

From the Rector: Count Your Blessings First

On our Vestry retreat in January we employed a different way of looking at everything. It's called Appreciative Inquiry (AI). It helps us see all that is good and right in our lives. When we are at home, Church, or work (places we spend significant time and tend to be very invested) we first see the one or two things that are broken (or just not working) and need to be fixed. Of course, we should not ignore these maintenance issues. But if we only see the problems we miss everything else that is fine. Yes, we have some broken doors and some broken tile in the parish hall, but we also have a wonderful Sanctuary, offices, preschool and Sunday school rooms, heat and air conditioning, narthex, piano, ten acres of land, beautiful trees, and—eventually—a completed restored organ! That is worth noticing. That is worth celebrating.

the innumerable blessings and graces all around us. AI is not about dismissing things that need our attention; it is about noticing first all the goodness that is vastly greater than what we have to find time and money to repair.

In this issue of the Word you will find three vision statements, with specific steps for how to get there, that grew out of our Vestry retreat and have been developed by your Vestry and Ministry leaders using the AI process. They are written in the present tense, and we will be working towards using all the wonderful gifts and blessings we already have to make these visions true.

We can trust our Vestry and our Building and Grounds ministry. They have a clear view of what it takes to keep St. Timothy's in good condition and move us forward. Even so, we need to be grateful for all of the blessings, the grace, the magnificent gifts we have that immeasurably exceed the relatively minor maintenance issues that catch our eye. Count your blessings first. +

We are conditioned to see what needs to be fixed or discarded, and fail to notice

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April Agape FAQ for Chapoteau, Haiti

This month the Haiti Ministry will conduct an Agape campaign (Agape means "brotherly love, charity") to raise funds for the education of children in Chapoteau, Haiti. In Haiti, change is constant; but for 5 years, St. Timothy's has been constant as well, the one continuously supportive presence in the rural village. Thank you for your ongoing support.

How did Saint Timothy's get involved in Chapoteau?

Our involvement in Chapoteau began almost 35 years ago in 1981. At that time Fr. Brad was working in the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina (EDUSC) when the Bishop called him to make a journey of compassion

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Correction: In last month's edition of the Word, Fr. Brad mentioned in his article that the amount of our 2005 church expansion was \$1.2 million. This amount should have been noted as \$2.2 million.

Register Now for Relaxation at Shrine Mont Retreat, May 1-3

Ready for a time of renewal, rest, reflection and fun in the beautiful Shenandoah Mountains in Orkney Springs, less than 2 hours from Herndon? Shrine Mont offers a welcome break from the stress of work, car pools, commuting, and all those things that distract us from our family and from God.

Planned activities include hiking (weather permitting), bingo, Saturday morning adult session, “talentless show”, and worship. You are welcome to participate or just sit back, relax, read or take a nap! Shrine Mont is open to all parishioners who would like to attend (all ages, families, singles, etc.). There’s something for everyone.

The cost of the weekend includes six wonderful home-cooked meals (Friday dinner thru Sunday lunch), two nights’ lodging in simple but comfortable rooms, on-site facilities

including tennis courts, recreation fields, hiking and nature trails (please talk to clergy or Susy Nixon if you need financial assistance). +



Fire at Farmer Workshop Delays Tracker Organ Restoration

by **Marty Brady**

As announced at all 3 services on March 15, there was a fire at John Farmer’s main workshop in North Carolina in the pre-dawn hours of Thursday, March 12th. Thanks be to God no one was injured and our pipe organ was not inside the workshop when the fire occurred. The Winston-Salem police and fire departments are investigating possible arson since the fire began outside the shop, and they have issued a reward for information that leads to an arrest.

John Farmer and his staff have been focused on getting back to work as soon as possible, and to that end have been working determinedly with insurance agents

and contractors to both set up an interim shop and to rebuild their main building. The current estimate of delay to our restoration project is 4-6 months.

Your Gifts to Glorify the Lord (GtGtL) team will stay in frequent contact with Mr. Farmer & his staff as they rebuild, and they have expressed great appreciation of our prayers and well wishes. Please continue to keep the Farmers and their staff in your prayers as they work to regroup and rebuild. Your GtGtL team will convey additional information via weekly eNews and bulletin announcements, the Word and the [St. Timothy’s Facebook page](#) as we receive it. +

Photos sent to us from John Farmer show the building that was lost, as well as our safe and intact organ that was being stored in a separate building.



Appreciative Inquiry Goals: Growth, Involvement, Outreach

Your Vestry and Ministry leaders have been working for three months developing the following three visions for St. Timothy's. Do any of these ideas inspire you? Contact Nikki O'Malley (nikki.omalley@gmail.com) if you'd like to help make these visions a reality!

GROWTH: At St. Timothy's, we warmly welcome newcomers and are growing in regular members across generations and cultures.

We celebrate passing the Peace joyfully and to everyone both during worship and in activities for the community. Our congregants introduce themselves properly to people they don't know. Once a month everyone in the congregation wears a nametag to facilitate getting to know others. During the announcements, visitors are welcomed and invited to sign the guest book and take home a welcome bag/packet. Prayers for individuals in need are part of the service, and the opportunity to introduce guests is provided during the worship service announcements.

Greeters and Vestry members are visible in the Narthex after services to welcome visitors, and accompany them to Coffee hour. Within a week of their first visit, Newcomers receive a letter thanking them for attending our service and providing information about our ministries, Adult Faith Formation classes, and the newcomer's reception held in the Spring or Fall of each year.

Coffee hour is a chance to casually welcome newcomers and for newcomers to meet us. Hosting coffee hour is fun and easy. Preparation instructions are clear and posted on the wall near the coffee makers, and instructions are available for people when they sign up to host (i.e., hand-out, sent as email, or downloaded from web site). A list of experienced coffee hour hosts is maintained and mentors are available to assist new coffee hour hosts.

We hold well-advertised events that invite and welcome people in our community, like food truck Saturdays, "community fellowship movies" (on the lawn in the summer), the annual Chili Cookoff, community talent shows and Epiphany pageants. We reach out to the Spanish community with relevant cultural events, have Spanish speakers and publicity in Spanish for all events.. We encourage each other to invite neighbors and friends with "Bring a Friend" Sundays that coincide with Nametag Sundays.

Groups that use our facilities know we are glad they are here. A welcome visit occurs annually at the beginning of their year with us, including the Boy Scouts, recovery groups, TOPS, and nurturing parenting program. The calendar for the week is posted at various locations around the church.

During services, our pews are well stocked with pencils, donation envelopes, and information about St. Timothy's. We recognize people in the prayers of the people. Our entrances are clearly marked in English and Spanish.

Clergy or Vestry members make a point to contact each parishioner once a year, and when a parishioner expresses a spiritual or material need, they are quickly matched with church or community resources.

INVOLVEMENT: At St. Timothy's every member of our parish uses his or her particular talents to support at least one mission or ministry.

Opportunities to participate in missions and ministries are communicated in timely and effective formats, including print, electronic, and especially person-to-person. A few STAR (Small Tasks Are Rewarding) tasks/needs are publicized each week in the bulletin and eNews, and events for the coming week are listed in the bulletin.

Parishioners are proud of what they contribute to St. Timothy's because they feel they are making a difference. There is an effective and efficient process for matching volunteers with ministries, which includes "mission counselors" who help to match people with ministries in need. These counselors are available once a month in Henry Hall during coffee hour to talk to people about how they might like to get involved, and are well trained and knowledgeable about all the ministries at St. Tim's. There is a system for keeping track of what ministries need and what volunteers would like to do that is regularly maintained.

There are easy, ever present ways for people to see what needs doing and volunteer for it. Pew cards list ways people can volunteer that they can check off and drop into the offering plate, and those are updated at least monthly. Electronic means of signup, like Signup Genius, are used whenever email is a primary mode of communication for

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involvement, so that people are reminded of their volunteer dates and can add it to their calendar. A few ministries or missions are highlighted every month or at parish-wide events, and Mission Sunday coincides with Pentecost.

A kiosk in the Narthex displays the calendar, allows people to sign up to volunteer online, and accepts donations.

Ministry leaders are trained in the process of how to reach out for new members, make good use of volunteers, thank them properly, and train new people to take over ongoing tasks. Ministry leaders regularly request new volunteers by personally asking people if they are interested. Volunteer opportunities have designated lengths of service and are flagged when appropriate for families to do together, and volunteers are thanked in writing within 1 week of doing something for a mission or ministry. We also regularly publicly thank people with recognition in the bulletin, and ministry leaders are diligent about thanking all those who help them. Anyone can email thanks@saint-timothys.org in order to thank someone in a publication. During volunteer month (April), we post a “Thank You” board in the Narthex for parishioners to publicly thank other parishioners that have made a positive impact upon their church life.

OUTREACH: Our missions and ministries are well known in the greater Herndon/Reston community, giving other opportunities to join us wherever we are called to serve.

Ministries and Missions at St. Timothy’s submit information about all their public events to local papers’ calendars and to our Communications ministry, which publicizes events (via articles and submissions) in local papers and Diocesan publications. For community related events and special services, members pick up flyers and post them in locations they go to regularly, like Starbucks and Panera, as well as in neighborhoods near the church. Vinyl banners

along Van Buren and Spring Streets publicize what we are doing. We publicize events of broader interest, like Stuff-a-Truck, Taize services, and the 30 Hour Famine.

Ministries holding any event have a resources checklist that includes financial needs, volunteer needs, calendar timing, a communications/outreach plan, and a thanks/recognition plan.

We go out into the community to participate in local events like the Herndon Festival and Thanksgiving Parade, and to serve non-members spiritually, including initiatives like Ashes-to-go and partnerships with Cornerstones. St. Tim’s volunteers get branded t-shirts to wear at these events and elsewhere.

Our website makes it easy for non-members to find out about our service times, nursery and Sunday School, parking and visiting. It also has clear information about weddings, funerals, and other sacraments. Missions or ministries with upcoming events are highlighted online with clear calls to action for how to participate.

We have a smooth, easy online donation process so people outside St. Timothy’s can contribute financially to our missions. We have CFC status and publicize how to give that way to St. Timothy’s.

Our internal processes for properly directing donations gives people confidence that their money is being well used. The Vestry is transparent about how we decide to spend our congregation’s offerings and is accountable for our choices. We highlight how donations enable our ministries to do their work and thank people for their donations promptly. We recognize those making financial contributions as a critical part of our ministry and mission teams.

We hold special Sunday services such as Boy Scout and Girl Scout Sundays, World Hunger, Earth Day, and other yearly calendar event and we publicize those special services to the community. +

Vestry Update

February giving: \$46,658

Monthly expenses: \$58,250

YTD Budget Deficit: \$26,363

New 2015 monthly giving needed: \$60,764

At the February Vestry meeting, held February 23, the Vestry awarded the preschool scholarship for 2015 to Dariel, son of Vestry member Vilma Lemus Majano. The Vestry also voted to award the Director of Music a stipend from the Organ Fund of \$150 per month beginning immediately, for overseeing the organ restoration process. The Vestry unanimously passed a motion requesting that the Treasurer's Report be provided to the Vestry at least 1 week prior to the Vestry meeting. Finally, the December 28 Vestry meeting was rescheduled to December 21.

Please discuss any questions with a member of the vestry. The next vestry meeting is April 27 at 7:30 pm. +

**Spring Is Here!
Time for Planting!**

**Youth Plant Sale
April 12
tomato, pepper, lettuce plants**



Celebrating 1st Bishop of Haiti James Theodore Holly

James Theodore Augustus Holly was born a free African American in Washington D.C., on October 3, 1829.

Baptized and confirmed in the Roman Catholic Church, he later became an Episcopalian. Holly was ordained deacon at St. Matthew's Church in Detroit, on June 17, 1855, and ordained a priest by the bishop of Connecticut on January 2 1856. He was appointed rector of St. Luke's, New Haven. In the same year he founded the Protestant Episcopal Society for Promoting the Extension of the Church among Colored People, an antecedent of the Black Episcopalians. He became a friend of Frederick Douglass, and the two men worked together on many programs.

In 1861, Holly resigned as rector of St. Luke's to lead a group of African Americans settling in Haiti. Although his wife, his mother, and two of his children died during the first year, along with other settlers, Holly stayed on with two small sons, proclaiming that just "as the last surviving apostle of Jesus was in tribulation ... On the forlorn isle of Patmos, so by His Divine Providence (Christ) had brought this tribulation upon me for a similar end in this isle in the Caribbean Sea." He welcomed the opportunity to speak of God's Love to a people who needed to hear it.

On November 8, 1874, James Theodore Holly was ordained the first bishop of Haiti at Grace Church, New York City. This made him the first Black man to be raised to the office of bishop in the Episcopal Church, and only the second Black bishop of any major denomination. In 1878, Bishop Holly attended the Lambeth Conference, the first to do so, and he preached at Westminster Abbey on St. James' Day of that year. In the course of his ministry, he doubled the size of his diocese, and established medical clinics where none had been before.

Bishop Holly served the Diocese of Haiti until his death on March 13 1911. He had charge of the Diocese of the Dominican Republic as well, from 1897 until he died. He is buried on the grounds of St. Vincent's School for Handicapped Children in Port-au-Prince.

From "Holy Woman, Holy Men – Celebrating The Saints" in 2010 by Church Publishing Incorporated +

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to Haiti to render pastoral care and support the medical mission planned. Many years passed and a young man from Chapoteau, Wisnel Desjardin, came to Virginia Theological Seminary to complete his education, and chose St. Timothy's to conduct his field studies. When the 2010 earthquake hit Haiti, he could not return home for his brother and cousin's funeral. St. Timothy's became his family.

What is the Haiti ministry?

In the face of a combined level of tragedy and destruction only possible on the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere, St. Timothy's worked with Wisnel to respond. The Haiti Ministry consists of those who wish to help Chapoteau in any way they feel called. Some travel to Haiti as part of the Mission Team to gather information and connect with the people there, some help with prioritizing and planning projects for Chapoteau, fundraising, and serving as liaisons to other organizations in Haiti.

Why did St Timothy start supporting Chapoteau?

Wisnel was born, raised and educated in Chapoteau, a rural village with an Episcopal school physically separated from access to resources available elsewhere by a large lake. Public education in Haiti is nearly nonexistent, and many children can't afford the tuition and uniforms necessary to go to school. Wisnel encouraged us to "adopt" his village and make a long-term commitment, not just send emergency relief. The Haiti ministry accepted the call of assuring that the poorest children in Chapoteau have the opportunity to obtain spiritual, physical, emotional, and intellectual nourishment and a chance to succeed.

It has been 5 years since the earthquake, how are things in Haiti now?

Overall, the situation in Haiti has returned close to pre-earthquake norms. The stability is opening the way to sustainable prosperity within the constraints of the economic limitations and the political and social structures that are indigenous to Haiti. Investments in factories and schools are being made, and infrastructure improvements that support opportunity (roads, communications, ports, electricity, public works, etc.) are ongoing. Still, progress in Haiti is much slower than might be considered acceptable to us—best expressed by the trite equation, three steps forward, two steps back. Elections have been delayed for years (projected for 2016). Most teachers in Haiti haven't been paid regular salaries in more than a year. Disaster relief is dwindling rapidly, and assistance rarely reaches the remote villages.

How is our support to children in Chapoteau making a difference?

The church in Chapoteau is named for Saint Matthew (St. Mathieu), a constant reminder that with God, all things are possible. This perspective is pervasive among our friends in Chapoteau, and we have much to show for it. Last summer, we provided our teachers with the first training they have ever received—and some have been teaching at St. Mathieu's for more than 20 years. The school is a critical junction point in village water and sanitation system, and we have sent funds to build a sanitary latrine at the school. A meter garden program to teach students to grow nutritious crops is underway, run by our friend Hermene, a university educated agronomist. (Note: Desjardin means "of the gardens" in English) Meanwhile, we continue to provide for 25 students to

attend school who otherwise wouldn't be able to, and this year, we are working to bridge the gap from St. Mathieu's to University by adding support for students from Chapoteau to attend Secondary school in another village, creating a continuous path of education out of poverty.

How is our ministry sustainable?

The culture in Haiti is very attuned to giving back in various forms to family and community. In addition to our friend Wisnel and all that he has given back to Haiti from his achievements, our friend Hermene has returned to Chapoteau to apply his education to helping the village. Our University graduate Angeline (graduating this summer) has also agreed to pay forward the support we have given her to another student who needs help, something she can do with a University education and a job.

Why did the cost to support each primary school student increase from \$400 to \$500 annually?

Through direct observation and discussion with many people on each annual trip, the mission team identified substantial gaps in the resources provided to the teachers. The additional per student cost will be directed to provide minimal compensation for our teachers, who have been working more than a year without regular pay. Some school supplies and teaching aids are now integrated into the per student support.

Who can I contact to learn more?

Haiti Ministry members are: Chris Brock, Shon Beury, Craig Dubishar, John Druitt, Carolyn Hamm, Holly Hartage, Bob Henry, and Genevieve Zetlan.

teamhaiti@saint-timothys.org 



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The Word is published monthly and emailed to members and friends on the first weekday of each month. It also appears on the website (www.saint-timothys.org). If you wish to receive a copy by mail, please notify the church office (office@saint-timothys.org). Copies of The Word are also available in the office.

Submission deadline for the next issue: Friday, April 24, 2015

Questions, articles, or ideas, and comments for The Word are always welcome. Send materials via email to wordeditor@saint-timothys.org and put "The Word" in the subject line. Photos are also welcome; please identify key people in photos. Articles or letters may be edited.

Welcome, New Registered Members

Michael Francis Colie
Hollis Ruth Colie
Bryant Clark Colie

We have *many* active congregants who have been attending and donating to St. Timothy's for many years who are not registered members! Our goal is to aid the transfer of all congregants interested in being registered members of St. Timothy's.

Non-registered members can participate in all aspects of church worship except serving on the Vestry and participating in elections. However, the more registered members St. Timothy's has recorded the more delegates we can send to the conventions (thus giving us a stronger vote in Diocese matters).

To transfer your membership to St. Tim's, or to find out if you are a registered member, contact Nikki O'Malley (nikki.omalley@gmail.com) or fill out the Parishioner Information Form: www.saint-timothys.org/uploads/docs/info-form.pdf

2015 Vestry

Terms expire Jan. 2016

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For appointments, please call
703-437-3790

Service Times

Sundays
8:00 a.m.
Eucharist, Rite I

9:30 a.m.
Eucharist, Rite II
Nursery Care
Godly Play, ages 3-8
SPARK+, 3-6th grades
Christian Ed, 6-8th grade
Christian Ed, 9-12th grade

11:00 am
Rite II Bi-lingual service
English-Espanol
Holy Communion
Godly Play, ages 3-8

Wednesday
12:15 P.M.
Eucharist and
Healing Service

Saturday
7:00 P.M.
Oracion y Alabanza