



**St. Timothy's in-the-Valley Episcopal**

# December 2017

# Connections



A monthly publication of St. Timothy's in-the-Valley Episcopal Church

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## Sponsorship of Christmas Families

This year we have **six** families with a total of **twelve** children who need sponsored for Christmas. In the Welcome Center you will find our tree board with angels. There are two angels for each child – one for clothes and one for toys. In addition, there is an angel for each family for food. For the food we usually ask that you provide a \$50 gift card to Kroger or Walmart.

The deadline for having all gifts back to the church ready for distribution is **Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup>**. Families will pick items up on Monday the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Wrap each gift and tag it with child's first name and family number that is on the Angel. Please put your items in a black trash bag and label the bag with the family number. Then place the bag in the Welcome Center in the designated space.

There are still more families that need sponsorship through Heart and Hand. Let Cheryl know if you are interested in taking on a whole family and she will fix you up!

This is a wonderful ministry that our community provides for families in need of a little help. We are blessed to have the opportunity to be a part of the effort. Thank you for your generosity! ✕

## 2018 Pledge Cards

**IMPORTANT**

If you have not had an opportunity to return your financial pledge card to the church, please do as soon as possible so that the Vestry can finalize the 2018 budget at its December meeting. The Vestry is most grateful for your generosity and commitment to the ongoing Mission and Ministry of St. Timothy's. ✕

## Christmas Offering Designation

Following our tradition of designating the Christmas Offering for Outreach Ministries far and near, the Vestry has chosen Deep Ghria and the Rector's Discretionary Fund to be this year's recipients. Deep Ghria is a Mission in Pune, India that provides education, medical assistance, community development, sustainable farming, and small business development. We have been involved with Deep Ghria for many years through Cathy Slempt Branam who served as a medical missionary (through the Episcopal Church) there many years ago and now serves on their US Board of Directors.



The Rector's Discretionary Fund supports those in need in our community with utility, food, medical, transportation, rent, and housing assistance on an emergency basis. We receive several requests each week which we do our best to assist. We work in cooperation with local agencies and other churches to gather funds to help meet the requests. ✕

## Evangelism Tip

Christmas is a great opportunity to invite someone to attend one of our many different services offered for Christmas. Perhaps you know someone who struggles with Christmas due to a loss of a loved one or maybe it is just a lonely time of the year? Invite them to our Blue Christmas service on December 21. Many love our Christmas Eve services, make an effort to invite someone. We will have special invitations available in the coming weeks with our Christmas services to make it easy to invite someone to attend church with you. ✕



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To make a submission to the next issue of *Connections*, please email **sttimothyoffice@frontier.com** or mail submissions to the church office by **December 27, 2017.**

St. Timothy's is grounded in worship and committed to welcome, serve, and love all God's people.





## Monday Night Free Supper Outreach

Our **Free Supper Outreach** to the community will start up on Monday **January 8, 2018** at 5:30 pm. The planning team has met once and will meet again on December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 at the church if you would like to join in.

The organization of this ministry is key to making it work well. To that end there will be **5 Teams** with **Team Leaders** and a total of **eight (8) team members**. Each team will be responsible for preparing, serving, and cleaning up the meal **once a month**. **Team 5** will be responsible for the fifth Monday that we have once a quarter. The team leaders will be responsible for securing the food, directing the preparation, and coordinating team members.

Chef Brian Noel and Whitney Naylor-Smith will be developing the menus and shopping lists for each team.

In the Welcome Center beginning this Sunday will be a board with **sign up sheets** to secure our **8 Team Members** for each team. We need **8 adults (16+)** on each team and our younger volunteers can serve as auxiliary team members. Please consider making a commitment to serve on one of the teams. You can serve on more than one if you would like!

As we did this summer, we will continue to ask members if the congregation to provide baked goods and fruit for dessert.

Thank you for considering this opportunity for service to God and our neighbors! ✂



## Christmas at St. Timothy's

**December 21st - 6:30 pm** Blue Christmas -a service of solace and healing



**December 22nd - 6:30 pm** The Greening of the Church

An evening for decorating and merriment for the adults of the congregation (and friends and neighbors are always welcome). Under the direction of the Altar Guild the Church and Welcome Center are prepared for the Christmas Season.

Those able to climb ladders are especially welcome! You are invited to bring Wine and Cheese type refreshments as well as non-alcoholic beverages to share. Please plan to come help and celebrate.

**December 23rd – 5 pm** Advent 4 Holy Eucharist



With Christmas Eve being on Sunday, we decided to move our Advent 4 Holy Eucharist to Saturday evening so that there isn't so much going on the next day. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall for this service (keeping the decorated sanctuary for Christmas Eve). This will be a simple service followed by a soup supper! The Rector will provide her infamous Chicken Noodle Soup and bread. Other soups are welcome. Plan to come for the feeding of the Body and the Soul.

**December 24th – Christmas Eve Worship**



**5:30 pm** Holy Eucharist with Special Children's Sermon- This is a great service for those who have little children and those who cannot stay up late enough for the late service. Come and sing the carols, hear the message, and celebrate the birth of Christ.

**11:00 pm** Caroling with the Choir- For one half hour before the service the choir will lead us in singing traditional Christmas carols and offer some special music for us to enjoy.

**11:30 pm** Festival Candlelight Holy Eucharist- We gather in the dark of night, basking in candlelight, to celebrate the coming of the One True Light into the world – Jesus Christ Our Lord.

**December 31st- 10:30 am** – Joint service with Cross of Grace Lutheran– Each year the Sunday after Christmas we join together for Holy Eucharist, this year is at St. Timothy's. ✂





### Lunch Bunch

December 13th at 12:30pm. We will gather at Shonet's in The Perry-Morris Square in Milton, located on US Route 60 just a few blocks west of the I64 interchange on the right.

Friends and neighbors are welcome as we celebrate the holiday season at this down home style restaurant. "My -Oh- My What delicious pies!"

Do contact Lola Warren (304-743-9935) or Kitty Byus (304-757-0319) to make your reservation. ❖

### The Annual Women's Christmas Party -December 14th at 6:30pm

A fun 'Girls Night Out' for the women of the church and their friends (18+). Bring a finger food hot or cold hors d'oeuvre or dessert. Wine, soft drinks, and coffee provided. Also bring a wrapped or bagged gift (\$15-\$20 limit) for the ever-hilarious gift exchange (and stealing) event. Just a fun night out and a chance to get to know folks!

IF not having childcare will keep you from coming please let Cheryl know immediately and we will arrange for children to be cared for and fed in the Activity Center. Call or text Cheryl at 304-437-1673. ❖



### Centering Prayer Group

St. Timothy's ecumenical Centering Prayer group will NOT meet in December. Anyone interested in exploring this typed of spiritual practice is welcome to attend our upcoming sessions. Stay tuned for our January dates in the January newsletter.

The focus of Centering Prayer is the deepening of our relationship with the living Christ. Questions or interested persons do contact Kitty Byus at 304-757-0319. ❖

### Prayer Shawl Ministry

St. Timothy's offers a prayer shawl ministry. Our shawls are made, blessed, and then delivered to those experiencing joyous occasions (wedding, New babies, baptisms) as well as for illness, accidents, or bereavement. We have several blessed shawls that can be distributed. Please let Trish Fisher, Kitty Byus or The Rev. Cheryl Winter know if you have a recipient for a shawl. ❖



### Notes From The Vestry

The Vestry met on November 19th. The follow items were discussed:

- Current Financial Report
- 2018 Pledge update
- Landscaping
- Lighting upgrade
- Christmas offering designation
- Christmas worship services
- Community Dinners

Gabriel project has moved to new space

Youth and Children ministry updates

If you would like more information, please speak to a member of the Vestry.

Andy Bird, Sr. Warden ❖



▶ The Pastoral Care Committee aims to identify and respond to needs in St. Timothy's family, whether due to illness, surgery, or other causes. If you have needs or know of other members' needs, please let someone on the committee know. If you would like to be part of this ministry, please let Soleil know that you're interested. Our next meeting will be on **January 14th**, so mark your calendars. ❖



### ▶ Wonderful Wednesdays Women's Book Club

In her book, "How Can I Let Go if I Don't Know I'm Holding On?", Linda Douty, a retreat leader and spiritual director, explores a variety of letting-go struggles and strategies. Our discussion centers around her experiences, stories of others and our own life events. Letting go is crucial to our spiritual and emotional health.

We generally meet every Wednesday morning in the sanctuary from 10:45 a.m. until noon. In December only the first 2 Wednesdays, December 6th and 13th.

Our meetings will resume January 10th in the new year 2018!

We invite all interested women to be a part of our group. We follow a general format that includes reading the book our loud, so you do not have homework. Questions or to the join our group, contact Kitty Byus at 304-757-0319. ❖

### ▶ YOUTH GROUP FUNDRAISER – DECEMBER 10, 2017

Members of our Middle and High School Youth Group are offering to feed and entertain your children at the church on Sunday afternoon, December 10<sup>th</sup> from noon till 4 pm. This is provided so that parents can go Christmas shopping by themselves – or take a nap – whichever is best for the parents! Adult Leaders Karen White and Andy Bird, along with some other adults will be supervising this event. Children age 3- grade 5 are welcome. Please sign up or call the church office to register so we can plan for the appropriate numbers for food and crafts.

This event is a **FUNDRAISER** to help cover costs for the youth for the Pilgrimage to the National Cathedral next fall. So, consider what you would pay a babysitter for your children for four hours and make a comparable donation to the youth for their time and effort. Checks should be made to St. Timothy's with Youth Fundraiser in the memo!



Happy Shopping! Or Napping! ❖

### ▶ Women's Dinner & A Book



The Women's Dinner and a Book Group will next meet on **Thursday, December 7th at 6:30pm** in the Garrett Fellowship Hall with Regina Stubbs, Jr. as our hostess.

Our book for December is New York Times bestseller "**A Gentleman in Moscow**" by Amor Towles.

Regina as hostess will supply the main dish and other group members will bring the rest of the dinner like salad, dessert, fruit, rolls/butter. You can call Regina at 304-757-4644 for information about the menu. New-comers are always welcome and it isn't necessary to have read the book. You only need to let us know that you plan to come, there's a place at the table set just for you. ❖



# December Sunday Service Schedule



	December 3 Advent 1	December 10 Advent 2	December 17 Advent 3	December 24 Christmas Eve 5:30PM	December 24 Christmas Eve 11:30PM	December 31 1 Christmas
<b>Chalice Bearers</b>	Kitty Byus Dave Wood	Cathy Slep Billy Wayne Bailey	Soleil Gregg Kitty Byus	Soleil Gregg	Andy Bird Billy Wayne Bailey	Andy Bird
<b>O.T. &amp; Psalm Reader</b>	Robin Ward	Trish Fisher	Karen White	Caroline Damron	Robin Ward	<b>TBA</b>
<b>N. T. Reader</b>	Janessa Noel	Glen Childress	Caroline Damron	Janessa Noel	Marcy Benincasa	<b>TBA</b>
<b>Prayers of The People</b>	Soleil Gregg	Kitty Byus	Dave Wood	Karen White	Dave Wood	<b>TBA</b>
<b>Acolytes</b>	Alex Ward Jaden Ellis Lilly Kaul	James Kliner Jillian Noel Cooper Ellis	Rachel Midkiff Hailey Bennett Morgan McIntyre	James Kliner Sophie Carr	Ben Arnett Alex Ward	Alex Ward Jana Naylor-Aten Delia Ellis
<b>Ushers</b>	Chris Lewis Jake Ward	John Alvis Glenn Childress	Randy Thompson Jenny Jenkins	John Alvis Glen Childress	Chris Lewis Jake Ward	Chris Lewis Jake Ward
<b>Counters</b>	Mark & Jenny Jenkins	Glen & Mary Lou Childress	Annette Montoya Bobby Norman	One set of Counters for Christmas Eve-	Mark & Jenny Jenkins	<b>TBA</b>
<b>Children's Chapel</b>	Whitney Naylor-Smith Kathryn Ellis	Laura Leslie Missy Pauley	Laura Leslie Terry Holliday	—	—	Laura Leslie <i>Volunteer Needed</i>
<b>Nursery</b>	Hannah Bennett	Nathan, Ben and Lauren Arnett	Diane and Caroline Damron	—	—	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
<b>Vestry Greeter</b>	Andy Bird	Laura Leslie	John Alvis	Joyce Wilson	Andy Bird	<b>TBA</b>
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Kitty Byus Susan Patrick	Kitty Byus Susan Patrick	Kitty Byus Susan Patrick	<b>TBA</b>	<b>TBA</b>	<b>TBA</b>

## Happy Birthday to:

3-Chuck Elkins  
4-Vicki Wood  
5-John Wilson  
6-Aaron Carr  
7- Mary James  
8- Stacy Barna  
10- Lucas McCallister  
12- Lynda Rumbaugh

13-Cooper Ellis  
16-Pat Chard  
Roger Guest  
17- Kate Sams  
18- Rachel Midkiff  
20- Kitty Byus  
21- Jennifer Midkiff  
24- Trish Fisher

29- Sally Dunlap  
30- Jerry Damron  
James Kaul






## Happy Anniversary to:

2-Billy Jack & Soleil Gregg  
14-Steven & Kim Carr  
22- Rick & Ruth Ann King  
27- Ryan & Megan Click  
30- Ray & Susan Patrick





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>31 Christmas 1</b> 9:30am– Adult Sunday Schl (GFH) 10:30am– Holy Eucharist w/ Cross of Grace Lutheran(S) <i>Pledge deadline</i></p> 		<p>KEY: AC = Activity Center CC = Child. Chapel CR = Choir Room GFH = Garrett Fellowship Hall O= Office</p>	<p>MR= Basement Meeting Room S= Sanctuary WC= Welcome Center GP= Gabriel Project Room</p>		<p>1  Pledge Cards are due (O)</p>	<p>2</p>
<p><b>3 Advent 1</b> 9:30am– Adult Sunday Schl (GFH) 10:30am– Holy Eucharist (S) Choir Practice (CR) 2:00pm–Autism Group (GFH) 5:30pm–Holy Eucharist (S)</p>	<p>4  12-2pm– Gabriel Project Open (GP)</p>	<p>5  7:00pm– NA</p>	<p>6 10:45am– Women’s Book Club (S)  6:30pm– Bible Study (GFH)  8pm– AA (MR)</p>	<p>7 6:30pm– Women’s Dinner/ Book (GFH)</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>
<p><b>10 Advent 2</b> 9:30am– Adult Sunday Schl (GFH) 10:30am– Holy Eucharist (S) Choir Practice (CR) 5:30pm– Holy Eucharist (S)  12pm-4pm-Youth Fundraiser</p>	<p>11  12-2pm– Gabriel Project Open (GP)</p>	<p>12  Poinsettia Orders are due (O)   7:00pm– NA</p>	<p>13 10:45am– Women’s Book Club (S)  6:30pm– Bible Study (GFH)  8:00pm– AA (MR)</p>	<p>14  Veteran’s Luncheon  6:30pm-Women’s Christmas Party (GFH)</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>
<p><b>17 Advent 3</b> 9:30am– Adult Sunday Schl (GFH) 10:30am– Holy Eucharist (S) Vestry (GFH) Choir Practice (CR) 5:30pm– Holy Eucharist (S)</p>	<p>18 Families pick up Christmas items (WC)  12-2pm– Gabriel Project Open (GP)</p>	<p>19  7:00pm– NA</p>	<p>20  6:30pm– Bible Study (GFH)  8:00pm– AA (MR)</p>	<p>21 6:30pm– Blue Christmas Worship Service (S)  </p>	<p>22   6:30PM– Greening of the Church (S)</p>	<p>23 5pm– Advent 4 Holy Eucharist Soup Supper (GFH)  </p>
<p><b>24 Advent 4/ Christmas Eve</b> 5:30PM–Holy Eucharist/ Children’s Sermon (S) 11:00–Caroling (S) 11:30PM– Candlelight Holy Eucharist (S)</p>	<p>25 <b>Merry Christmas</b> </p>	<p>26  7:00pm– NA</p>	<p>27 Deadline for reimbursements (O)  6:30pm– Bible Study (GFH)  8:00pm– AA (MR)</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>







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3434 Teays Valley Road  
P.O. Box 424  
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**Join us each Sunday at 10:30 a.m.  
or at 5:30 p.m.!**

The Rev. Cheryl Ann Winter,  
RECTOR

Staff

Nicki Wood, SECRETARY  
Janet Heck, MUSIC DIRECTOR  
Jim Dunaway, CUSTODIAN

Vestry

Andy Bird, SR. WARDEN  
John Alvis, JR. WARDEN  
Billy Wayne Bailey  
Laura Leslie  
Tina McClung  
Tom Midkiff  
Randy Thompson  
Joyce Wilson

Ed Garrett, TREASURER  
Trish Fisher, VESTRY CLERK

▶ **Christmas Outreach to Veterans**



Our **Socks for Veterans Box** could still use some more socks so when you are out shopping pick up a pack if you haven't already done so. Many thanks to all who have already given.

The Christmas Luncheon will be held on Thursday December 14<sup>th</sup>. Sally and Jim Holliday make all the arrangements for this meal but need assistance with transporting the food and gifts, setting up and serving the meal, and cleaning up after. If you are able and wanting to help, please speak to Sally and Jim or Cheryl.

▶ **End of the Year Giving and Reimbursements**

If you have receipts for which you need to be reimbursed OR that you want added to your contribution statement for 2017 Please get them into the office by December 27th. Please have all 2017 Pledge payments into the church by Sunday December 31st so that may appear on your 2017 contribution report.

If you are someone who looks for opportunities to do 'End of the Year Giving' for tax purposes, please consider St. Timothy's. You may give generally, or designate your gift for the Capital Fund (building), the Endowment Fund, or to a specific outreach ministry such as the Monday Night Suppers, Discretionary Fund, Gabriel Project, etc. Thank you!



*December 2017*