



May  
2017

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

Creve Coeur, MO

## From the Rector



I am very happy to announce that your Vestry has been working very hard over the past year. In addition to the regular, somewhat tedious and frequently very challenging work of keeping the fabric of this church property intact and the church programs functioning, the Vestry has labored hard in discernment over spiritual things. One of the most important things that a Christian parish community can do is keep focused on its mission.

The mission statement that we have been operating under for nearly the past couple of decades is a very carefully crafted statement. As a declaration of the state of the parish, it has served us well during these years:

*Inspired by the Spirit of Christ, we glorify God by being a welcoming Christian community with meaningful and joyous worship, challenging education and care and respect for all God's creation, while proclaiming the Gospel and reaching out to the world.*

The challenge with any mission statement is that it should remain fresh, so that it serves to direct the strategic choices that leadership makes. The Vestry has discerned that to serve us well, the mission statement needs to be simple and very direct about what we understand God is calling us to be and do as a faithful community in this space and at this time.

The Vestry started with the results of the hard work done by the gathered parish at the First Wednesday meetings held last year. They then built on those efforts with work done at Vestry retreats for the past two years. The First Wednesdays sessions generated productive conversations that resulted in the renewal of fully functioning Fellowship,

Communications, Pastoral Care and Worship Committees. We also discerned the priority of hiring a Youth Minister. These improvements sent the Vestry back to the question of a simple, direct statement of our mission. The Vestry retreat in February 2017 gave us this result. The mission of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church is:

**“To radiate Christ's presence through worship, care, and service.”**

I quarreled with some of the language that was suggested, especially the word “radiate,” but the more I have ruminated over it, the more convinced I am that it is just nearly perfect. For example, some dictionary definitions of *radiate*:

- To send out heat or light, or (of heat or light) to be sent out
- To express strongly an emotion or quality, or (of an emotion or quality) to be expressed strongly by someone
- To spread out from a central point

***Radiating the presence of Christ!*** I'm all for it—and I hope you are as well. I hope that we will do everything that we can to make this the main thing. Remember Stephen Covey's famous quote:

*The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing.*

The statement now needs to find its way into a strategic plan that aligns with the stated mission. The plan needs to be specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-bound. The Vestry wants to roll out our mission over the next few months and seek the support of the entire parish in discerning and implementing the plan over the next few years. You will hear more very soon about how you are invited to help shape this plan. Everyone has a part to play. Every voice must be heard. Let us hear yours!

Love,  
Marvin +

# Presiding Bishop Curry Calls for Revival

By Florrie Kohn

In a season when our nation, and perhaps the world, feels enveloped in turmoil of all types—political, religious, ethnic and racial—nearly 70 of St. Tim’s parishioners gathered with others to hear the words of Episcopal Presiding Bishop Michael Curry on “Healing A House Divided,” in early April at Washington University.

The Most Rev. Curry spoke movingly of how individuals who fear one another often focus on differences rather than similarities. He called for a “national revival of relationships” across ideologies and for a “reclamation of the values that we already share.” The Diocese is working to make his complete presentation available online.

The Angler would like to hear from those of you who attended, about how the Bishop’s message called to you. To start the conversation, here are perspectives shared by some members of our St. Tim’s family who attended this event:

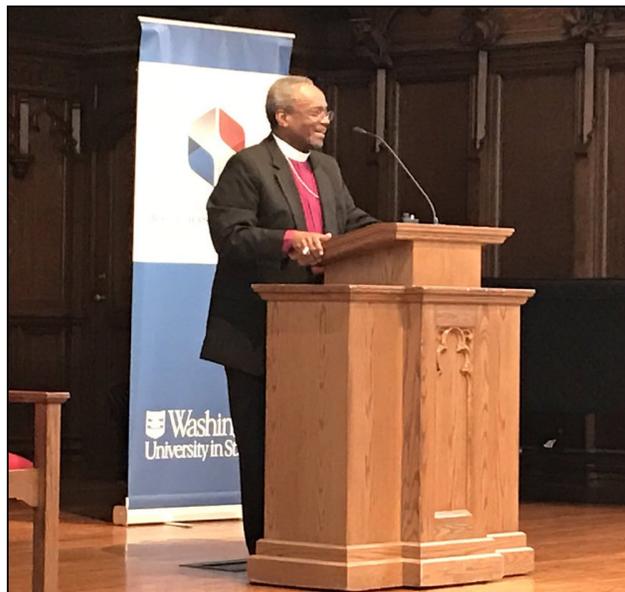
**Agnes Bolwell:** This was one of those events where you tell your friends “You should have been there...” and really mean it. Before Bishop Curry was introduced, I was way in the back sitting in a hard pew, staring at a dark wood ceiling, gray stone walls, and thinking we should ask Senator Danforth to install stadium seating in Graham Chapel. Then the PB was introduced, his gospel train shot out of the station and we never looked back. Brothers and Sisters, we were encouraged to believe, exhorted to live those beliefs and entreated to think of how we are currently living our spiritual lives.

Like all good preachers, the Bishop had a recurring theme, the lyrics from “There Is a Balm in Gilead.” This is a song of response and that’s what Bishop Curry was expecting. He wants us to respond. He wants us, as church, as community, as family to “tell the love of Jesus.” He expects us to share that love in all manner of ways. He wants us to revive the Holy Spirit not only in our souls but in the souls of others. Never mind if we cannot preach – that’s not important. What is important is to tell the Love of Jesus. The Bishop is not a big man, and because he’s not looking, I’ll call him petite. But he has a big message, a big faith and an enormous capacity to share his love of Jesus. He is preaching revival – literally and spiritually. His message: “Don’t be afraid to be people of love. Don’t be afraid to stand up for the Name of Jesus.”

According to the Bishop, “...a revival must channel the emotions of the moment toward something bigger and lasting. ... We must find better ways to live together, to care for each other, to care for our society and to care for our global communities.”

This is his challenge to us, the good people of St. Timothy’s: to be the neighbors we are meant to be—not third person believers but first person family.

Can we give him an Amen?



**Jan O’Neil:** We were so taken by his energy level. Bishop Curry has the spirit to enliven the church and to lead us. He has a great sense of humor and doesn't take himself too seriously. He is grounded in reality.... He is ecumenical: we are all brothers and sisters in God’s world.

Bishop Curry focused on the importance of relationships. The Gospels are all stories about Jesus' relationships with all kinds of people...rich and poor, the powerful and those on the margins, men and women. Relationships built community then and still do now. A healthy church includes all kinds of diversity--and we have to relate one on one to find solutions. Every Democrat should find a Republican, every police officer a Black Lives Matter person, every straight a gay, every black a white, every Muslim a Jew, every Catholic a Protestant, etc., and sit down and listen and understand where the other is coming from. No one perspective holds all the answers. Only then can we discover the common values of love, compassion, respect (values as opposed to issues) and practice and be bound together by Jesus' love commandment--love your neighbor as yourself.

## Presiding Bishop Curry Calls for Revival, cont.

**Dennis Whittington:** Bishop Curry spoke of hope through relationship building that could lead to a better understanding of the viewpoints of those who differ with each of us. He spoke of the need for differing viewpoints, and how discourse can bring each of us to a better understanding of the differing viewpoints. I believe that the Bishop was also saying that if we put God in the conversation it is much easier to respect another viewpoint even if we personally disagree with the other person's view. I would hope that each of us can agree that the total disregard for opinions that are not like each of ours is not healthy for any of us. Disagree respectfully with a differing opinion is what I hope to keep in mind in the future.

I just finished an excellent book by moral psychologist Jonathan Haidt, titled *"The Righteous Mind"- Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion* (published in 2012 and available through the St Louis County Library). In this book, Jonathan Haidt deals with why our society needs differing viewpoints, and how each of us individually, arrived at the ideology that defines each of us. I recommend this book highly.

**Susan Moenkhaus:** When Bishop Curry enthusiastically said we need a revival, I was surprised and immediately thought, "Episcopalians? Hold a *revival*? Sure." But when he spoke about a revival of relationship building and respect, I was sold. One of the points Bishop Curry made that really stuck with me was how important it is to expose yourself to different thoughts and ideas by engaging

people in conversation, watching TV commentators with different points of view, and reading materials that don't support only our particular ideas. His speaking style is charismatic, inspirational, and credible. I'm eager to watch his presentation again when it's posted on the Diocesan website.

**Rick Sharp:** Bishop Curry provided a helpful analysis of how our society is in a self-perpetuating cycle where many completely avoid opinions and people with whom they differ. Without relationships we are unable to have constructive conversations. He provided an actionable plan, that we rebuild relationships by focusing on areas of agreement. He used the Golden Rule as a simple example of such a shared value. I found his talk very helpful. The situation is not hopeless, here is a plan that is not only credible, but we can start immediately and work individually as well as collectively. Bishop Curry should run for President. Wouldn't that be fun!

**Marlene Gruber Clark:** Jim and I felt refreshed after attending his talk. We have been attending all of the Faith and Politics lectures. Senator Danforth has given St. Louisans a gift by establishing this chair at Washington University.

*Let's continue the conversation about revival—send your comments (even if you weren't at the Bishop's talk) to Florrie Kohn at [fhkohn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fhkohn@sbcglobal.net).*



### St. Timothy's Adult Forums: May 2017

#### May 7 "Privilege"

Kim Dressel, Mike Bacon and Tony Corey will explain what privilege is, how it relates to the work St. Tim's MORR is doing, and how it can be used for good.

#### May 14 No Forum—Mother's Day

**May 21** "Growing up in the Jim Crow South" St. Louis area educator Dr. Charlotte Ijea will share her stories of growing up.



### Be a "Flower Child" again at Spring Fling!

**Come and enjoy a lovely Spring Evening in St. Tim's Prayer Garden on Saturday, May 20 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. We will have wine and cheese, and all your favorite music from the 1960s & 70s. We'll even have prizes for the best 60s -70s outfits!**

**"We are Stardust, we are golden, we are billion year old carbon, and we've got to get ourselves back to the (Prayer) Garden!" (CSN&Y/MLF)**

## Reading with Kindergartners in a St. Louis City School

By Florrie Kohn

At Sigel Elementary School, two kindergartners wait impatiently for St. Tim's parishioner Nancy Setzer to arrive. The girls are fidgety, curious and struggle to stay focused. The five-year-olds, now nearly six, are almost ready to be called "first-graders." The girls like to talk. If you ask them today what is best about school, they'll say recess, or maybe lunch, but that is closely followed by their "Miss Nancy" time.

Nancy is one of 12 volunteers from St. Tim's, who read once a week with Sigel's kindergartners at risk. Nancy's two girls, who are Muslim immigrants, were very quiet when school began last fall. They spoke very limited English. Now words tumble from them. They want to know what things are called and—with first grade coming, they are eager to put their A, B and Cs into words.

Sigel Elementary School is part of the St. Louis City School District. It serves a low income neighborhood near Lafayette Park. Many of its kindergartners begin school with only a limited exposure to books. This past year, with a strong influx of refugee and immigrant children from Latin America and Africa, some students arrived with no grasp of English or familiarity with books. Nancy's girls were two of them.

"Did they understand me?" says Nancy. "That's what worried me most at the start of the school year. One girl was really quiet. I think she was embarrassed that she didn't know what I was saying. But like all young children, they love the personal attention."

Now nearly first graders, Nancy's girls have blossomed. They recognize the alphabet and are beginning to put words and images together. "One little girl loves to go back over the story after I've read it to her," says Nancy. "She tells me the story in her own words, which is how children learn. The other one puts letters with sounds and can write some words."

St. Tim's and Sigel are longtime partners in the tutoring program. Nancy, who is a retired elementary school teacher, has been part of the effort since the beginning. It requires patience and a love of children and of reading, she says.



"This year, working with these Muslim girls has made me curious about their culture. I want to know more about immigrants and refugees," she says. "These girls come from families who are here to better their lives, you can see it in their children. Learning to read is so necessary to being successful in our society."

Nancy shares two special moments from this year. First, having "Itsy-Bitsy Spider" sung to her, complete with hand motions. The girl—who began kindergarten unable to speak English—had learned the song at home from T.V. Second, the thrill experienced by her other student after discovering an illustration of a girl wearing a hijab (head scarf) in a tale from *We Stories*, a reading program that celebrates diversity and is available at the St. Louis County Library. The child had never seen someone dressed like her in a book, says Nancy.

The Sigel program at St. Tim's is coordinated by Leslie Corey and it is always looking for more help. Volunteers complete a background check and an OASIS (Older Adult Service and Information Systems) training program on how to work with young children. "Most of these children start school with more disadvantages than our own kids," says Leslie. "Many haven't had quality early childhood education and have lower expectations of what they can do. Time spent learning to read with a caring adult can dramatically improve their school experience and grow their confidence."

To learn more about the program, please talk with Leslie Corey, Nancy Setzer or any other Sigel volunteers.

# Youth Group Tours the Missouri Humane Society

By David Coulter, St. Timothy's Youth Minister

Cats, dogs, rabbits, even a rat--the youth of St. Tim's encountered all kinds of animals on their tour of the Humane Society of Missouri's headquarters on March 25. And now, they need your help with their mission to care for abused, neglected or abandoned animals.

Our visit started with a brief presentation by two volunteers where we learned about some of the programs the Humane Society operates in St. Louis: SNIP, which subsidizes most of the cost of spaying and neutering dogs and cats; their Cruelty Task Force that rescues animals from abusive or neglectful homes; and their Disaster Response Teams that are sent out to areas devastated by tornadoes, floods, hurricanes, or other disasters. We then went on a tour of their facility, including some of their "back-of-house" areas. We saw their dog and cat kennels, the grooming facility where animals can get a shampoo and trim, their veterinary hospital and operating theater, and their nighttime surrender, where pets can be left with no questions asked.

Then the volunteers talked to the kids about how they can help, which is where you come in! The Humane Society has **a great need for old, used towels** (the kind you've been meaning to cut up into rags for months now) and **stuffed animals**; those that are worn out work just fine. They use the towels for bedding, cleaning, drying, and warming animals, and having a stuffed animal to play with (once any choking hazards like buttons or ribbons have been removed) can calm a dog who's anxious or



frightened at finding itself in a strange place. **Also needed are dog and cat beds, pet toys, CREAMY peanut butter, and Purina brand treats and snacks.** We're asking you to help us gather these important items for them.



Starting in June, we'll have baskets placed in the Gathering Space. Please bring in your donations and leave them in the baskets. As caretakers of God's creation, this is one way we can offer care to animals who haven't had enough of it in their lives. Let's love some of God's creatures! Please contact me if you have any questions: [david.st.tims@gmail.com](mailto:david.st.tims@gmail.com) or call the Office. Thank you!

## MUSIC NOTES

It really is hard to imagine that we've arrived at the time of year when, in just a very few short weeks, the Choir will take a well-deserved holiday. Gosh, it seems as though it was only last week that we were getting back in the swing of things for the Autumn term. In any event, most of June, July, and August will be much appreciated, I suspect, by those who, week after week, sing anthems and provide strong support for our congregational song.

Of course, they will take leave *following* the final service of Choral Evensong for the season. Sunday afternoon, 11 June at 5.00, the Choir will sing the Evening Office for Trinity Sunday. Canticles will be from Sir John Stainer's (1840-1901) Third Service in B-flat, and the anthem will be *Be present, Holy Trinity* by Carson Cooman (b. 1983), an 11<sup>th</sup>-century hymn (*Adesta, sancta trinitas*). As always, Kate and Eric Buckley will host a splendid reception in the Gathering Space following the service.

This summer, lest anyone be thinking that they'd be saddled with listening to only organ music (heaven forefend!), St. Tim's members will be featured instrumentalists: John Hexem, Karen and Rick Sharp, Steve Crock, Sharon Givan, Owen Uyemura, and Olivia Buckley. And, throughout the Summer, our corps of Cantors will continue singing solos and leading our psalmody: Michael Bacon, Alice Fritsch, Nathaniel Pyron, Mary Robert, and Jane Wyland. These talented musicians will undoubtedly provide lovely enrichment to our morning services.

So, I would encourage each of you, dear readers, to please thank all of these folk (instrumentalists and choristers) for their continuing dedication and service to St. Tim's.

Pax,

*Mark*

Mark R. Scholtz  
Director of Music



## Knitting Love into Their Work

By Mitzi Uyemura

If you've ever been present for a baptism at St. Tim's, you know that the baptismal candidate is given a lovely, hand-made blanket. This is symbolic of enfolding that person in love and warmth--both God's and our own. Those blankets, as well as many other items, are knitted and crocheted with love by our St. Timothy's Knitting Ministry.

Jane Wyland leads this group, and said they would love some new members to help create all of the handmade items they make for baptisms, the homebound, those who are ill or hospitalized, or anyone who requests something.

"We make prayer shawls/mantles, baby blankets, hats, scarves, and mittens," Wyland said. They have provided items to Nurses for Newborns, the Seaman's Institute, and made NICU baby hats. "We don't give them out to other groups unless there is a special request or we have an overabundance of items," she said. "The most recent request was from Barnes-Jewish Hospital for a support group that sponsors mothers who have lost infants or children," she continued. In addition, St. Tim's members are welcome to request items for any group or person to whom they would like to donate.



While the Knitting Ministry welcomes those who can already knit or crochet, Wyland says they are happy to teach anyone who is interested in learning, and will provide the materials needed, plus all the love, support, and encouragement to go along with it! They have yarn available and some needles, but if have your own knitting needles or crochet hooks, that would be very helpful. (Knit size 10 or crochet hook G/H.)

"We meet in the library on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month from 10 a.m. - noon. It is very informal; just people talking about what's going on in our lives with lots of laughing and good fellowship. It's a great stress reducer, too," she added. Afterwards, Wyland said those who can, go to lunch together at McAlister's.

Wyland explained that they work on what is needed at the time and don't make demands on how quickly they need to work. She also wants people to know that if you knit or crochet but can't come on Thursdays, you are welcome to make items on your own and bring them to church for donation. "Just make sure we know who they are from so we can put your name on the card," she requested.

Jane said that anyone interested can "e-mail or call me anytime." ([jwyland@charter.net](mailto:jwyland@charter.net)) You can also contact DeeDee Stone or Rita Podolsky with any questions.

## Report from the Treasurer, March 2017



Target revenues and expenses for 3 months (Budget %)	25.00%
Actual pledge and plate receipts for 3 months	24.79%
Actual expenses for 3 months	22.09%

St. Timothy's had a very strong month in March. Income was up significantly from February which brought us in line with our budget year to date. Pledge income was double what it was in February and we also received the income from the endowment fund in March. This, coupled with overall expenses being under budget, gave us a surplus of about \$24,000 for March and an \$11,000 surplus for the year. In addition, this month we received the quarterly statement for the endowment fund. The endowment increased in value by about \$76.5k since the beginning of the year due to contributions and increases in the value of the assets in the fund

Our monthly financials are posted in the hallway near the office and we encourage everyone to examine them at any time. Questions are always welcome!

--The Finance Committee

(Steve Cameron, Ginni Campbell, The Rev. Marvin Foltz, Alice Fritsch, Norm Moenkhaus, John O'Bryan, Rick Sharp, Mike Wyland, Kurt Zwickelmaier)



## May Dates to Remember

### May Birthdays

1	Derrick Brauner	13	Noah Agne
	Nathaniel Pyron		Rob Muschany
3	Rick Sharp	14	Debbie Smith
4	Jan O'Neil	16	Alonzo Collins
	Monika Volkhardt		Jared McAvoy
5	Bill Dunworth	17	Julia Holland
	Sara Vanacht		Nancy Summers
6	Grant Schuerrman	20	Ryleigh Miles
10	Sheila Morse	22	Loryn McCullough
	Blaine Stone	23	Betsy Gee
	Mike Thake	24	Vishal Viswambharan
11	Brendan Johnson	29	Michael Hotra
12	Linda Lambert		

### May Anniversaries

4	Mitzi & Rob Uyemura
7	Mary Lou Blackhurst & Jim Hinrichs
9	Louann & Craig Boyd
14	Becky & Blair Porter
19	Lenene & George Andre
	Jessica & John O'Bryan
21	Debbie & Wayne Smith
27	Kellie & David Aldrich
29	Stephanie & Marshall Smith
30	Florrie & Frank Kohn
31	Cletus & Jane Coughlin

## “Cod for God” a Huge Success!

A big THANK YOU to everyone who participated in this year’s annual fish fry – say it with us –

### **COD FOR GOD!**

(Did you hear the verb?) We had an all-time high attendance of 147 this year, and the Parish Hall full of smiling faces showed it. We’d especially like to thank Nancy Setzer, Irene Cummins and Tess Barcey for their help setting up, Mike Cummins and J Andreson for manning the ticket table, and Tina Heuer, Emma & Brad Barnes and Carolyn, Caitlin & Leland Schuerman for their help in the kitchen. As always, the fish was superb, Brad! We already have volunteers stepping up to help *next* year (our 10<sup>th</sup>) so it will just keep getting better! Most of all, we’d like to thank the entire parish for supporting this fun event every year!

--Jennifer Barnes & Karen Sharp

## St. Timothy’s Discipleship Bible Study May 2017



Please join us for the **Discipleship Bible Study** in the South Parish Hall during the Christian Formation Hour starting at 9:40 a.m. on Sundays. This is a discussion-based study open to everyone and is led by Rev. Sue Eastes, Chuck Agne, Linda Lawless, and Agnes Bolwell.

This spring, we are studying the New Testament. Everyone is welcome to these stimulating discussions. Please join us for compelling Sunday morning Bible Study!

### May’s Schedule:

- 7** The Power of Evil (*readings in Revelation*)
- 14** A New Heaven & a New Earth (*readings in Revelation*)
- 21** Under the Tree of Life (*miscellaneous readings*)

## Events in May

### Tuesday, May 2

- Women’s Dinner, 6 pm in Parish Hall

### Saturday, May 13

- Confirmation at Christ Church Cathedral, 10 am - Noon

### Saturday, May 13

- Pick up Mother’s Day plants

### Sunday, May 14

- MOTHER’S DAY!
- Pick up plants

### Saturday, May 20

- Spring Fling, 6 pm in Prayer Garden

### Sunday, May 21

- Last Day of Sunday School Celebration!

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Heidi Carter Clark, *Lay Associate for Ministry*  
Mark R. Scholtz, *Director of Music*  
David Coulter, *Youth Minister*  
Tess Barcey, *Administrative Assistant*  
Rita Podolsky, *Lead Office Volunteer*  
Mitzi Uyemura, *Angler Editor*

**Dated Church Material**  
**Prompt Delivery Appreciated**