

September -
October
2019



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

Creve Coeur, MO

Invite
Welcome
Connect

Every Sunday, Jesus throws a party at church. He is the host, we're all guests. But at St. Tim's, we are guests who have already experienced Jesus' welcome. Now we are to share it with others. **Invite Welcome Connect** is how we can do that.

From the Rector



Good people of St. Timothy's,

As we consider our future as a parish let us remember to let the main thing be the main thing. I want to join the vestry and leadership of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in calling us all to prayer.

Our congregation is in the 58th year of our existence. I have been the priest in this parish for almost six years now. Many of you have been vitally connected to the parish for decades, some of you since childhood. We know how things get done here. We have developed, over the years, a way of doing things that is uniquely our own. In many ways it has served us very well.

Some of us have come into parish life fairly recently. Many of you arrived already dedicated to the Way of Jesus. Many are still trying to figure out what God is asking of you. Some of you really want to jump into the life of this community. Others do not have a clue about how to do that.

The truth is that we all do better if we don't just do what we have always done, even if it has served us well.

The first thing, the main thing in our parish life, in our family life and in our own hearts, needs to be God. Too often I have rushed on to try to implement the next good idea, to start the next program, to do the next act of service. I am a strong believer in the active life, but in the church, as we exist in God and live in the baptismal covenant, the first thing, the main thing is seeking to love God and to know God and to live in the light of God's love. It is not such a bad idea to ask God what is next for us.

Blanche Chambers, sacristan at the Church of the Nativity, my first parish, always would pray:

O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light riseth up in darkness for the godly: Grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what thou wouldest have us to do, that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in thy light we may see light, and in thy straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Second, we are called into a fellowship. We are to work hard at knowing and loving our neighbors. We tend to be shy and often we worship alongside of our brothers and sisters for years without really knowing them. Beloved, these things ought not to be. We are accountable to God and each other as we live the life of faith. We are called into community. Leaders of the parish are seeking to become the listening hearts that will hear the needs of our parish family. We need to know one another to love one another.

Third, we are called to look out at the world and find our place of vocation and service. God calls us. The word vocation, to call, is the root of the word vocation. We were made and shaped by the hand of God to live out our calling. If we don't do this, our lives will be less than complete and fulfilled. Many of you already know my catch phrase: "What on earth are you doing for heaven's sake?" In this mortal life, within this time of your incarnation, what are you doing that is of lasting value?

The Strategic Planning Team has been working for many months. The Proposed Plan is in the hands of the Vestry. Before the end of the summer the Vestry will consider, revise and adopt the Plan and present it to the Parish. We listen for God's call to our Beloved Community and to each and every one of us individually. Some may be called to new leadership roles; some to the priesthood and diaconate. New ministries may be created. Others want to improve current programs and practices. Some ministries have run their course. Some may have spiritual gifts for prayer and guidance. Schedules may need to be changed. Other needs of our common life and needs of our community are not being met and partnerships and ministries need to be developed to serve them.

It all may seem overwhelming but the Scripture promises that God will supply our needs: "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19.

Pray for St. Timothy's!

Love,
Marvin +

Invite • Welcome • Connect 101

Invite (aka Evangelism)

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age. Matthew 28:19-20

Invitation is not only about inviting people into a relationship with you and others in your congregation, but rather it is about inviting them into a relationship with God through Jesus.

People need a language with which to talk about their faith. We need to help them “spell Episcopalian with the alphabet of their own soul.” –Roy Oswald, Speed B. Leas. *The Inviting Church* (Alban Institute, 1987)

Welcome (aka Hospitality)

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. Romans 15:7

Welcoming the stranger is welcoming Jesus. Jesus paid attention to what was going on around him and especially to those people he encountered on a daily basis. He modeled for us a new way of seeing the other - the way of love, compassion, and forgiveness.

Hospitality is not to change people, but to offer them space where change can take place...We cannot force anyone to such a personal and intimate change of heart, but we can offer the space where such a change can take place. –Henri Nouwen

Connect (aka Belonging)

For as in one body we have many members, and all the members do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them. Romans 12:4-6

Connection is giving meaning to membership and discovering the gifts of the people.

Connection helps the newcomer answer these questions: Where do I fit in? Can I make friends in this church? Is there room for me relationally? Does this church need me? Can I find a place to belong and serve? Am I safe here?

Presiding Bishop issues video message on immigration: ‘Who is my neighbor?’

(This is the text of a video message Episcopal Presiding Bishop Michael Curry gave on July 15, 2019 as the treatment of immigrants at our southern border became a humanitarian crisis. It remains one today.)

I’m Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church. It goes without saying that there is a humanitarian crisis at the southern border of the United States. It is a human crisis, a crisis that has deep and complex roots, sources, and origins. But it is a crisis, a crisis of the human children of God.

There is suffering and there is hardship.

There is complexity and difficulty.

But it is a crisis that we as nation, that we as a global community, must face and find a way forward for the sake of our brothers and our sisters, for the sake of us all.



Deeply embedded in the Christian faith, indeed deeply embedded in the Jewish tradition, which is the mother of the Christian faith, and deeply embedded in the faith and traditions and values of many of the world’s great religions, is a profound conviction in a sure and certain value and virtue that care for the stranger, the alien, the visitor, is a sacred duty, a sacred vow.

In the Hebrew scriptures in the book of Deuteronomy, the book writes and says you shall love the stranger, for remember you were once strangers in the land of Egypt.

In the 25th chapter of Matthew in the New Testament, Jesus in the parable of the last judgment says that when you welcomed the stranger, when you did it to these who are members of my family, you have done it to me.



When you welcome the stranger, you welcome Jesus. The book of Hebrews in the New Testament says those who have welcomed the strangers have sometimes welcomed angels unawares.

Welcoming the stranger, or as some translations call the alien, welcoming those who are visiting among us is a cardinal virtue and value in our Christian faith.

Jesus was talking to a lawyer once; the story is told in Luke’s gospel. And, when he was talking to the lawyer, the lawyer asked him what he must do to inherit eternal life. And Jesus said, what did Moses teach in the Hebrew scriptures? The lawyer said, well, Moses said you shall love the Lord your God and love your neighbor as yourself.

And Jesus said do that and you will find life.



But the lawyer went on and he asked, well, can we define neighbor more precisely? Who is my neighbor? And that's when Jesus told what we now know as the Parable of the Good Samaritan where one person helped another person, a person who was completely unlike them, someone that person considered other, not my tribe, not my nationality, not my religion, not even my friend. And Jesus at the end of the parable said, who was the neighbor to the man who was in need? And the lawyer said, well the one who actually showed compassion.

And Jesus said, now go and do that likewise.



That parable of the Good Samaritan invites us, calls us, challenges us, to be neighbor to the neighbor.



Some of our neighbors are at the border and some of our neighbors are those who have immigrated to this country and are living right in our neighborhood or in our city or in our community, or our state. To show compassion to them is to obey Jesus. Go and do likewise.

Show compassion. Show mercy. Help the neighbor. Help the stranger. Love the Lord your God. And love your neighbor as yourself.

To watch Presiding Bishop Curry's video message: <https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/pressreleases/presiding-bishop-issues-video-message-on-immigration-who-is-my-neighbor/>

To help or for more information, go to <https://episcopalmigrationministries.org/response-to-the-border-education-and-advocacy/>

A Prayer for our Troubled Times

*Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving spirit
may so move every human heart
and especially the hearts of the people of this land,
that barriers which divide us may crumble,
suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease;
that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

(BCP p. 823)



Invite • Welcome • Connect

Q: What will IWC do for St. Tim's?

A: The testimonial below explains.

A Texas native and lifelong Episcopalian who was very active in her church and diocesan ministries made the difficult decision to move across the country for a job promotion. So what did this smart, professional, early-50s woman do right after she moved into her new home? She began visiting all the Episcopal churches in her area. As she lamented to her friend, Mary Foster Parmer, author of *Invite Welcome Connect: Stories and Tools to Transform Your Church*, “In every single church I’ve attended, it’s as if they don’t even see me. No one sees me!” She had signed guest registers and written her name on welcome cards for newcomers. The only follow-up she received was a form letter with a pledge card. But she kept trying. She finally found a church home a good distance from where she lived, and later wrote of her experience:

“While chatting with a greeter, I was invited by him to the upcoming newcomer dinner simply because ‘It’s important to meet people in a new city so you won’t be lost.’ Relationship versus membership. During that dinner the vicar used the same metaphor in describing what every individual should expect in his or her parish life—a relationship.

One week later, a six-year-old helped me write my name tag. Advent found me still visiting. During the peace, as they did with each other, I was also greeted by name. At Christmas, deeply grateful for God’s comfort and care during my journey, I dropped a check in the plate. When the church sent a letter blessing my giving for its use in helping the Body of Christ, they tugged at my heart because they told me what was important to theirs...

With that blessing I transferred my membership and started a new relationship. How many forms? Just the sign-in at the newcomer dinner. After all, they already knew me.”

We can do this!

A Prayer for the Bishop Search

Almighty God, whose grace sustains us in each moment:
Look with favor, we pray, upon your Church, upon this Diocese of Missouri,
and upon all who are discerning your call to serve You in this place among us.

You have called us to the courageous and joyful witness
of your reconciling and sustaining love for all the world;
to do justice, and love mercy, and walk humbly with You, O God, always.

May we, the people of this diocese, open our hearts, hopes, and minds
to your guidance and wisdom as we seek our new bishop,
whose vision will help inspire our walk with Jesus
as disciples in his Way of Love.

We ask the Holy Spirit's guidance and blessing upon the
people of this diocese, the Standing Committee,
the Bishop Search/Nominating Committee, and the Transition Committee
in their holy work of discernment.

May all we do be to the building of your Beloved Community.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

—The Rev. Leslie Scoopmire, priest-in-charge, St. Martin's Episcopal Church

For more information about the Bishop Search, go to:

<https://www.bishopsearch.diocesemo.org/>

TIM Talks

Conversations Worth Having

St. Timothy's Fall 2019 Adult Forums 9:40 a.m. Sundays, North Parish Hall

September 15 **No Forum**, but join all of St. Timothy's at a special event after our one service at 10 a.m. Learn how we are going to Invite, Welcome and Connect all God's children. Help us put the Spirit of Christ at the heart of St. Tim's mission to spread the good news and connect with those around us.

September 22 "The Episcopal Church from Slavery to Beloved Community" - Tony Corey and Agnes Bolwell will explore the history of the Episcopal Church from slavery to present and discuss what it means to belong to a Beloved Community in which all people can experience dignity and abundant life.

September 29 "What is Trinity Food Ministry?" - A multi-faceted approach to loving our neighbor. Come learn more from The Rev. Barbi Click, Deacon.

October 6 "Stewardship Campaign 2020" - Learn why this year's campaign is of special importance to St. Timothy's and why stewardship is important to the life of our parish 24/7/365!

October 13 "IWC" - Agnes Bolwell will conduct a Spiritual Gifts Inventory Workshop. Complete a Spiritual gifts Inventory to discern your skills, talents and enthusiasms to help build the community of St. Timothy's and beyond by recognizing and sharing what God has given you to use.

October 20 "Coffee with Camie" - Come enjoy an engaging discussion with our new Associate Rector!

October 27 and November 3 "Black Theology" - The Rev. Dr. Ben Sanders, Assistant Professor, Theology & Ethics, Eden Theological Seminary

November 10 "For Feeding Families is just the beginning" Juliet Holden will speak to us about the critical work by Circle of Concern including gifts to families who lack funds, paying utility bills, scholarships, school supplies, holiday parties, and more.

November 17 "St. Timothy's Strategic Plan for 2019 - 2021" - Jon Hotra will share how the plan will reach new people and incorporate them into the life of St. Timothy's and make necessary changes to attract families with children and youth to St. Timothy's.

November 24 Diocesan Convention Report - Come and hear from our delegates about the decisions, opportunities and challenges we face as members of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri.

December 1 **No Forum** so we can all attend the Advent Event - An all-ages (adults too!) annual event to prepare our homes for the observance of a Holy Advent.

December 8, 15, and 22 "Early Christian Perspectives on Paul's Letter to the Romans" - The Rev. Dr. Adam Ployd, Assistant Professor of Church History and Historical Theology, Eden Theological Seminary. Few books of the Bible have provided as much fodder for debate as Paul's Letter to the Romans. We will examine how early Christian thinkers dealt with some of the most controversial parts of the text, including topics like freedom and grace, divine predestination, and original sin.

If you have any ideas for topics or speakers for the Adult Forum, please contact Amy Conard.

"When you listen generously to people
they can hear the truth for themselves,
often for the first time."

- Rachel Naomi Remen

St. Timothy's Fall 2019 Adult Bible Study



During the Christian Formation Hour starting at **9:45 a.m.**, **Adult Bible Study** meets every Sunday in the **Lower Level** classroom. This is a discussion-based study open to everyone, organized by The Rev. Sue Eastes, and is led by Chuck Agne, Linda Lawless, Agnes Bolwell, and Bill Ray. Join us beginning **September 22, 2019** for our next year of compelling Bible Study – to study **Genesis**.

Our program features passages that speak to both mind and heart. We'll listen to particular voices from various people of God, as they hear, and interpret, the Word of God. And we'll look at responses evoked by those voices – responses that can be useful for us today. Everyone is welcome to these stimulating discussions. You may come to all sessions, or drop in as you wish. As Jesus said, **"Come and see."**

DATE	TOPIC	BIBLE READING
September 22	Source traditions w/I Genesis	
29	2 Creation stories	Genesis 1:1-2:4a
October 6	2 Creation stories	Genesis 2:5-25
13	"Sin rears its ugly head"	Genesis 3,4
20	"Coffee with Camie" Adult Forum—get to know our new Associate Rector!	
27	2 Murders	Genesis 5
November 3, 10	"Water, water everywhere": hubris arrives	Genesis 6-9; 11:1-9
17, 24	Covenants; Abraham	Genesis 9, 12-19
December 1	NO CLASS: Advent Event	
8, 15	Jacob and his capers	Genesis 27: 1-50:26
22, 29	NO CLASS: Christmas/New Year's holidays	

Another testimonial—a local one—to the effectiveness of the Invite Welcome Connect program:

After a year it is clear to me that Invite Welcome Connect is only partly about evangelism. Its primary outcome here has been transformation. St. Peter's has become a different parish. Long time members talk to each other more. People linger longer after church. More people stay for breakfast and participate in adult formation. We are having an adult Confirmation program for the first time in years. To my surprise, almost everyone wears a name tag! And as I talk with others in our neighborhood or in the diocese, more and more people refer to St. Peter's as "the welcoming church." I believe the best of the good news in this initiative is proclaimed anytime a new member tells a long-time member, "I joined this church because you all have been so welcoming." Anytime someone hears that it dispels the myth that "The Rector" draws people to the church and reinforces the truth that we all participate in the ministry of evangelism.

The Rev. Luke Jernagan, Rector, St. Peter's, St. Louis, Missouri

The St. Tim's Choir is Back!

HALLELUJAH!

We're glad you got a nice break over the summer, but we're THRILLED that you're back, filling the sanctuary with your lovely voices. Thank you for all you do to make our worship more meaningful and uplifting. Here's to another year of beautiful music!



Music Director and Choirmaster - Mark R. Scholtz

Sopranos

Marlene Gruber Clark, Alice Fritsch, Sarah Keeley, Cathie Muschany, Mary Robert, Lindsey Short

Alto

Ruth Birch, Judy DeMarco, Bridget Evers, Gina Frey, LaVerne Moseley,
Joy Rouse, Nancy Setzer, Jane Wyland

Tenor

Michael Bacon, Rose-Marie Bell, Will Bolden, Willard Moseley, Georgia O'Brien

Bass

Aaron Agne, Richard Brown, Bill Buhro, Brook Forsyth, The Rev. Nathaniel Pyron, Gary Schreiner



*"The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul."
- Johann Sebastian Bach*

Dates to Remember

September Birthdays

- 1 Sally Hall
- 2 Becky Porter
- 4 Bob Rouse
- Mary Wrausmann
- 5 Jack Danforth
- 6 Jon Hotra
- 7 Connor Smith
- 8 James Hinrichs
- Caitlin Hotra
- 9 Lance Kramer
- Dee Dee Stone
- 11 Maxine Sharp
- 13 Lenene Andre
- 14 Dick Gold
- Michael Spung

- 15 Adam Barnes
- Marin Moenkhaus
- Tina Warhover
- 17 Christy Ratliff
- 20 Teresa McDowell
- 23 Larry Thomas
- 24 Callan Goff
- Clark Loechner
- 25 Bud Bosanquet
- Mike Cummins
- 26 Sarah Johnson
- 27 Caroline Kelsey
- Robin Turner
- 30 Nick Mason

September Anniversaries

- 5 Peggy & Keith Boyd,
- 7 Sally & Jack Danforth
- 10 Rita & George Podolsky
- 14 Jane & Michael Wyland
- 20 Linda & Larry Lawless
- 30 Jennifer & Brad Barnes
- Fran & Mac Connelly

October Birthdays

- 6 Ian Pooley
- 8 Linda Lawless
- Karen McCollom
- 13 Mary Archer
- Steve Crock
- 16 Betty Harris
- Adrian Johnson
- 17 Sophia Porter
- 19 Gwendolyn Johnson
- 22 Pat Mason
- 23 Liz Elsaesser
- Gina Frey
- 24 Jonathan Buhro

- 25 Jeff Catalano
- Jackie Fleck
- Gary Hall
- Dianne Morgan
- 26 Jill Bosanquet
- 29 George Andre
- Peter Conard
- 30 Ann Buckman

October Anniversaries

- 11 Heidi & Alfonso Gioia
- Sue Ann & Joe McAvoy
- 21 Gail & Jack Jones
- 22 Jasmine & Gary Deken
- 26 Lori & Jon Hotra
- 28 Kathleen & Steve Cameron

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

BCP, p. 830



Invite • Welcome • Connect

INVITE

Extend a personal invitation to someone to come to church. Share your enthusiasm and your faith. *In a recent survey, 86% of the respondents said they would go to church if someone invited them.*

WELCOME

Welcome one another, just as Christ welcomed you. See the “other” and extend your hand and your heart. *Our world needs this right now.*

CONNECT

Understand and use your giftedness. Share your talents to form relationships that bring Christ’s love into lives. *As humans, we’re literally hard-wired to connect.*

Events in September & October

Sunday, Sept. 8

- Rally Day! (IC Truck)

Sunday, Sept. 15

- Single Service @10am
Invite, Welcome,
Connect Event

Monday, Sept. 23 9 a.m.

- Daytimers to Pompeii!

Saturday, Sept. 28

- Friends, Families & Faves 5:30 - 8 p.m.,
Music, Food & Fun!

Sunday, Sept. 29

- Flu Vaccine Clinic
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
in Library

Sunday, Oct. 6

- Best Wishes for Tess
after 9 & 10:45 svcs
Fri - Sun, Oct. 11 - 13

- Family Camp at Trout
Lodge in Potosi

Sunday, Oct. 27

- Trunk or Treat, 9:45am

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>

Mark R. Scholtz, *Director of Music*
Tess Barcey, *Parish Administrator*
Nancy Setzer, *Lead Office Volunteer*
Mitzi Uyemura, *Angler Editor*

Dated Church Material
Prompt Delivery Appreciated