



SAINT TIMOTHY'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CREVE COEUR, MO



**February -
March
2021**

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

Creve Coeur, MO

LENT



PRAY

FAST

GIVE

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART, O GOD;
AND RENEW A RIGHT SPIRIT WITHIN ME.

PSALM 51:10

From the Interim Rector



RELENT, REPENT and RETURN: A journey through the season of Lent

Friends and children of God –

The pandemic is ramping up, and more contagious strains are now upon us, and there is a new administration governing our land. It has been a challenging season after the Epiphany and the season of Lent is upon us. Still, the staff at St. Timothy's continues to work hard to bring you the very best of what it means to be church in these challenging times.

Mother Camie did a wonderful study series of Women in the Bible which started in Advent and brought us through the season of Epiphany, It was very well received and brought us deeper insight into who we could become – and who we might strive not to be. The ability to meet in small groups on ZOOM during that class was wonderful and deepened our relationships with each other. Mark orchestrated another beautiful Evensong for St. Timothy's Day, assisted by members of the choir and by Mother Camie. (I simply showed up and preached, but it was beautiful to be a part of it, with candlelight and choir.) Our first virtual Annual Meeting was held on January 24 and was very well attended. We elected members to the Vestry, Delegates to the Convention, and representatives to our Endowment Fund. We had a Town Hall Meeting with our new bishop, The Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson, who gave us a peek into his vision for the Diocese of Missouri. The meeting was very well attended and we all were grateful for the opportunity to ask direct questions of our bishop.

On the horizon, Lent is coming. The pandemic is still stunting our opportunities to worship as we always have in Lent, but we are adapting. Lent is a time of self-examination, evaluation, and sometimes drastic personal changes. This whole last year often felt like a year of Lent as the Corona-virus pandemic arrived and necessitated a process of change for all churches. After a several months, it became clear the meaning of church and the practice of church was being transformed. Often, I asked myself and others, "Where is God in all of this?"

We are discovering that God is here, and God is walking with each one of us and will continue to do so. We have a new Bible Study starting up for Lent, called "Ten People in the Bible You Thought you Knew: and Why They Matter." Watch for your Thursday email for details. The Bishop is coming to Saint Tim's in person to confirm three of our youth on February 9. Only families can be present, but we will live-stream that service. Finally, we will drop a weekly meditation video every Monday during Lent that will assist you with your own Lenten discipline. Through a mix of music, the visual arts, scripture reading and reflection, we pray all of you who participate will experience three things:

1. A deepening of your relationship and awareness of God;
2. A deeper understanding of yourself and your call;
3. A renewed awareness of how essential the discipline of prayer is for our own growth and transformation.

In the name of the Church, I invite you to the observance of a holy Lent.

Grace and peace -

Liz+

Episcopal Relief & Development Focuses on Lament in 2021 Lenten Meditations

Episcopal Relief & Development
Posted Jan 19, 2021

In response to the unprecedented events of the past year, Episcopal Relief & Development's [2021 Lenten Meditations](#) share deeply personal reflections on the theme of lament from a diverse group of writers. Many of the authors share experiences related to a variety of issues including disease, violence, racial injustice and poverty.

"2020 was a deeply challenging year for many, filled with losses," said Sean McConnell, Senior Director, Engagement, Episcopal Relief & Development. "We hope our supporters will use the 2021 Lenten Meditations to guide them through the four steps of lament and to help them heal and grow."

The meditations follow the "Four Steps of Lament" outlined by author and speaker [Heidi Weaver](#):

- Rest, to take sabbath time to simply be present to our current situation
- Reflect on that which has been lost
- Repent for the sufferings and loss we have caused or overlooked make Restitution and be Restored to God and to one another.

The authors of the meditations are all leaders in The Episcopal Church and represent diverse perspectives, ministries and backgrounds.

"Editing the collection was powerful to me on a personal level," said Sandra Montes, Editor of the 2021 Lenten Meditations. "Reading each reflection by Episcopal leaders of color who invited me into this season of Lent by opening up their hearts and using their voices to help me lament, while giving me hope, was incredibly moving."

The 2021 meditations are available online to [download](#). Supporters are also invited to [sign up](#) to receive the daily meditations in English and Spanish by

email. Unlike previous years, the meditations are only available online, not as printed booklets.

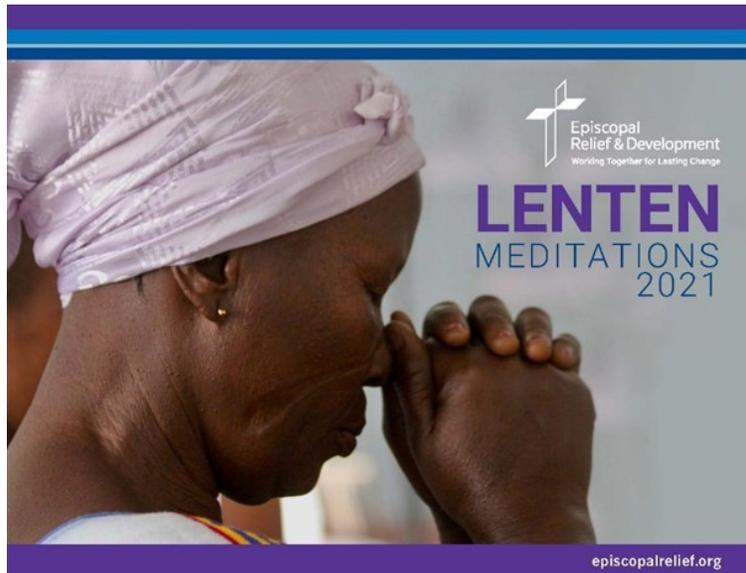
"As many churches have moved their services online, we felt it was important to create a Lenten experience that would continue to be useful for our supporters," continued McConnell.

Episcopal Relief & Development also invites churches and supporters to observe Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday this year on **Sunday, February 21** or another Sunday in Lent. Lent was officially designated at the 2009 General Convention of The Episcopal Church as a time for dioceses, congregations and individuals to remember and

support the work of Episcopal Relief & Development. Although the first Sunday in Lent is the official day of observance, churches may hold a special service on any Sunday. Liturgical resources to help congregations observe Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday are available at episcopalrelief.org/sunday.

"The expressions of lament in the 2021 Lenten Meditations share sorrow, but

they also come from a place of deep love," said the Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate, The Episcopal Church. "Because God loves us we know that God joins us in lamenting the loss of any living being." Download the Lenten Meditations and learn more about planning an Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday at episcopalrelief.org/Lent.



PRAY

IS LOVE FOR GOD

FAST

IS LOVE FOR YOURSELF

GIVE

IS LOVE FOR OTHERS

Forty Simple Practices for Lent

By Sarah Bessey

<https://sarahbessey.substack.com/p/40-simple-practices-for-lent>

(Edited in italics where necessary due to COVID restrictions.)



Day One :: Participate in St. Timothy's "Drive Up Ashes" on Ash Wednesday. Receive the imposition of the ashes and consider your mortality. Read Jan Richardson's "Blessing for the Dust." <http://paintedprayerbook.com/2013/02/08/ash-wednesday-blessing-the-dust/>

Day Two :: Access the *Book of Common Prayer* online at <https://www.bcponline.org/> or pick up a prayer book like *Eastertide: Prayers for Lent Through Easter from the Divine Hours* by Phyllis Tickle and begin to pray the daily offices at morning, midday, and evening. Do this throughout Lent.

Day Three :: Choose something to fast for the remaining days to remind you of your dependence on God. Something like the traditional meat or alcohol, sugar or caffeine, or even social media. (One year, my friend Rachel gave up sleeping in. Another friend gave up complaining, another gave up cynicism, another unnecessary spending.) Be creative and honest about your dependencies. Look for ways to channel that energy into something generative and healing.

Day Four :: Pray for your friends and for your enemy/ies by name. Bless them, one by one. Think of the person you most struggle to love and pray for them as a beloved child of God.

Day Five :: If you normally listen to a podcast or music or watch TV, choose silence for the day.

Day Six :: Unfollow or mute five social media accounts that make you feel angry, afraid, or envious.

Day Seven :: Read Psalm 51 three times out loud in a different Bible translation than you usually read.

Day Eight :: Step outside and walk/ride/drive/motor/wheel to a spot with trees or water.

Day Nine :: Repent. The kingdom of God is at hand. Read Amos 5 while you're at it.

Day Ten :: Make a list of 40 things, experiences, or people you're thankful for.

Day Eleven :: Look at your bookshelves and ask yourself: where are the women? the people of colour? disabled voices? LGBTQ+ voices? the ones who come from a different tradition? Ask yourself, "who is forming my spiritual life? and whose voices are missing?" (P.S. You could even join us for Field Notes Book Club as a start. <https://sarahbessey.substack.com/people/11996-sarah-bessey>)

Day Twelve :: Think of five people who inspire you or others on social media. Amplify their voices or buy their books, send them an encouraging note or share their work with a friend.

Day Thirteen :: Donate 40 things to a charity or thrift shop. (See the "40 Items-40 Days Challenge" on page 9.)

Day Fourteen :: Educate yourself about whose land you are living on by visiting Native-Land.ca and learn something about the people. If there is a learning centre nearby, plan a visit.

Day Fifteen :: *When we can do so again*, take your own bags to the grocery store and your own mug to the coffee shop or work.

Day Sixteen :: Read a poem. Mary Oliver's *Wild Geese* is one of my favourites http://www.phys.unm.edu/~tw/fas/yits/archive/oliver_wildgeese.html but there are many. Online poetry anthology: <https://www.poemtree.com/>

Day Seventeen :: Skip the Internet for a day and turn off notifications on your phone.

Day Eighteen :: Invite someone *in your bubble* over to your home and cook them a simple weeknight meal. If they are also a believer or comfortable with the practice, pray for one another together at the table.

Day Nineteen :: Speak words of forgiveness out loud to yourself for that thing you've been holding onto for too long.

Day Twenty :: Send an encouraging email or note to your pastor or priest and tell them how much you appreciate all the extra work they are doing for Lent and Easter prep.

Day Twenty One :: Light a candle and meditate for five minutes, bringing yourself back over and over again to one word you need to cling to right now (example: beloved).

Day Twenty Two :: Plant a tree or a flower. Take a moment to be grateful for this world. Place your hands in the dirt and rejoice.

Day Twenty Three :: Tell someone you trust the truth you've been holding back.

Day Twenty Four :: Ask for help with something or for a 3-minute quiet hug from someone *in your bubble* that you trust.

Day Twenty Five :: Read or listen to the Gospel of John. Write down a verse that you like or want to remember in your journal. <https://www.biblica.com/resources/niv-audio-bible-listen-online-for-free/>

Day Twenty Six :: Go outside late in the day and don't take a single picture, just look, while the sun sets. Or stare out a window for at least 5 minutes and consider what you notice.

Day Twenty Seven :: Write a lament for injustice you or people you love have experienced, modeled on the Psalms of Lament. Bury that piece of paper at the base of a tree or in a garden so that your grief and lament can nourish the soil of a living thing.

Day Twenty Eight :: Sign up to be a monthly supporter of a ministry or non-profit that you feel doesn't get enough love or attention. Even \$5 a month matters. Look for a way to turn your anxieties about the world into real, positive work.

Day Twenty Nine :: Donate some of your in-good-condition books to the library. Recycle any books with toxic or abusive theology in your home, get rid of them.

Day Thirty :: *While watching a church service or concert online, join in and sing your heart out.*

Day Thirty One :: Read Psalm 139 out loud.

Day Thirty Two :: Wake up early to pray for persecuted Christians around the world including our LGBTQ+ siblings.

Day Thirty Three :: Imagine God looking at you with infinite love and tenderness, kindness and mercy.

Day Thirty Four :: Try to meet or get to know a neighbour *at a safe distance*.

Day Thirty Five :: Buy (or collect from your pantry) a bag of groceries. Drop it off at the Food Bank *or at St. Timothy's*.

Day Thirty Six :: Write out Matthew 11:28-30 by hand and tape it to your mirror.

Day Thirty Seven :: Memorize the Jesus Prayer - "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner" - in the morning and pray it throughout the day. Consider switching the word "sinner" for "your beloved child" and see how that changes things.

Day Thirty Eight :: Write a short one-page letter to your younger self at a time when you felt most vulnerable or afraid or sad to encourage her/him that despite difficulties and challenges, she/he is never alone or forgotten. Tell her/him what you wish somebody would have said to you in those days.

Day Thirty Nine :: Every time you become aware of your body in any way - positive or negative -speak kind words to your body or say, "I bless and love my body."

Day Forty :: Sing the kids' song "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" but switch the pronouns to feminine ones: "She's Got the Whole World in Her Hands." Notice how it feels to use a feminine pronoun for God. Imagine how God would mother you today, how it would feel to be held in the hands of God, and open yourself to those possibilities. Conclude any fasting.

Bonus :: **Think about the past forty days and choose one practice to carry forward.**

Presiding Bishop Curry's Word to the Church: Who shall we be?

Episcopal Church Office of Public Affairs

Posted Jan 8, 2021

(Text of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's statement in the aftermath of the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol)

In another time of national crisis, another time of danger for our nation, in 1865 on March the fourth, Abraham Lincoln concluded his second inaugural address with these words:

"With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just, and a lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations."

Lincoln knew in that moment, in the moment of a national crisis, a moment of great danger, that such a moment was a moment of decision, when a nation, when a people must decide who shall we be? What kind of nation, what kind of people shall we be? A hundred years later, Martin Luther King faced the same reality. Who shall we be? The civil rights movement was waning. The great victories that had been won had been won. And yet now questions of poverty and economic despair and disparities raised an awesome specter on the nation. We were at war.

We were at war in another country, but there was war on our streets. The nation was deeply divided. Cities burned. There were riots. Riots at national conventions of political parties. The future of the nation was in question, and it was at that time that Dr. King realized that in moments of danger, a decision must be made. And he titled his last book, *Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community*. I believe as he believed, as Abraham Lincoln believed, as I believe you believe, that we must choose community. Chaos is not an option. Community is our only hope.

The truth is Dr. King spoke often of all that he did and labored for was for the purpose of realizing as much of the Beloved Community of God as it is possible on this earth. He spoke of Beloved Community, the Bible, the New Testament, Jesus spoke of the kingdom or the reign of God. Jesus taught us to pray, and to work, and to labor for that Beloved Community, that reign of God's love in our time and in our world, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on

earth just as it is in heaven. Those are our marching orders from Jesus himself.

I am a follower of Jesus of Nazareth because I believe that his way of love and his way of life is the way of life for us all. I believe that unselfish, sacrificial love, love that seeks the good and the welfare and the well-being of others, as well as the self, that this is the way that can lead us and guide us to do what is just, to do what is right, to do what is merciful. It is the way that can lead us beyond the chaos to community.

Now, I know full well that this may to some sound naive, to others, idealistic, and I understand that. And yet, I want to submit that the way of love that leads to beloved community is the only way of hope for humanity. Consider the alternative. The alternative is chaos, not community. The alternative is the abyss of anarchy, of chaos, of hatred, of bigotry, of violence, and that alternative is unthinkable. We have seen nightmarish visions of that alternative. We saw it in Charlottesville just a few years ago when neo-Nazis marched through the streets of an American city, chanting, "Jews will not replace us." That alternative is unthinkable. We saw it in Minneapolis-St. Paul, where a public safety officer knelt with his knee on the neck of another human being. A child of God, just like he was, and snuffed out the breath of life that God gave him. The alternative is unthinkable.

And we have seen it this past Wednesday, when a monument to democracy, the Capitol of the United States of America, was desecrated and violated with violence by vandals. Lives were lost. A nation was wounded. Democracy itself was threatened. My brothers and sisters, this way of love that Jesus taught us when he said, "Love the Lord your God, and your neighbor as yourself." This way of love that Moses taught even before Jesus. This way of unselfish, sacrificial love, it is the way to redeem a nation, to save a world. It is the way of hope for us all. But do not make the mistake of thinking that I speak of a sentimental and emotional love.



Who shall we be?

Jesus spoke of love most consistently the closer he got to the cross. This way of love is the way of sacrifice, the way of unselfishness, the way of selflessness, that seeks the good of the other as well as the self. And that is the way of the cross, which is the way of life. And if you don't believe me, ask another apostle of love. Not Dr. King, not Abraham Lincoln, ask Archbishop Tutu. Ask one who has given his life for the cause of God's love in the way of Jesus. Ask him; ask Nelson Mandela in your mind. Ask them what love looks like. They knew that the way of love was the only way that could guide South Africa from what could have become a bloody nightmare and civil war to the way that could build a nation.

And it was not sentimental. Remember truth and reconciliation. They had to face painful truths. They had to do what was just and what was merciful. They had to do what the prophet Micah said, that the motivation and the guide was love. Archbishop Tutu said this:

“Love, forgiving, and being reconciled to our enemies or our loved ones is not about pretending that things are other than they are. It is not about patting one another on the back or turning a blind eye to the wrong. True reconciliation exposes the awfulness of the abuse, the hurt, the truth. It could even sometimes make things worse for a while. It is a risky undertaking but in the end it is worthwhile, because in the end only an honest confrontation with reality can bring forth real healing. Superficial reconciliation only brings superficial healing.”

This is the way of love that can heal our hurts, that can heal our land, that can help us to become one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all. So, I would ask you to do two things. I'm asking you to make a

commitment, a renewed commitment, to live the way of love as Jesus has taught us and to do it by making a commitment to go out and bless somebody. Bless somebody you disagree with. Bless somebody you agree with. But to go out and bless somebody by helping somebody along the way. Go out and bless somebody by listening to their story and their life. To go out and be an instrument of God's peace, an agent of God's love.

And then I would ask you to pray. Pray for this nation but pray with some specificity. Pray that we may have the wisdom and the courage to love.

*God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy pow'r.
Crown thine ancient church's story,
bring her bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour.*

– Harry Emerson Fosdick,
God of Grace and God of Glory

With malice toward none, with charity toward all. With firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right. Let us strive to finish the work, the work that we are in. To bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan. To do all which may achieve and cherish, a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.

God love you. God bless you. And may God hold us all in those almighty hands of love.

To watch the video of Bishop Curry's statement: <https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/pressreleases/presiding-bishop-currys-word-to-the-church-who-shall-we-be/>

Bishops Advise Staying Home, But Not Necessarily Silent

From a letter signed by Episcopal Bishops after the attack on the U.S. Capitol, including our own Bishop Deon Johnson:

“Staying home does not, however, mean staying silent. We hope that all people of goodwill will join us in raising our voices to support our country's democracy, letting our elected officials know that we are praying for them, particularly in the aftermath of last week's siege of the U.S. Capitol. Whether you consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent, please let your elected officials know that you cherish our representative democracy and our pursuit of a more perfect union, and that you expect that those who are found responsible for last week's violence to be held accountable. The Episcopal Church has a robust witness in Washington, D.C., and the Episcopal Public Policy Network provides all of us with opportunities to advocate for peace, justice and the dignity of every human being. You can join the network online at <https://episcopalchurch.org/OGR/eppn-sign-up>.”

The letter can be found at <https://www.diocesemo.org/blog/bishops-advise-staying-home-but-not-necessarily-silent/>

TIM Talks

Conversations Worth Having

St. Timothy's Adult Forums 9:40 a.m. Sundays on Zoom, Winter-Spring 2021

Jan 31 & Feb 7 "Race, Faith, and American Public Safety"

•The Rev. Dr. Ben Sanders (Assistant Professor of Theology and Ethics at Eden Theological Seminary) will return to St. Timothy's teach on the topic "Race, Faith, and American Public Safety." In the midst of America's most recent eruption of racial animus lies a concept that is too little examined, this concept is "public safety." Contemporary efforts toward resisting structural racism and transforming law enforcement policy will bear little fruit if we do not thoroughly examine our sense of what it means to be "safe" in "public." And how might sharing, interrogating, and reshaping these stories, memories, and teachings help us to be more effective in our work to bear witness to the God who stands against oppression and injustice?

Feb 14 "School to Prison Pipeline"

• Joy Weese Moll will speak to us about the history, the current situation and the ways we might improve it.

Feb 21 "Spiritual Care & the Black Lives Matter Movement"

•The Rev. Shug Goodlow leads the discussion. How do we care for the bodies and souls of black folk? How do we care for victims of systematic racism, oppression, social injustice and state-sanctioned violence? How can we discern the relationship between our personal biases and what we are called to do as members of the Beloved Community?

Feb 28 "Spiritual Self-Care"

•Mary Taylor will speak about spiritual direction and its role in self-care as well as meditation as a spiritual practice.

March 7 "Coffee with Camie"

•We invite you to join in a conversation about her work with us and her perspectives on growing formation at St. Timothy's.

March 14 "Seeing a New Rector"

•Canon Doris Westfall will speak about how parishes seek a new rector and how to discern what we are looking for.

March 21 "Self-Care"

•Joy Millner, Founder and co-Director of Fit & Food Connection, will share how small changes in all areas of holistic wellness can lead to big results.

March 28 "Coffee with Liz"

•We invite you to join in a conversation about her work with us and her perspectives on St. Timothy's.

April 4 **No Forum** Easter

April 11 The Rev. Canon Whitney Rice, Canon for Evangelism & Discipleship Development

April 18 "Wings of Hope"

•Changes and saves lives through the power of aviation" – Bernie Schmidt, the Director of Volunteer Fulfillment for Wings of Hope, will speak to us about the work of this great organization.

April 25 "Deaconess Anne House"

•The Rev. Michaelene Miller, Director of the Deaconess Anne House, will speak to us about her work and those in the Episcopal Services Corps.

May 2 "St. Timothy's Youth"

•Come hear from our youth about their experiences and hopes for St. Timothy's.

May 10 **No Forum** Mother's Day

Please celebrate your family.

May 16 & 23 "Each Other's Keeper"

•The first two weeks of a 6 part series developed by The Rev. Marc Smith on the church's response to violence.

May 24 **No Forum** Memorial Day Weekend

Contact Amy Conard at atconard@gmail.com w/questions.

The Daytimers Wait (Impatiently) to Gather Again

By Nancy Setzer

The Daytimers are still here, just "on hold" until the pandemic is over! When it is safe once again, we will start up again and finish the activities that were cancelled last year: a special exhibit at the History Museum, touring the St. Louis Aquarium, and taking the aerial lift at Grafton Sky Tour. Hopefully, while sitting at home, you have been thinking about other places you would like to visit. For those who don't know, the Daytimers group sponsors activities centered around enrichment opportunities, education, and enjoyment of venues in and near the St. Louis area. Members of all ages and their guests are welcome. Contact nsetzer@sbcglobal.net or lynnwhittington@charter.net with questions.

The Blessings of Technology

By Amy Conard

In this difficult, seemingly never-ending time where we cannot come together to worship or be in fellowship with one another, we are blessed with technical solutions which bring new opportunities. *Did you know...*

• **You DO NOT need to have an Instagram, Facebook, or Twitter account** to view St. Timothy's information on these sites. The easiest way to get to these is to go to our webpage: [saint-tims.org](https://www.saint-tims.org) From there, scroll down our Welcome page until you see the Social Media box. Check out one or more of these to see the great work of our church. They are also listed below:

Connect with us through Social Media:

Facebook - [https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/StTimothysEpiscopalChurchCreveCoeurMO)

[StTimothysEpiscopalChurchCreveCoeurMO](https://www.facebook.com/StTimothysEpiscopalChurchCreveCoeurMO)

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/StTimsEpiscopal>

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/sttimsepiscopal/>

YouTube - [Saint Timothys Creve Coeur - YouTube](#)

• **You can watch previous services on Facebook.** Go to the Facebook link given here and then scroll down to see the previous services. Click on the small video of the service playing and it will enlarge the video. Or you can get to the most recent services from our website. Go to the Online Worship page - <https://www.saint-tims.org/online-worship.html> and click on the video you want to watch. You can enjoy them when it is convenient to you.

• **You can join Zoom meetings without turning on your camera - for any reason.** We encourage all facilitators and participants to honor this choice. So attend an Adult Forum, MORR meeting, Bible study, or other gatherings.

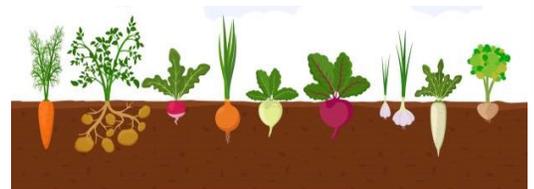
• **You can easily make your pledge or donation on the St. Tim's website** if it's not convenient to mail it in or drop it off. Go to the Online Giving page on our website (<https://www.saint-tims.org/online-giving.html>) and fill out the form – it's as easy as making an Amazon purchase. Contact treasurer.at.saint.tims@gmail.com w/questions.

Some time in the future, it is possible that we will look back at this time and fondly remember watching a service in our pajamas, sipping on our coffee.

Ministry Spotlight: Food Pantry Garden

By Nancy Setzer

It may still be winter, but it's time to **THINK SPRING!** I'm already visualizing seedlings popping up in St. Tim's Food Pantry Garden and some of you are probably doing the same. It's never too early to start planning. I hope there are more folks out there who would like to play in the dirt! It is something you can do by yourself or with your family; it is safe and very relaxing to be outside. The produce we raise goes to Circle of Concern in Valley Park which serves families in the Parkway and Rockwood school district areas. Please consider joining this ministry which feeds people in need. If you have any questions about what is involved please contact Nancy Setzer at nsetzer@sbcglobal.net



Try something new this Lenten season.

Instead of giving up something for Lent this year, why not try the

40 Days - 40 Items Challenge?

Each day of Lent, select one item in your home that you no longer use or wear and place it in a box or bag. At the end of Lent, donate these items to a local charity or homeless shelter. Those in need will benefit from the items you no longer use. Parents, get your kids involved by having them help choose these daily items to donate for the Challenge.

#40Days40Items

Report from the Treasurer For the Year 2020



(Taken from the Treasurer's Annual Report, presented at the Annual Meeting held on 1/24/21.)

You don't need me to tell you that 2020 presented a strange, new landscape to all of our individual lives, as well as to our common life as the church of St. Timothy's. I have to say I was pretty worried about the financial side of things, since nobody could come to church to put money in a plate for over three-quarters of the year. Indeed, if you look at the numbers you'll see that we did come in under budget by almost \$32,000. If you look a little harder, you'll recognize that \$32,000 is less than 5% of our annual budget. Having seen many budgets projected, I can tell you that falling within 5% is fairly astonishing, since budgets present "best guess" scenarios for the most part. In the unique circumstances generated by the pandemic in 2020, I think St. Timothy's did really well. Several things contributed to this (if you'll pardon the pun). The main thing was the faithfulness of all of you, our parishioners, who made the effort to bring in your offerings, trust the U.S. Postal Service to deliver your offerings, or to learn a new system to make your offerings via the Continue to Give online system. Wasn't it prescient of us to start using online giving this year? We received over \$115,000 in online giving in 2020.

(To view the St. Timothy's Treasurer's Annual Report for 2020, click [HERE](#) , pages 26 - 31)

Let's look at some of the details:

- The most drastic loss of income was in the facility use line, budgeted for \$26,000 and ending up at just over \$3,000. This is directly attributable to the pandemic which brought an end to all gatherings.
- Plate income was about \$5,500 below budget, because, well, nobody was at church to put money in the plate.
- Pledges came in at nearly 98% of budget.
- Other Parish support came in \$14,500 above budget.

Expenses came in at 98.4% of budget:

- Payroll, Diocesan Pledge, Insurance, Telephone and Internet costs, and payment on our loan from the Diocese were on target.
- Other expense lines having to do with programs like Fellowship, Christian Formation, MORR, Temporary Staffing (Nursery Care Workers, Clergy and Organist Substitutes), Continuing Education, and Congregation Vitality were lower due to the inability to gather during the pandemic.
- Other lines balanced these savings out by exceeding their budgeted amounts, primarily Property Maintenance, which exceeded its budget by almost \$11,500. This looks bad, but we actually got a lot for our money. The new Property Maintenance team spent money to make permanent, lasting repairs and installations instead of temporary "bandaids."

All in all, and especially considering all the unique and unprecedented challenges we faced, our congregation and staff really pulled together to make it a very good year. I want to thank all of you in this great congregation, which I consider my family, for your sustaining generosity and commitment to St. Timothy's.

Yours Faithfully and Financially,
Alice Fritsch

St. Tim's Lay Leadership Changes

We want to warmly thank our outgoing Vestry Members for their years of service to our parish: Tim Johnson, Wayne Birch, Teresa McDowell, Mary Robert, and Madeline Zwickelmaier. Many heartfelt thanks also to Joy Rouse, our outgoing Senior Warden, for her strong, steadfast, and

faithful leadership in an incredibly difficult year. ♥

Congratulations to our new Vestry Members—Eric Buckley, Sam Snyder, Willard Moseley—and Hank Conard, our incoming Senior Warden. Congratulations also to our newest Convention Delegate, Brooke Forsyth, Convention Alternate, LaVerne Moseley, and Endowment Fund Trustee, Ashley Snyder. God bless all of you!

Dates to Remember

February Birthdays

2	Emma Barnes	13	Ellen Lindsey
	Tom Loew		Irena Pennel
	Luc Wiggins	14	Sharon LaRue
3	Stephanie Smith	15	Fran Connelly
6	Mitzi Uyemura	16	Jennifer Barnes
8	Wayne Birch	18	Michelle Ridlen
9	Susan Lounsbury	19	Sasha Saliski
	Lindsey Short	20	John Blecha
10	Kirk Fritsch		Hongxia Wang
11	Andrew Schuerman	21	Pat Wootton
12	Robert Coots	22	Nathan Linneman
	Judy DeMarco		Paul Pennel
	Norm Moenkhaus	24	Aaron Agne
	Chase Nauman		Dan Hagrman

27	Kate Buckley
	Clayton Kaufman

February Anniversaries

2	Sharon LaRue & Bob Lipscomb
5	Kate & Eric Buckley
14	Irene & Mike Cummins
19	Karen & Rick Sharp
22	Cathy & Chuck Agne
26	Leslie & Tony Corey
27	Charlotte Bukowski & Thomas Loew

March Birthdays

1	Brent Pennel	11	Alexis Hummert
	Leann Schuering	12	Lynn Whittington
2	Sophia Mazhou	13	Emmett Schuering
	Nancy Sinise	14	J. Andreson
4	Beverly Rhea		Doug Detloff
5	Adrianna Hotra	15	Mike Bacon
7	Gerald Amies		Larry Johnson
	Ruth Birch	16	Zach Cameron
8	Dorothy Bacon		Pat Dressel
	Carol Mullins	19	Nolan Wischnowsky
	Leland Schuerman	20	Bill Buhro
	Caitlin Schuerman		Joy Rouse
9	Anne Teymouri	22	Avery Collins
10	Clara Ruth Bosanquet	23	Rich Jacobs
	Mike Teymouri		Mark Nauman

March Anniversaries

15	Dee Dee & Blaine Stone
21	Pat & Ron Batty

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

Drive Up Ashes!



Ash Wednesday will be different this year because we can't come together for the traditional service marking the beginning of Lent. But you can still receive ashes from our clergy at our special **Drive Up Ashes** event.

Ashes will be imposed in a COVID-19 safe, no-contact manner.

Please come to St. Timothy's on **Wednesday, Feb. 17** and pull your car around to the parking lot. There will be signs and St. Tim's volunteers to direct you.

We will offer ashes at the following times:

6:30 - 8:30 a.m.
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
808 N. Mason Rd.
Creve Coeur, MO 63141

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808 North Mason Road
Creve Coeur, Mo 63141-6306

Address Service Requested

The Rev. Elizabeth Gordon Meade, Interim Rector
Church Office: (314) 434-5906
Fax: (314) 434-4103
Web Site: <http://www.saint-tims.org>

The Rev. Camie Dewey, *Associate Rector*
Mark R. Scholtz, *Director of Music*
Tess Jones, *Parish Administrator*
Mitzi Uyemura, *Angler Editor*

Dated Church Material
Prompt Delivery Appreciated

Invite • Welcome • Connect

This Is The Time

During this time of masking, distancing, and Zoom meetings, we may all be feeling a bit disconnected. It may seem like this is a time when bringing new people into our church is impossible. How can we grow if we can't be together in person? How can we invite someone to our church if we aren't gathering in person?

We can! The Invite Welcome Connect Ministry sees this as the best time to invite and engage others. During these dark days of winter and isolation, people now, more than ever, are longing for connection. People are longing for a community. People are waiting for you. We truly have a unique opportunity *right now* to invite others into the St. Timothy's community. Who can you invite and engage?

- Your neighbor who is home alone
- Your friends or family who are disconnected from or looking for a new church
- Your work acquaintances

In our new virtual world you can invite anyone, anywhere in the world. What an opportunity!

Please consider inviting a friend to Sunday Services, Evening Prayer, an Adult Forum, a Lenten program, Wednesday Morning Bible Study, or the next Women's Book Discussion.

This is the time.

