



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

Connections

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

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Confirmation Sunday

December 11th will be a BIG day for the congregation! Ten young people and 6 adults will become confirmed/received by Bishop Klusmeyer at the 10:30 service. The young people have been preparing for over a year for this momentous occasion in their lives. We are all very proud of them. Please come and join in welcoming these folks as confirmed members of the Episcopal Church and our faith community! ✕



Christmas Musical Presentation

"What I Like Most about Christmas" will be presented by the young people (with adult assistance) on Sunday morning, December 18, at 10:30 a.m. Please come and enjoy this holiday tradition. You won't be disappointed. ✕



Celebrating Christmas at St. Timothy's

Please join us as we celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord on Saturday, December 24, 2016:

Holy Eucharist with Children's Sermon – 5:30 p.m.

Caroling with the Choir – 11:00 p.m.

Candlelight Holy Eucharist – 11:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 25: Christmas Day, No morning or evening worship services this day. ✕



Greening of the Church

The Greening of the Church will be held on **Thursday, December 22**, beginning at 6:00 p.m. We would like to invite all of the congregation to join us in readying the church for the celebration of the Baby's birth. No experience is needed, as we have many experienced people who will be there to help lead us. There is some "high" work where a ladder is necessary. The church will provide the ladder; we just need the strong legs! Contact Marty Alvis, Altar Guild Directress, if you have any questions (304-543-9876). ✕



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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 26, 2016.



Lunch Bunch

Fa-la-la-la-la La-la-la-la

Don your holiday apparel
12:30 p.m., Wednesday,
December 14th

For yuletide lunch at Italian Grille & Deli
17 Putnam Village Drive.
Family & friends are welcome!

Do contact Kitty Byus (304-757-0319) or Lola Warren (304-743-9935) so that the correct number of seats may be reserved. ✕



New Sunday Evening Service

We are pleased to report that the Sunday evening service is a success! We have had many different people attend in the last several months with an average of 8 people an evening. Several of our folks have been coming regularly. People who attend other churches but wish for the Healing Service or communion have come, and others just checking it out. Please think about participating, especially if Sunday morning ends up not working out for you.

This Sunday, Dec. 4th, the young people from the Confirmation class will assist in the leadership of the service using a service that they have written. Holy Eucharist and Healing is still being offered. Come and support these young folks in their work!

Please make note that there will NOT be an evening service on Christmas Day or New Year's Day evenings and will resume on January 8th. ✕

Notes from Vestry

The Vestry met on November 20th following worship. The following items were discussed:

- ◆ Stewardship Report
- ◆ Christmas Offering
- ◆ Visioning Committee
- ◆ Bishop's Visitation
- ◆ Buildings & Grounds
- ◆ Lighting
- ◆ Landscaping
- ◆ Occasional Flooding in the Meeting Room
- ◆ Financial Report

Feel free to speak to a member of Vestry for more detailed information.

Andy Bird, Sr. Warden ✕

Bishop's Visitation Offering

When the Bishop(s) visits a congregation for an official visit, the loose offering goes to The Bishops' Visitation Offering Fund. Each year these offerings are designated to a special outreach ministry of the diocese. In recent years, the Reading Camps and Peterkin Scholarships have received these monies.

Quite appropriately, this year's offerings are being directed to Flood Relief efforts. As you have heard the rector say, the relief and recovery efforts will be going on for many years yet to come because of the widespread devastation. Please be generous as you are able to help our brothers and sisters in the hard-hit areas. Also, a reminder that Cathy Branam chairs the Diocesan Disaster Recovery Committee and that Cheryl is a member of that committee. ✕

Visitation Offering

Flood Relief

The current Bishops' Visitation Offerings will be used for flood recovery in the Diocese of West Virginia.

Several areas of the state were devastated by floods in 2016. The Episcopal Diocese was, and still is, in the forefront of helping victims all over the state. Your generous donations have allowed us to offer shelter, food, clothing, and other essentials to those in need. Recovery efforts are expected to last for many more months.

We salute those who have given their time and financial aid to help in this ministry, and we thank you for your generous offering today.



▶ St. Timothy's Christmas Offering

The Vestry has designated the Special Christmas Offering to two outreach ministries of the congregation. This has been a tradition of St. Timothy's for most of its existence. The two recipients this year are the Rector's Discretionary Fund and a Flood Relief Fund. Both of these funds will allow us as a congregation to assist those in our community with emergencies such as food, clothing, utilities, medicine, and shelter as well as to continue to assist those in the flood areas to build back to basic safe and warm living standards. Please be generous as you are able, to fund both of these ministries. ✕

▶ Combined Episcopal/Lutheran Service



A wonderful tradition that we have with our Lutheran brothers and sisters at Cross of Grace is to come together on the first Sunday following Christmas for a service of Holy Eucharist. This year, **Cross of Grace is hosting the service on January 1, 2017, at 10:45 a.m.** (30 Grace Drive, Hurricane; across from Arby's). Please come to support our common work as liturgical Christians in full communion with one another. ✕

▶ Socks for Vets

One clothing item that is most needed for the homeless is socks. Especially as the cold and wet weather sets in, socks are needed to help keep feet dry and warm. While you are out shopping please pick up at least one package of men's athletic socks. Let's see if we can collect at least 150 pairs to deliver to the Veterans for Christmas (we exceeded that goal last year)! The women wear the men's socks too. Please have your sock donations to the church, in the big red box, by December 11. ✕



▶ Annual Women's Christmas Party

December 15th 6-8 p.m. • Garrett Fellowship Hall

Calling all women of St. Timothy's and your friends! Time is fast approaching for our annual Christmas party with good eating, a fun exchange of small gifts, lots of laughter, and a variety of

beverages from which to choose.

Bring a hot or cold hors d'oeuvre or finger food dessert to share and a wrapped (or bagged) gift that is \$15 or less for the exchange. It is an evening of fun away from the worries of the season to laugh with your sisters in Christ. All women are invited and encouraged to attend! ✕

▶ Wonderful Wednesdays Women's Book Club

Exploring transformative questions that help us acknowledge and appreciate the deepening spiritual awareness that comes with advancing years is our focus. Discussion based on Linda Douty's book, *How Did I Get to Be 70 When I'm 35 Inside*, and including shared personal experiences is the heart of our time together.

We will meet in December on the 1st and 2nd Wednesday mornings at 10:45 a.m., in the sanctuary: December 7th and December 14th. We will resume our weekly sessions in 2017 on January 11th.

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

▶ Centering Prayer

St. Timothy's ecumenical centering prayer group **will not meet** in December.

Our first session in 2017 will be on Sunday, January 8, 3:30-5:00. Anyone interested in exploring this type of spiritual practice is encouraged to attend.

Questions or interested persons do contact Kitty Byus at 304-757-0319. ✕

▶ Poinsettia Orders

Poinsettia order envelopes are available on the Welcome Center table. Fill out your envelope, enclose your payment, and put your order into the offering plate. Plants are \$9 each and are used to beautify our sanctuary during Christmas Eve services. They may be taken home after the candlelight service. ✕



December Sunday Service Schedule

	December 4 Advent 2	December 11 Advent 3	December 18 Christ the King	December 24 5:30 p.m.	December 24 11:30 p.m.	December 25 Christmas Day
Chalice Bearers	Kitty Byus Dave Wood	Andy Bird Arthur Taylor		Arthur Taylor Dave Wood	Andy Bird Soleil Gregg	<i>No morning or evening worship.</i>
O.T. & Psalm Reader	Nona Dolmetsch	Ethan Markins	Richard Spilman	Nona Dolmetsch	Robin Ward	
N. T. Reader	Janessa Noel	Mitchell Proper		Trish Fisher	Robin Ward	
Prayers of The People	Soleil Gregg	Kitty Byus	Karen White	Dave Wood	Soleil Gregg	
Acolytes	M. Rumbaugh Sophie Carr Jillian Noel	M. Rumbaugh		Hannah Bennett Jillian Noel	M. Rumbaugh Emily Branam Alex Ward	
Ushers	Brian Proper Frank Thompson	Kim Murphy Kim Smith	John/Marty Alvis Nona Dolmetsch	Ed & Carolyn Garrett	Chris Lewis Jacob Ward	
Counters	Allison Hughart Randy Thompson	Kim Murphy Kim Smith	Glenn & Mary Lou Childress	Frank Thompson Lola Warren	Frank Thompson Lola Warren	
Children's Chapel	Laura Leslie Kimberly Carr	TBA (contact Laura)	Children's Christmas Musical			
Nursery	Joy Jenkins Alex Ward	Emily Branam Hannah McClung	Kolbey & Jamison Walker			
Vestry Greeter	Andy Bird	Kim Murphy	Arthur Taylor	TBA	Andy Bird	
Altar Guild	Marty Alvis Trish Fisher	Marty Alvis Trish Fisher	Children's Musical	TBA	TBA	

December Celebrations

Happy Birthday to:

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 3 Chuck Elkins | 16 Pat Chard |
| 4 Vicki Wood | 17 Kate Sams |
| 5 John Wilson | 18 Rachel Midkiff |
| 6 Aaron Carr | 20 Kitty Byus |
| 7 Mary James | 21 Jennifer Midkiff |
| 8 Stacy Barna | 24 Trish Fisher |
| 10 Lucas McCallister | 29 Sally Dunlap |
| 12 Lynda Rumbaugh | 30 Jerry Damron, James Kaul |
| 13 Cooper Ellis | |

Happy Anniversary to:

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



December 2016

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
KEY: AC = Activity Center CC = Child. Chapel CR = Choir Room GFH = Garrett Fellowship Hall MR = Basement Meeting Room S = Sanctuary VR = Vesting Room WC = Welcome Ctr YR = Youth Room	 HE WILL BE OUR PEACE. MICAH 5:5			1	2	3
				6:30pm— Women's Dinner & A Book		9am-12pm— Adult Confirmation Class (GFH) Afternoon— GFH Reserved (Jenkins)
4 <i>Advent 2</i>	5	6	7	8	9	10
10:30am— Holy Eucharist (S) Choir Practice (CR) Musical Prac. (S) 2pm-Autism (GFH) 3:30pm— Confirmation 5:30pm— Holy Eucharist (S)	12-2pm— Gabriel Project Open (AC) 6pm— Girl Scouts (GFH)	7pm— NA (MR)	10:45am— Women's Book Group (S) 8pm— AA (MR)			5pm— Confirmation Practice (S) 6pm— Confirmation Dinner (GFH)
11 <i>Advent 3</i>	12	13	14	15	16	17
10:30am— Holy Eucharist & Confirmation (S) Vestry Mtg (GFH) Choir Practice (CR) Musical Prac. (S) 5:30pm— Holy Eucharist (S)	12-2pm— Gabriel Project Open (AC) 6:00pm— Girl Scouts (GFH)	7pm— NA (MR)	9:00am— T.V. Moms Club (GFH) 10:45am— Women's Book Group (S) 12:30pm— Lunch Bunch (@Italian Grille & Deli) 8pm— AA (MR)	6-8pm— Women's Christmas Party (GFH)	5-9pm— GFH Reserved (Wood)	
18 <i>Advent 4</i>	19	20	21	22	23	24
10:30am— Musical Presentation (S) Vestry Mtg (GFH) Choir Practice (CR) 5:30pm— Holy Eucharist (S)	12-2pm— Gabriel Project Open (AC) 6:30pm— Girl Scouts Service Unit Mtg (GFH)	7pm— NA (MR)	No Women's Book Group 6:30pm— Blue Christmas Service (S) 8pm— AA (MR)	6pm— Hanging of the Greens		5:30pm— Eucharist & Child. Sermon (S) 11:00pm— Caroling with the Choir (S) 11:30pm— Candlelight Holy Eucharist (S)
25 <i>Christmas</i>	26	27	28	29	30	31
No morning or evening worship services today 	Newsletter Deadline 12-2pm— Gabriel Project Open (AC) 6:00pm— Girl Scouts (GFH)	7pm— NA (MR)	No Women's Book Group 8pm— AA (MR)			 



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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

Karen White, SECRETARY
Janet Heck, MUSIC DIRECTOR
Cheryl Cabell, CUSTODIAN

Vestry

Andy Bird, SR. WARDEN
John Alvis, JR. WARDEN
Laura Leslie
Tina McClung
Kim Murphy
Janessa Noel
Kim Smith
Arthur Taylor
Randy Thompson

Ed Garrett, TREASURER
Trish Fisher, VESTRY CLERK

▷ **Blue Christmas – December 21st – 6:30 p.m.**

December 21st is the longest night of the year being that it is the Winter Solstice. For some, Christmas may seem like the longest day of the year because while everyone is celebrating and having fun, they are sad, grieving, lonely, depressed. There may be any number of reasons for this – the loss or anticipated loss of a loved one, illness, loss of job, etc.

St. Timothy's is continuing the tradition of offering a service called Blue Christmas in the early evening of December 21st. This service is an opportunity for folks who wish to acknowledge their struggles and sense of loss with quiet prayer and singing, in a peaceful, spirit-filled atmosphere, surrounded by candlelight. Please come and join with others in this healing service. Please invite folks that you know from the community who might benefit from such a service.

Following our first Blue Christmas service a few years ago, a woman who had come to the service came up to Cheryl in Kroger and said, "I made it through Christmas better than I thought I would because that Blue Christmas service really helped me – I hope you keep doing it." ✕



December 2016