be Christ's body in the world. That does not mean that we will always, perhaps even often, agree. This is a place where difference is acknowledged and celebrated. Saying that does not mean that there is any room for disrespect. As politics in the run up to the next election heats up, we can be a laboratory for our love of each other and our neighbors. We will be tested as to whether our love for Christ is primary.

It is time now for us to open our minds to God's possibilities, to dream God's dreams, to taste a bit of heaven and to share its hope and promise. The Vestry has plans, to be announced very soon, to gather the parish to seek a clear and wildly important goal for the coming years. I hope we can come to be of one mind on this one thing: the main thing is to let the main thing be the main thing.

Love, Marvin +

## Any Morning

Just lying on the couch and being happy.  
Only humming a little, the quiet sound in the head.  
Trouble is busy elsewhere at the moment, it has  
so much to do in the world.  
People who might judge are mostly asleep; they can't  
monitor you all the time, and sometimes they forget.  
When dawn flows over the hedge you can  
get up and act busy.  
Little corners like this, pieces of Heaven  
left lying around, can be picked up and saved.  
People won't even see that you have them,  
they are so light and easy to hide.  
Later in the day you can act like the others.  
You can shake your head. You can frown.

-- William Stafford

Whether you are just returning from vacation or about to go, even if your next break is in the distance, I encourage you to resolve to take little early morning vacations like friend Stafford recommends. What a wonderful reminder of what Jesus said in Matthew 6:25!

'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink,<sup>\*</sup> or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

Daily work and faithfulness to our responsibilities is not the same as driving ourselves hard in fear that we will some how not measure up to the standard of perfection we set for ourselves. These little vacations help us to be enlivened for our crises and challenges. Don't forget to pick up a "little piece of heaven" and let it lighten your daily load.

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## Who Wants to be a Sunday School Teacher?

Admit it: That question made you squirm a little. Listen, it's okay. Lots of us think we can't teach Sunday School. After all, most of us aren't biblical scholars and maybe we don't interact with kids on a regular basis anymore (or maybe ever) and we aren't so sure they'd even like us, let alone learn from us. And we've all been told it takes a very specific kind of person to work with kids. We're probably not in that tiny little population that can help, right?

Well, maybe not.

When I was growing up, I attended a small Southern Baptist church and my family and I went there every week. From birth to age 18, I was taught by at least a dozen different teachers in Sunday School. Some were old, some young. Some had children, some did not. Some were funny and kept us laughing the whole hour; others were quiet and calm, guiding us with a gentle hand. But each of them had an influence on me, no matter what personality type or gifts they brought—or didn't bring—to that class. In my early teens, my teachers were a married couple. The woman was a school teacher and the man worked construction and farmed. They hadn't had children of their own and they were busy with their careers, but they made time to hang out with a bunch junior and high school kids. They taught our Bible study every week. They had us over to their house to watch movies and eat popcorn. They took us to concerts and chaperoned the annual youth trip to Silver Dollar City. I don't know why they invested that time in our little youth group, but 30 years later, I'm still grateful that they did. I'll confess, I don't remember the Bible lessons too well, but I do remember their

kindness. A few months ago, they friended me on Facebook. Much to my amazement, this couple (who I still picture being in their twenties) have recently become grandparents! I love seeing pictures of their growing family, but I've been most happy to see this: they are friends, too, with all the other "kids" from that long ago Sunday School class. What remained for us is the memory of our teachers' kindness and warmth and the way they loved us. That's something that never goes away and, somehow, it continues to hold us together in love, even into middle age.

So, here's what I'm telling you: the single most important qualification for being a Sunday School teacher isn't how well you know the Bible or if you're funny or if you're awesome at crafts, but simply if you can love. If you can love the young people of our church and open your hearts to them, we'll teach you the rest (and, believe me, it's not that hard—we have awesome curricula and experienced teachers who can help to guide the way). And you really don't have to have everyone over for movies or haul off to Silver Dollar City to do a good job (though you might find you want to). Showing up Sunday mornings will do just fine. Think you can do that? Of course you can! We have positions to fill for all age groups, so let's talk about it before the summer is gone. **Give me a call or email me at 636-527-5855 or [amitchstl@me.com](mailto:amitchstl@me.com) or contact my husband, Robert Phillips, Interim Sunday School Coordinator at the same number or at [rwphillipsstl@me.com](mailto:rwphillipsstl@me.com).**



## Family Camp at Trout Lodge

Save the Date! October 23-25 2015. Every fall we get together down in the Ozarks for a relaxing and fun weekend where no one has to cook or clean or plan anything, for anyone! What a relief. BONUS: Since Father Marvin has confirmed that all of the children's Trout Lodge Fees will be paid by St. Timothy's, it's also a more affordable option for families. The weekend includes a hayride, pumpkin carving, archery, boat rides, meals and lodging, campfires, and lots of just hanging out in the crisp fall air. Check out FB album

from last year. You are welcome to invite other families and introduce them to your church family. More information available soon, or contact Louise Pooley [louise\\_pooley@hotmail.com](mailto:louise_pooley@hotmail.com) with any questions.



## 9:00 Family Service Notes ...

This summer has brought a new and fun challenge to the 9:00 Family Service on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays. As a result of the travel, camp, and vacation schedules of so many of our families, we have recruited the ministry teams each week as people arrive. It keeps the service fresh and moving, and we have had a chance to hear from more voices, young and old, as the weeks roll on. We will still try to appoint certain roles via email, but don't be surprised if you're handed a rainstick or a reading as you arrive. Know that you can absolutely still offer/agree to serve in any roles in advance, and can certainly decline on the spot. We have had so many visitors to this service, and it continues to be an informal yet holy way to break bread together twice a month. Thank you in advance for your liturgical ministry.



## Reaching for the Stars Results in Generous Donations

I am pleased to announce that Reaching for the Stars netted \$8,767.69! A check for \$6,151.38 has been mailed to Magdalene House, St. Louis, which is being matched by a private donor. The amount of \$2,636.31 has been transferred to St. Timothy's Outreach. Thank you all for your time, talent, and donations to a wonderful cause and an enjoyable evening.

Holly Wilson

The deadline for applications for a grant from St. Timothy's Outreach committee is July 30. All organizations seeking funding from the St. Timothy's Outreach Grant Budget must provide services that advance the St. Timothy's Outreach Mission. The application form is on St. Tim's website under About Us, Outreach.

Adrian Moore

## Registration for World Food Day Now Open Friday, October 16, 2015

Contact Holly Wilson at [handhwilson@hotmail.com](mailto:handhwilson@hotmail.com) or 314.346.3346 to register to work one of two sessions packaging food. One session will be at 11 a.m. and the other late afternoon. This is a fun, 1-hour long outreach activity that feeds thousands of hungry people. Details on our website and future Anglers.



Picture of Keith Pennel bagging the first part of the dinner.

**Youth Confirmation** - Beginning August 9, I will be gathering our 2016 confirmation class to plan our journey together. We will start by meeting every Sunday from 9:40am to 10:20am until the Sunday School year starts on Sept 13th. After that we will meet regularly but not weekly, as we find times that work for most of us. I am backing off my requirement that each member attend every meeting. Since we are starting earlier this year we will not have as much pressure to cover the material so quickly. Confirmands will have opportunities to make up missed sessions. I appreciate your patience as we begin.

Marvin +

## Christian Formation at St. Timothy's Needs Your Help

This coming year, we plan to run five Sunday school classes and want three teachers, instead of just two, assigned per class so that teachers can rotate responsibilities and have more time off during the year for other church activities. Sunday school this year will run from the week after Labor Day (Sunday, September 13) through the week before Memorial Day (Sunday, May 22), with classes not scheduled on certain holidays and church events during the year. We are especially in need of teachers for the younger children.

A Christian Formation committee was formed this spring to discuss the state and future direction of St. Timothy's program, with over two dozen parishioners and the Rector participating either in meetings or otherwise. Following extensive discussions, the committee decided to discontinue using the Journey to Adulthood program for our youth. The committee believed a change in direction was necessary to better prepare our youth for confirmation and a Christian life, and therefore chose new curricula for our youth that emphasize studying the Bible and the traditions and theology of the Episcopal Church. The elementary-level classes will continue largely as before, though there is an expressed desire to add classes for preschool-age children and create more opportunities for hands-on learning.

The five classes will be: Junior Elementary, for pre-Kindergarten (age 5) through 1st grade; Middle Elementary, for 2nd and 3rd grades; Senior Elementary, for 4th and 5th grades; Middle School, for 6th and 7th grades; and High School, for 8th through 12th grades. This organization mirrors that of the past, with the exception that we have collapsed the previous three classes for middle through high school into two classes; this decision was made both for curricular and demographic reasons. In addition, we will be adopting more engaging and teacher-friendly curricula for the two younger elementary classes.

Everyone involved is very excited about this upcoming year and the changes we have made, but we need more help to bring our vision to life. There will be teaching workshops in late August to prepare for the year, so do not worry if you are rusty or never even taught before--what we need are people willing to commit the time and patience to help our children and youth reach their potential as servants of Christ.

Yours in Christ,  
Robert Phillips, Interim Director of Christian Formation

### **Holy Hospitality—St. Timothy's Altar Guild**

Each service at St. Timothy's begins with the intentional arrangement of bread and wine, words and light. The Altar Guild sets the table and cares for the linens and 'dishes.' They are looking for additional hosts, female and male, to help prepare the table for all services. Please consider becoming part of this important ministry. Contact Diane Hoff at 636.486.2089 to find out more or to sign up.



#### **Garden News -**

An abundance of cucumber blossoms produces a HUGE amount of cucumbers! We are harvesting 12-14 pounds at a time for the Circle of Concern Food Pantry. Even though some crops are not doing well because of all the rain and we are now feeding a rabbit family, the garden still needs to be harvested once a week. If you are interested in helping by harvesting or if you would be able to drive the produce to the food pantry, give me a call. Nancy Setzer [314-341-3069](tel:314-341-3069)

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### **Healing Bible Study at St. Timothy's**

Explore what the Bible says about Jesus's healing miracles. Join us in the library at 9:30 a.m. Sunday mornings for a look at what the Gospels say about healing, and how we can use God's healing power in our community.

### **Volunteer Blessings**

When the Communications Ministry Team decided to move the weekly announcements out of the worship bulletins, on to a format designed by Laura Catalano (Thanks Laura - Welcome back!) we were stumped as to how to create this great new resource. As blessings often do, out of the sky fell Kate Buckley, asking "Is there anything I can do to help you guys in the office?" Presto! Since then, every Wednesday, Kate Buckley has come to St. Timothy's and volunteered her time, wrangling all of the bits of information, dates, times, volunteers, meetings, services and other announcements onto one central handout, which helps immensely! She also answers the phones, provides fun energy, makes us laugh, and is occasionally accompanied by Olivia, bringing more light to the place on a weekly basis. Thanks Kate! You are a blessing.



St. Timothy's  
OUTREACH  
*Transforming Compassion*



**Habitat for Humanity Needs You!!** Our next build dates are August 15 –

Interior Finishes and September 12 – Interior Finishes. If you are able to volunteer, please go to <http://bit.ly/1vMV6p> 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!

Have you heard of **St Tim's Handy Helpers**? St Tim's Handy Helpers was formed to provide services to anyone who needs maintenance assistance in and around their home. Anything from changing a light bulb, washing windows, painting a room, minor repairs, to cleaning up yards. If you have a computer question, we may even be able to help with that! There are no requirements, just participation when your schedule allows. If you would like to be a part of this ministry or would like more information, please contact Tina Heuer at [Heuer@rabbittlawfirm.com](mailto:Heuer@rabbittlawfirm.com). Please provide a list of talents you may be able to share so when need arises we may match requests with talents.

If you have a request for assistance please call Tina at 314-799-6903 or e-mail at [heuer@rabbittlawfirm.com](mailto:heuer@rabbittlawfirm.com) and we will see if we have someone who will be able to assist with the request.



## Grace Hill Women's Business Center Needs You

The Women's Business Center (WBC) at Grace Hill needs help with its training program for potential and existing small businesses owners:



- An instructor for Excel spread sheets for one or two classes
- Specific business topic tutors

General counseling as a business is started

General business or specific topic experience is all that is needed. Classes are held at the Helix Center in Corporate Square (Lindberg & Olive) or the Old Post Office (downtown). Individual counseling can be done at a mutually convenient location.

For more information, call Ginni Campbell, 314-878-3627 or Alyce Wilson, WBC Director, 314-584-6700.

## Ministry on Racial Reconciliation News

**Ministry on Racial Reconciliation** meets on the first and third Mondays in the Parish Hall from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Bring a bag or box supper, dessert will be provided. All are welcome to observe or explore.

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### Dismantling Racism Workshop Location Changed

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

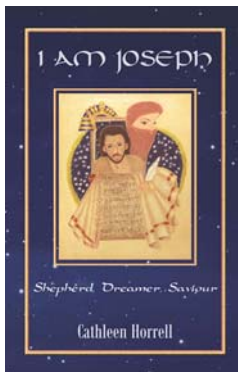
**Where Changed: From St. Timothy's to Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 9 South Bompert Avenue, Webster Groves, MO 63119**

**The Ministry on Racial Reconciliation** is sponsoring a Prayer Vigil and Labyrinth Walk on Sunday, August 9 at 7:00 p.m. to mark the first anniversary of Michael Brown's death.

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### Live on July 20 - First eBook Publication by Cathie Horrell

This ebook is available at Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble.com, (Kindle & Nook), Apple iBook Store, Kobo, and iPad. You don't have to have an ebook reader. People can download a free Kindle and Nook app to their smart phones, computer, or tablet.



***This book is more than a bible commentary. It is a story about transformation. Joseph is the first human on pages of Genesis to become fully human. His story puts us in touch with our deepest spiritual and religious heritage to find ourselves mirrored there.***

Cathie, a member of St. Timothy's, is a writer, artist, poet, and educator. She taught at Maryville and St. Louis Universities and facilitates Women's retreats, Bible studies, and the Joseph Seminar.



## Financial Snapshot June 2015

For the first 6 months of 2015:

Target revenues and expenses (Budget %)	50%
Actual plate receipts	42%
Actual pledge receipts	52%
Actual expenses	45%

Year to date revenues outpaced expenses in June by \$51,370. The Finance Committee has held its first meeting to begin the 2016 budget planning process. Ministry chairs will hear from us in the near future regarding management of current budgets and plans for next year. 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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## Address Service Requested

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Heidi Clark, *Associate to the Rector*  
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Alice McLaughlin, *Parish Administrator*  
Susan Moenkhaus, *Editor*

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