



**SAINT TIMOTHY'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
CREVE COEUR, MO

The **Angler**

Faith Fellowship Service

**December**  
**2022 -**  
**January**  
**2023**

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

Creve Coeur, MO



The people walking  
in darkness have  
seen a great light...

Isaiah 9:2

# From the Rector



The word “Advent” comes from the Latin *adventus*, which means “coming” or “arrival.” The arrival or coming that we ready ourselves for is Jesus, preparing for the mystery of Christmas. In our lives, the word takes on new meanings in the midst of our busy lives.

Our Advent season is a time of **anticipation**. My eight-year-old lives for her Advent calendar and the lighting of the Advent wreath in our home. The spirit of the count-down builds and builds as the world around us grows more and more festive. The world around us tries to capitalize upon this spirit of anticipation by convincing us that buying stuff will somehow “ready” us for Christmas. However, Advent anticipation is something unto itself. It’s holy and pure, just as a child counting down the days until Christmas.

The practice of waiting—patiently or impatiently!—is a spiritual discipline. Scripture commends us to wait like a maid awaits the arrival of a groom, with our lamps lit and plenty of oil, anticipating the arrival of the one who brings the celebration. It is not a discipline meant only for children anticipating presents, but a discipline for us all during this season. We are called to anticipate everything that comes with the Lord into the world: justice, mercy, hope, and joy. We look out into the horizon of dark and difficult times and **anticipate** the coming of our Savior.

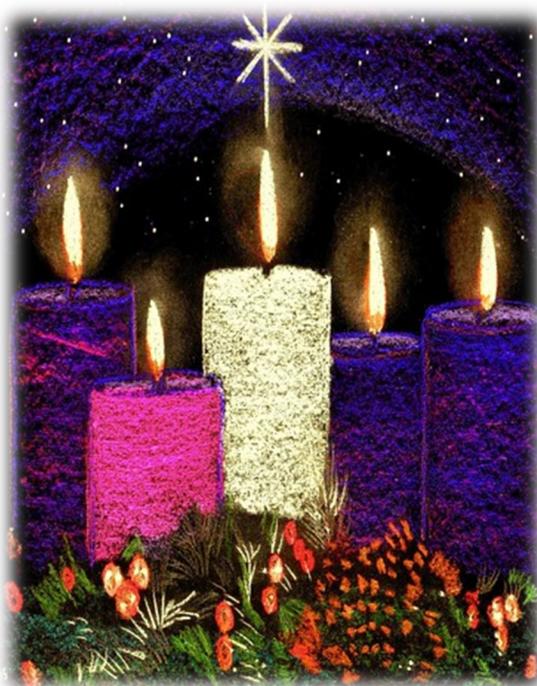
Advent is also the season when we contemplate the mystery of the **Incarnation**. Many of us have held a tiny baby in our arms and experienced the absolute fragility and dependency of that tiny life. What does it mean that God would choose such a thing? Rather than stress about extra holiday calories, we can use this season to meditate on the miracle of the human body—something so special that it became the vessel for God’s own self. The idea of our body being a “temple” takes on extra meaning during the season of Advent, as we imagine a tiny, vulnerable body being knit together in Mary’s womb for the purpose

of the world’s salvation. It makes our own bodies an expression of **incarnation** as well.

The season of Advent is marked by the singing of “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” and we begin to think about the meaning of that strange word: **Emmanuel**, or “God with us.” For me, this is the concept that truly makes me a Christian rather than another monotheistic religion. It’s the idea that God’s yearning for closeness to us could not be contained to mere covenant, mere encounter, mere creation. God’s love for us was so vast that it had to be expressed in the only language we understood: humanity. God came to be with *us*. (And not just because we were so bad at going to God!) God was willing to follow us into flesh and blood, grief and despair, pain and death (you know, being *human*) in order to save us from the permanence of those things. In response, we call out “Oh come, oh come **Emmanuel!**” Be with us once more, present in our lives. Be with us again, and return.

And so our Advent season begins. It is marked by a holy spirit of anticipation. It is an invitation to meditate upon the miracle of the Incarnation. And it is a prayer, “God with us,” Emmanuel. May this season—our first together—be all these things for each of you. Have a blessed Advent!

*Meghan +*



## Advent and Christmas Events and Services

Advent is the holy season where we prepare our hearts and minds for the mystery of the Incarnation. So great a mystery, that we require four whole weeks to get ready! I'd like to highlight a few Advent and Christmas offerings:

### Waiting Wednesdays:

We are offering an intergenerational program on Wednesday evenings in Advent from 5:30 - 7 p.m. The program will include a reflective, interactive story, an open-ended craft response for all ages, a family-friendly supper, and Compline. (Compline is the Episcopal Church's version of bedtime prayers!)



### Ordination of The Rev. Erin Pickersgill:

Rev. Erin has been doing a sort of "waiting" of her own during this season; anticipating her ordination the priesthood! I hope you will all join me on December 17 at 11 a.m. at Christ Church Cathedral to celebrate this wonderful moment. not just for Erin and her family, but for the entire Church.

### Stations of the Nativity:

This Christmas Eve (12/24) we invite you and your family to enter into the Nativity story.

**At 4 p.m.**, St. Timothy's will be hosting a special, interactive Stations of the Nativity service, which includes Holy Communion under the "stars." The service will take place in Fleming Hall. All are invited to come experience anew different parts of our familiar Christmas story.

Learn how to swaddle a baby (doll) with Mary! Become your favorite character by donning a costume! Help the shepherds create our Christmas altar cloth by sharing your Good News! All this and so much more during this service at 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

*\*We could still use a few helpers for this service! Please contact Rev. Erin if you can lend a hand with set-up or stations.*



### Festival Eucharist:



**At 9 p.m.** on Christmas Eve (12/24) we invite you to join us for our Traditional Christmas Eve celebration on the Feast of the Nativity. The service will include many of your favorite hymns, led by our talented Choir. While the service will not include incense, in order to include those with allergies and breathing issues, it will still include the element of scent, inviting us deeper into our contemplation into the mystery of the Incarnation. **Music will begin at 8:30 p.m.**

**Christmas Day:** On December 25 at 10 a.m., we hope you will join us for this combined service on Christmas morning! Children and families are invited to attend in their Christmas PJs. All our favorite Christmas hymns will be sung! There will also be an abridged reading of Madeleine L'Engle's Glorious Impossible featuring the frescoes of Giotto (in lieu of a sermon.) Please join us for this casual and festive service!

Many Advent Blessings!

*Mother Meghan*



## Be an Angel to Children in Detention

By Tina Warhover

As many of you know, ministering to children in St. Louis City and County detention centers is exclusively led by the Episcopal Church. Episcopal City Mission (ECM) provides on-site chaplains who provide counseling and mentoring to youth as they navigate the justice system and move back to school and society.

ECM believes that every child should know the magic of the holiday season. With your help, every child in detention will have at least one gift to unwrap. The message they receive is the true gift: they are beloved children of God, someone cares, and there is hope for a better life!

You can help by taking some tags off the Angel Tree located in the St. Tim's Gathering Space, purchasing the items listed, or by simply donating:

**Buy a gift, gift card, or make a donation by Sunday, December 11.**

Gift cards can be in any amount, from Target, Walmart, Amazon, or Old Navy. They are combined to purchase a personal gift for each child.

### Suggested gifts:

- ◆ GAMES: Connect 4, Scrabble, Jenga, Sorry, UNO, SkipBo, Playing Cards, Ping Pong Balls & Paddles
- ◆ Jigsaw Puzzles (50 - 200 pieces)
- ◆ Word Search Books (no wire/spiral binding, no Sudoku, no Crosswords)
- ◆ Children's version Bible Trivia
- ◆ Composition Notebooks—Black ONLY—for journaling (no spiral/wire binding)
- ◆ Coloring books & crayons (Super Hero and Teen-themed)
- ◆ Individually Wrapped Candy (no gum, peanuts, or lollipops)

Place the gift under the Angel Tree in the Gathering Space at St. Timothy's and hang an angel on the tree, or contact Tina Warhover for porch pickup.

**Monetary donations** can be in the form of a check mailed to/dropped off at St. Timothy's (with "ECM Angel Tree" on the memo line) or through online giving [HERE](#) with a message at the bottom of the form specifying "ECM Angel Tree."

Contact Tina Warhover at [tinawarhover@gmail.com](mailto:tinawarhover@gmail.com) or at 314-750-7009 with any questions. **Be an angel!**

## St. Timothy's Ongoing Food Pantry Donations

St. Timothy's Food Ministries continues to collect food for Trinity Church CWE and Circle of Concern food pantries.

### Trinity Food Pantry request list: (Collecting in December)

Toothpaste	Peanut butter
Toothbrushes	Cookies
Razors	Ramen noodles
Bar soap	Cereal and other breakfast foods
Deodorant	Recyclable plastic bags
Toilet paper	

### Winter Needs:

Men's Hooded Sweatshirts  
 Men's Winter Coats (No leather)  
 Men's Winter Gloves (Large/Extra Large)  
 Men's Pants, Khaki, Denim, or Sweat (32 – 38 waist)  
 Blankets (twin or full size, no quilts, no crochet)

### Circle of Concern request list: (Collecting in January)

Rice & Dried Beans  
 Pasta Sauce  
 Canned Tomato Products  
 Dinner "Helpers"  
 Boxed Potato Mixes  
 Peanut Butter, Jam/Jelly



### Other Needs:

Cold / Flu OTC Medication  
 Men's/Unisex Body Wash  
 Women's Incontinence Products  
 Household Cleaning Products, Liquid Dish Soap  
 Moisturizing Shampoo, Conditioner  
 Size 1 Diapers & Diaper Wipes  
 Feminine Care Products (size 3/4/5 pads, tampons)

## Great Expectations

By The Rev. James H. Purdy, Retired Clergy Associate

*John the Baptist shouted,  
You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the  
wrath that is to come? Bear fruit worthy of repent-  
ance, for even now the axe is lying at the root of the  
trees. Every tree that does not bear good fruit will be  
cut down and thrown into the fire.*

*I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who  
is more powerful than I is coming after me.*

(The Gospel according to Matthew 3: 1-12)

It was my first time “underground,” “underground” in a subway system. My paternal grandfather had taken me on my first train ride—from Princeton Junction to New York City. From Penn Station, we were to travel to my aunt’s apartment near Wall Street to meet her for lunch, to see the inner workings of her downtown hospital, then to visit the venerable Mr. Funston and the Stock Exchange and then to have tea with another of Grandpa’s friends (Frederick Fleming) at Trinity Church. Finally, my mother said, we would return home on a late afternoon train.

What an adventure for a just-turned-five-year old!

There we were, mid-morning, in Penn Station. We had descended the widest staircase I’d ever seen into the subway terminal. It was dark. It was quiet. It was empty.

As we were sitting on a bench, my grandfather said, “Look there, up the tracks. Let’s watch for a train. First, we will see a faint glow coming from far, deep inside the tunnel.”

We watched. And we waited and waited. A faint light. Then a headlight—growing brighter and brighter. The train was coming toward us.

In a closing rush, it roared into the station, banishing the quiet, sending, scattering newspapers and gum wrappers and dust in all directions.

Like storms pressing across a lake or a prairie, trains appear as a flicker and become, inexorably, a final rush of motion and sound. Thus, according to Matthew in the New Testament, thus the coming of the one whom John called “more powerful than I.” Thus, the coming of Jesus.

For centuries, God’s prophets had been promising the appearance of the Messiah. “When the Messiah comes,” they said, “Israel’s warfare would cease. Israel’s bondage would end. When Messiah comes.”

A redeemer would lead God’s chosen, dispersed people home to Zion. Messiah would find the lost, bear up the weak,

comfort the fear-filled, proclaim the good news—God’s news of repentance and restoration.

When, for SOME of the people, Jesus appeared, the flicker became a welcome rush of motion and sound. It was like an onrushing train bursting into the station; rousing those who were waiting, drawing them trackside, suddenly converting **people** into **passengers**.

Whatever people had been doing while waiting—being bored, feeling heightening anxiety (Will the train be on time? Will I make the meeting? Am I waiting beside the right track?), or writing, reading the paper, reaping, romancing, staring, wondering, chewing Mr. Wrigley’s favorite blend, holding onto a grandparent’s hand—NOW, the train was here. Its doors were opening. It was time to get on board!

Over the years, through the centuries, many prospective passengers on Messiah’s train have pretended that life in the station is life enough. They have stopped looking up the tracks to see what might be coming. They make do with whatever their station offers. They claim benches—every day, same one. Pecking orders emerge. They sit. Some of them bicker. Others nod off. Others stare blankly across the tracks at the once pristine-white now soot-covered subway tiles. When a train does arrive, they retreat from the noisy rush of its violent intrusion. They let the train push forward without them.

At some point, you and I sensed that “station life” cannot be enough. There must be “more”—more to faith, more to love, more to life: God doesn’t create US to stand on narrow, dusty platforms and watch trains go by. God invites us to stand inside a concert hall—to wait expectantly—to wait in the tension of both knowing and not knowing, open to the experience about to unfold, expectant rather than anxious—and then to climb on board, to move forward.

That morning long ago, the train had room for my grandfather and me—even two seats, side-by-side. So does **Messiah’s** train. It has room for all of us.

And, just like the subway car roaring ahead under New York City, once we enter its doors, nothing will ever be the same: the adventure of a lifetime continues as we move forward expectantly, rolling on the steel rails in the car of truth and justice, love, kindness and mercy, generosity and peace through the often-dark tunnels of life into the bright light of the very heart of God.

*Come, thou long-expected Jesus. Come into our lives  
once again today. Amen.*

# Journeying the Way of Love Advent Calendar

## ADVENT CALENDAR 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>27 Worship</b></p> <p><b>Advent 1</b></p> <p>Read Luke 21:25-36. How do the symbols of the Advent season help you understand the story of Jesus? Where do you see them in your worship today?</p>	<p><b>28 Go</b></p> <p>Go out of your way to have a conversation with someone you might not normally visit with today. Ask God to open your heart to hear this person as God does.</p>	<p><b>29 Learn</b></p> <p>Read Matthew 4:18-22. How do these verses from Matthew inspire you to read Scripture with new eyes? Try reading several different translations of this passage. See how the language might change your reading of it.</p>	<p><b>30 Pray</b></p> <p>Pray along with the Collect for Advent 1, found on page 211 of The Book of Common Prayer. Set a timer for three minutes to sit in silence and hear what God might be saying back to you.</p>	<p><b>1 Bless</b></p> <p>We know that angels are God's special messengers to us, and that Gabriel spent intentional time with Mary, helping her to understand her part in God's story. Who has shared an important lesson or their presence with you this week? Thank them today with a call or note.</p>	<p><b>2 Turn</b></p> <p>Read Isaiah 58. How does this reading challenge you to think about feasts and festivals differently? How might this lesson change the way you celebrate or recognize this holy season?</p>	<p><b>3 Rest</b></p> <p>Put your phone on airplane mode and leave it in a dresser drawer for an hour or two. Whatever happens in that time, you can handle later. Give this time to yourself and Jesus, to rest and recharge for the week ahead.</p>
<p><b>4 Worship</b></p> <p><b>Advent 2</b></p> <p>Read Luke 3:1-6. How does the story of John the Baptist fill your heart with hope?</p>	<p><b>5 Go</b></p> <p>Read or watch your local news. Ask God to open your heart and eyes to ways you can promote reconciliation and healing in your community.</p>	<p><b>6 Learn</b></p> <p>Read Luke 1:45. Share your faith story with one new person this week. It can be someone you have known for a while who has not heard the faith part of your story.</p>	<p><b>7 Pray</b></p> <p>Pray along with the Collect for Advent 2, found on page 211 of The Book of Common Prayer. As you are out and about for the rest of this week, notice the people you pass. Ask God to bless them in their lives and work. See how this changes the way you go about your week.</p>	<p><b>8 Bless</b></p> <p>Call or write a letter to a family member with whom you would like to have a closer relationship. Make plans in the new year to chat on the phone or meet over Zoom or in person. Let them know how much you love them and look forward to knowing them better.</p>	<p><b>9 Turn</b></p> <p>Where did you struggle this week? Do you have amends or apologies or adjustments you need to make? Ask God to open your heart and mind to those opportunities for reconciliation and growth. Thank God for the gifts of mercy and love, and the courage to make the changes necessary. And then do your best, with God's help, to make those changes.</p>	<p><b>10 Rest</b></p> <p>Set aside 30 minutes to spend in silence with your best friend today. Sure, it may feel a little weird to be silent on the phone or while sitting next to each other on the couch or across the table. Just give it a try. Make sure to set aside time after your silence to pray for each other and to say thanks for the time of rest.</p>
<p><b>11 Worship</b></p> <p><b>Advent 3</b></p> <p>Imagine the faces you'd like to see at church — an all-star list of folks you want to worship with. This could be people you know from summer camp when you were a kid, people who might have already died, people you work with — all your favorites. Commit to pray for those folks this week. And make a commitment to ask one of your all-stars to come to church with you in the next month.</p>	<p><b>12 Go</b></p> <p>Take a new or different route to work, or school, or out to run errands. See how using a different route requires you to see the world differently — to pay a different kind of attention. What do you notice along the way that makes you stop and take a second look? Does anything on this new route inspire your faith journey or remind you of lessons learned?</p>	<p><b>13 Learn</b></p> <p>Read Luke 1:59-80. When Zechariah's speech returns, he praises God. If you lost the power to speak for nine months like Zechariah did, what would be your first word of praise? Share this with your family, friends, and on social media.</p>	<p><b>14 Pray</b></p> <p>Pray along with the Collect for Advent 3, found on page 212 in The Book of Common Prayer. How will prayer guide you through the rest of the week? Set aside special time today to focus your intentions on stirring up peace and spreading joy.</p>	<p><b>15 Bless</b></p> <p>Spend a significant amount of time today discerning if there is a special blessing or gift you can share with your church, a local ministry, or with your community. Ask God to inspire and equip you with the fortitude and tools to make this gift something truly memorable and heartfelt.</p>	<p><b>16 Turn</b></p> <p>Turn away from the busyness of the world right now. Turn your heart and mind toward giving thanks for this time of reflection, refreshment, and renewal. Turn your attention toward how you will be resting tomorrow, and put things in place so you can make the most of your sabbath time.</p>	<p><b>17 Rest</b></p> <p>Spend at least 45 minutes outside today, without doing yard work or fixing lights or redoing bows on the garland. Take some time to just sit outside and let the air wash over you, taking away the stress and worry of the moment. Read Psalm 100 before and after your outside time. See how this psalm may help you rest and recharge your spirit.</p>
<p><b>18 Worship</b></p> <p><b>Advent 4</b></p> <p>Linger before leaving your worship time today. How is God calling you to hear and sing along with Mary's Song? Read Luke 1:39-55.</p>	<p><b>19 Go</b></p> <p>Go out into your neighborhood today. Where is God at work? Ask God to show you how you can celebrate that good work and name God's presence in your community.</p>	<p><b>20 Learn</b></p> <p>Read Habakkuk 2:1-4. Does this reading remind you of Thomas the disciple? Why do you think the folks who organized the lectionary picked this reading from the Old Testament for this friend of Jesus?</p>	<p><b>21 Pray</b></p> <p>Pray along with the Collect for Advent 4, found on page 212 in The Book of Common Prayer. Pick three or four of your beloveds to focus your prayers on today. Make sure to leave some silent space for God to offer you some wisdom about what they may need right now.</p>	<p><b>22 Bless</b></p> <p>Make sure to pick up an extra present or two — a nice candy sampler or a warm pair of slippers or pajama pants, just in case you have extra friends or guests drop by. Ask God to bless those who travel and those who may be alone in the coming days. Take some bottled water and sports drinks over to your local community cold weather shelter. They will be extra glad to have that during the winter months.</p>	<p><b>23 Turn</b></p> <p>If you are gathering with friends and family today, consider taking time during the meal to turn to the folks on your right, and then on your left, to thank them for their love in your life. See how this might spread some joy and comfort around the table — or maybe even ease some potentially prickly guests.</p>	<p><b>24 Rest</b></p> <p><b>Christmas Eve</b></p> <p>The conventional wisdom is that new parents should rest when the baby is resting. Make sure you take some time out to rest with Baby Jesus — and marvel in the wonder of a fresh, new, clean, shiny, tiny, precious start. Take a nap and thank God for the gift of Jesus and for peace at Christmas.</p>

# “5 Ways to Prepare Ye”

From Episcopal Church Foundation Vital Practices website

By Linda Buskirk  
Published 10/17/17

Already stores urge us to “prepare for the holidays”—as if the whole season depends on us choosing a new color scheme for our Christmas decorations. Right now.

Episcopal sensibilities resist this, of course. We are too busy getting back into the swing of Sunday School, reviving outreach ministries, and conducting annual giving campaigns. Before we know it, the last pot will be scrubbed after the annual community Thanksgiving meal. Dry your hands, sit down, take a breath. Welcome Advent.



**Here are five ways to get ready to experience a meaningful Advent.**

**1) Be intentional about Advent.** Give Advent a fighting chance to be part of the mix of your life in December with intentionality. Author Cynthia Bourgeault’s advice about how to approach Centering Prayer can be applied to Advent, with the urging that it is “important to be as clear as you can be” about how willing you are to give yourself to a practice:

*“To the extent that your intention is clear and strong, your practice will be also. If your intention gets muddled and consumed, so will your practice. ...You are simply asked to attend, to give yourself completely into that deeper, mysterious presence.” (from Chapter 12, [The Wisdom Jesus](#), by Cynthia Bourgeault)*

**2) Prepare ye.** There are wonderful resources for personal, group, congregational and children’s observances of a meaningful Advent. Episcopal Church Publishing, Inc. offers a variety of daily meditation and reflection books for adults, children and families ([here](#)). Forward Movement publishes a variety of pamphlets helpful for engaging groups of adults or children in preparing for the coming of Christ ([here](#)).

**3) Make a place.** We all know where our Christmas tree stands. Where is your spot for contemplating Jesus’ birth? In the delightful children’s booklet [Love Life, Live Advent](#), found at Church Publishing, authors Paula Gooder and Peter Babington, advise families to “Make a place in your home where you will think about Advent. Make it special by putting your Advent calendar, candle, crib-set or wreath there.”

**4) Invite.** The wealth of our liturgical year holds value for all seekers of God’s light. Even if your Advent reflections are done solo, you can share your experience with others, just as you might tell them about a good book you are reading. When party guests arrive, mention the beauty that the Advent wreath is adding to the season. The light you are finding will shine brighter when shared with others.

**5) Expect.** Jesus promises that when we seek God, we will find God. Hold your Advent journey lightly in your hand, joyously experiencing where it may lead. Advent anticipates more than a celebration of what we know already happened 2,000+ years ago. Expect transformation and your own rebirth in the manger of your heart. <https://www.ecfvp.org/blogs/3535/5-ways-to-prepare-ye>

## An Advent Prayer

*Lord Jesus,  
Master of both the light and the darkness,  
send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.  
We who have so much to do  
seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.  
We who are anxious over many things  
look forward to your coming among us.  
We who are blessed in so many ways  
long for the complete joy of your kingdom.  
We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.  
We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.  
To you we say, “Come Lord Jesus!” Amen.*

- Henri J.M. Nouwen

## The A-Team Journey Continues

By Karen Luecking

St. Timothy's Afghan Refugee Family Support Group—the A-Team—was given a \$1,000 grant by the Diocese of Missouri earlier this year to start to fund their ministry helping an Afghan refugee family resettle in St. Louis. The Diocese recently requested that we create a video explaining how this grant was used. Many parishes within the DioMO received these grants, and the videos were shown at the Diocesan Convention held in November. The process of making this video allowed us all to reflect on the amazing experience we've had in this journey with our Afghan family. Our team's video can be viewed by clicking the link at the end of the article.

The A-Team is made up of Karen Luecking, the “captain,” Steve Crock, Susan Moenkhaus, LaVerne Moseley, Joy Rouse, and Mary Saggau. The team members continue to assist and support our Afghan refugee family of 9 as they make extraordinary progress since we first met them in April of 2022.

The five older boys, ages 9, 11, 13, 15, and 17, are back in school and thriving. They're still a little hesitant to practice their English with us but they grin and grin. The dad continues to diligently work at his assembly line job to support his family. His English is improving greatly. Mary sits with him and helps him write checks to pay his utility bills and rent. The entire family belly laughed as he pointed to Mary's cursive writing of the amount on the check and said it looked like Chinese! He's so eager to learn and never gives up. The mom takes care of the baby and two-year-old, cooks wonderful Afghan meals and keeps an impeccably clean house. She loves her weekly English lessons with Joy, Susan and LaVerne. Her smile lights up the room. **Editor's Note:** Karen, according to the group members, “supports each of us in what we do, tracks all of the loose ends, makes tons of phone calls to IISTL and the school, etc. She is the glue that holds everything together!”

In early September, we helped the family move into a small home in a residential neighborhood in the Dutch-town area with the help of Welcome Neighbor STL. The home has more affordable rent and smaller utility payments than their previous home. Steve spent hours and multiple days mounting a donated TV, installing the washer and dryer, fixing a clogged drain in the basement, re-routing a gutter and teaching them about yard work. The house is small but the family seems to be adjusting to the

new location. During one visit, Mary had time to go out to the alley behind their home and teach one of the boys how to ride a bicycle! He was a natural and his brothers and mom applauded wildly!

The family still has hurdles to overcome. The dad needs more coaching about managing expenses with such a large family. The mom is frequently house-bound and we are trying to think of ways to help her develop friendships with other local Afghan women. The bureaucracy involved with the various support programs' paperwork (food stamps, WIC, Medicaid, etc.) as well as immigration status is frustrating and mind-numbing for both our team and the family. We just keep at it.

When we reflect on everything this tight-knit family has accomplished this year, it is astonishing. They continue to create a new life for themselves in the St. Louis area. They express their gratitude for all we have done for them each time we visit. Our gratitude for all they have given us is boundless.

During this season of Advent, as we reflect on the impending birth of Christ, we ask the parish to continue to pray for this family and for our A-Team group members as we accompany the family on their extraordinary journey. What we've been able to accomplish could not have been done without all of you at St. Timothy's.

We would like to give our family some of the things they most urgently need, including winter coats, grocery store gift cards, and diapers. St. Timothy's members have responded with incredible generosity each time we've requested donations, and we hope you will again. Please watch for notices about donation requests in upcoming editions of Tim's Times.

To watch our team's video, click [HERE](#) or go to St. Tim's website: <https://www.saint-tims.org/news> & scroll down.



## Advent & Christmastide at St. Timothy's

### ADVENT I

27 November

Holy Eucharist 9:00 and 10:45 AM

### ADVENT II

4 December

Holy Eucharist – 9:00 and 10:45 AM

### ADVENT III

11 December – *Gaudete*

Holy Eucharist – 9:00 and 10:45 AM

### ADVENT IV

18 December

Holy Eucharist – 9:00 and 10:45 AM

*Greening of the Church – Noon*

### CHRISTMAS EVE

24 December

Family Service 4:00 PM

✦ ✦ ✦

Music of the Season - 8:30 PM

Holy Eucharist 9:00 PM

### CHRISTMAS DAY

25 December

Holy Eucharist – ONE SERVICE - 10:00 AM

### THE HOLY NAME

1 January

Holy Eucharist – ONE SERVICE – 10:00 AM



## Remembering Those We Have Lost



As 2022 comes to an end, we remember our loved ones who died this year. Let us pray for all of these souls, and for their loved ones who grieve.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let light perpetual shine upon them.*

Judy Flacke, April 5, 2022

Blaine Stone, April 20, 2022

Brigitte Gutsche, June 12, 2022

Lenene Andre, August 6, 2022

John E. (Jack) Jones, Nov 6, 2022

The Rev. Alfred Jewson, Nov 6, 2022

*O God, whose days are without end, and whose mercies cannot be numbered:*

*Make us, we pray, deeply aware of the shortness and uncertainty of human life; and let your Holy Spirit lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days; that, when we shall have served you in our generation, we may be gathered to our ancestors, having the testimony of a good conscience, in the communion of the Catholic Church, in the confidence of a certain faith, in the comfort of a religious and holy hope, in favor with you, our God, and in perfect charity with the world. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

*Almighty God, Father of mercies and giver of comfort: Deal graciously, we pray, with all who mourn; that, casting all their care on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## Report from the Treasurer

### October 2022



	2021 Budget	As of October 31	% of Budget
<b>Income</b>	\$591,950	\$514,049	86.84%
<b>Expenses</b>	\$645,416	\$508,291	78.75%
<b>Net Income</b>	-\$ 53,466	-\$ 7,266	

St. Timothy's had a (\$21,354) loss for October, bringing our year-to-date result to a loss of (\$7,266).

I've mentioned previously that many pledges have been paid in advance; with 83.33% of the year elapsed, 94% of the amount pledged has been received. Therefore, we expect pledge income to slow in the last two months. Also, plate income has significantly decreased since the pandemic started.

Fortunately, expenses have been less than budgeted, and the month of December is usually a good month. Projections are difficult, but I'm optimistic that our year-end result will be better than we budgeted, though we still expect a deficit.

Our success in 2023 will depend significantly on the pledges received in the current Stewardship campaign. As we begin our budgeting process, it is key to have as much pledge information as early as possible. **If you have yet to make your pledge, please consider doing so as soon as possible.**

Rick Sharp, Treasurer  
[treasurer.at.saint.tims@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.at.saint.tims@gmail.com)

## Stewardship Campaign Update

Like a tiny mustard seed that germinates quickly and spreads, it doesn't take an abundance; it just takes enough. This is also true of stewardship. When we practice faithful stewardship of what we have, it germinates, grows, and multiplies, blessing others with the abundance of our lives in Christ. [tens.org]

Many thanks to all of you who have made a financial pledge for 2023! To date we have received 83 pledges, 68 of which are the same or higher than last year. That puts us 91% of the way to reaching our financial goal of \$530,000! We're almost there!

To all who have pledged, we thank you for your faithfulness. You make our future brighter and give Mother Meghan a great welcome with your wonderful support. Know that the door is always open for any lingering pledges. If you have questions about pledging, please speak to one of us or a Treasurer. Special thanks to the committee on this year's campaign, Karen Sharp and Ashley Snyder, and to our Administrative Assistant, Kathy Tate, for all their hard work.

- DeeDee Stone, Chair

## Why Do We Pledge?

God wants each of us to experience the joy of generosity. Created in the image of our generous God, we are made to reflect God's generosity. And God calls us to become partners in God's work in the world through our gifts. As we grow in generosity, we grow in godliness and discipleship. <https://www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/why-pledging-still-matters/>

**Practically speaking**, a "pledge" is an estimate of your giving for the coming year, which in turn, funds everything we do as a faith community—from paying the salaries of our clergy and staff, to supporting our outreach ministries, our pastoral care, our worship, our education programs, our music, and our facilities. No amount is too small.

But **spiritually speaking**, your pledge is both a statement of thanksgiving and an outward and visible sign of your commitment to follow in the way of Jesus, by giving as God gives to us. A pledge can turn your giving into a spiritual practice just like prayer or worship which in turn helps to keep God as a priority in our life.

<https://christchurchcranbrook.org/2020/10/15/everything-you-wanted-to-know-but-were-afraid-to-ask-about-making-a-pledge/#:~:text=It%20is%20both%20a%20statement,faith%20and%20trust%20in%20God.>

# Dates to Remember

## December Birthdays

1	Jacob Sidor	12	Jane Perna
2	Stacia Kaufman	14	John Loomis
3	Toby Hafeli		Mary Robert
4	Pat Hutchison		Addie Joyce Sidor
5	Jane Wyland	15	Scott Wischnowsky
	Kurt Zwikelmaier	16	Stewart Rayfield
6	Ian Fogg	18	Maddy Snyder
8	Marlene Gruber Clark	19	Louann Boyd
	Patricia Feeney	21	Nya Moenkhaus
	Nancy Setzer		John Wischnowsky
10	Robyn Merschen	22	Doug Hagrman
	Dennis Whittington		Louise Pooley
11	Gabe Porter	23	Steve Cameron

24	Ginni Campbell Johnson
27	Mike O'Neil
28	Rose-Marie Bell
31	Jason Mihal

## December Anniversaries

11	Hongxia Wang & Marc Vanacht
19	Marj & Dick Gold Lynn & Dennis Whittington
27	Jeanne & Ken Dobbins Beverly & Larry Rhea
29	Ruth & Wayne Birch

## January Birthdays

1	Ryan Linneman	19	Ella Kaufman
	Sue Ann McAvoy		Emma Kaufman
6	Grant Schuh	21	Keith Boyd
8	Phyllis Knight		Irene Cummins
	Katherine Spung	24	Roger Moses
9	Diane Brost	29	Amy Conard
10	Madeline Zwikelmaier		Ron Fleck
12	Jason Atkinson		Bobby Magers
	Callahan Morgan		Marian O'Reilly
13	Ellen Ciesla		Blair Porter
16	Charlotte Bukowski	30	Jennifer Wischnowsky
	Gary Gannon	31	Norma Rayfield
	Gary Shreiner		

## January Anniversaries

3	Mary Robert & David Hawley
5	Alicia & James Moses
7	Cathie & Rob Muschany
8	Celeste & Robert Roberson
12	Madeline & Kurt Zwikelmaier
21	Pat & John Wootton
22	Emmy & Jim Purdy

*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*

# TIM Talks

Conversations Worth Having

## Fall - Winter 2022 Adult Forums 9:45 a.m. Sundays in Fleming Hall

### Dec. 4 and 18 "A Spiritual Take on Advent & Christmas"

Dr. Warren Crews

Originally, Advent was about the End Times and Christmas was called the Feast of the Incarnation. Today the only "end times" we take seriously in December is the last date we can order a present online or mail and have it arrive in time for Christmas. The meaning of Christmas long ago shifted primarily to gift giving and family gatherings. We will explore the spiritual ideas that underlie these two important church seasons.

**Dec. 11 "Homelessness in St. Louis"** – Rob Good will speak to us about the Winter Outreach program, his experiences with that work, and policy in Missouri about this issue.

**Dec. 26 and Jan. 2** – No Adult Forum

Please read the Tim's Times for information about upcoming Adult Forums or call the office with questions.

## Rooms for Rent

By Nancy Setzer

Did you know that outside groups are renting our rooms? They haven't been rented for the last couple of years because of the pandemic, but groups are beginning to come back and St. Tim's welcomes more.

We have these regular renters:

- An Aerobics class, meeting Wednesday and Friday mornings
- The West County Spinners, a square dancing group, meet two Monday nights per month
- Daughters with Dignity, an Alcoholics Anonymous group, meet weekly
- Visions of Harmony Chorus, a women's barbershop society, meets weekly on Tuesday nights
- Sts. Peter & Paul Ecumenical Catholic Church use the sanctuary for their service on Sundays from 2 - 4 p.m.
- Showstoppers, a group rehearsing for a musical revue to be performed in July, will begin meeting Thursday nights in April

Other groups who rent periodically include:

- MORR and the Diocesan Dismantling Racism Commission, for workshops and seminars
- Creve Couer Chamber of Commerce, bingo night
- Parkway grade schools (various), for trivia nights
- Young Men's Service League

**Parishioners can also rent space for their own special events!** Call Kathy Tate in the office with questions.

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### Address Service Requested

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Church Office: (314) 434-5906  
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The Rev. Erin Pickersgill, *Deacon*  
Mark R. Scholtz, *Director of Music*  
Kathy Tate, *Administrative Assistant*  
Mitzi Uyemura, *Angler Editor*

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