



The WORD

January 2020

Dear Friends,

A New Year dawns and it comes with unlimited opportunities. As Christians we can begin again at any time, but the New Year serves as a reminder that Yes, we can start fresh. Many of us mark this time with resolutions to do or be better. Some choose to amend daily life for better living. Others simply clean out the attic and are done with it. Those are all great practices and have benefits for us.

But there is a deeper practice which changes our lives within. I am referring to forgiveness. We can change the way we live our daily lives and have great benefits from those alterations like eating better and cleaning out stuff from the closet. But real freedom and new beginnings come from letting go of those memories and hurts that have bound us for so long. People hurt us, because people are imperfect. While it is very true that others may owe us a debt for what they have done—perhaps an apology or more—we need to remember that there is a cost to us for keeping the debt on the ledger. Forgiveness is not about squaring accounts; it is about getting out of the journal keeping business altogether.

To extend the metaphor just a bit, it is as if all of us are employed to make journal entries about “rights and wrongs” and the debts owed to us. Every day is a page in a ledger and our time and energy is spent carefully writing down who owes us what. For example, the guy who cut me off this morning to get onto the exit ramp from the left lane was clearly



in the wrong. When he did it, I made a mental note that I had been wronged and was owed something. It was a feeling as much as a mental process. But how much energy, time, and resources am I going to invest in keeping the ledger accurate? Will I even be aware of the cost to me for keeping track of this debt?

God calls us to new employment. God does not want us to be writers of journal entries. Instead, the Kingdom of God is about closing the journal for good and walking outside into the beauty of God’s new life given to us in Jesus Christ. It is like stepping outside on the first day of spring after a long winter when the air is still crisp, but the sun is shining enough to make us feel warm. Letting go of the debts owed to us frees us for new beginnings.

In the Old Testament there are laws that required that debts owed to us be canceled after a certain number of years. There were even laws requiring that after a certain number of years, land that had been sold was to revert back to the former owners. Every 50 years—the Jubilee Year—the people of God redistributed the common wealth back to a more egalitarian sharing of this wealth. So much for journal entries. In the New Testament, this practice takes a new form in the call of forgiveness not to those who deserve it, but to all people, the whole world even. God wants us to have a new life. God wants to use us not to make journal entries, but to walk outside where the air is crisp and every day is a spring day.

New Year Blessings,

Fr. Rick +



Why you should say YES if asked to be a confirmation mentor. In 2020, Saint Timothy's is remodeling confirmation and integrating a mentoring piece for our youth to experience and explore their faith with an adult who is not their parent.

Who can be a mentor? A mentor is someone who is authentic, available and affirming. A mentor is committed to the role of mentor and to their faith journey.

Why are mentors important? A recent study was conducted called The Confirmation Project, which takes a fresh look at the confirmation process. Intergenerational mentoring relationships can help young people to claim their full participation in the body of Christ and enrich the faith lives of entire congregations. That research shows that learned spiritual behaviors, such as compassion, forgiveness, or devotion, come from seeing those

behaviors modeled by trusted people with whom they have a lasting relationship. This modeling of care for the other, illustrated by mentors in their care for confirmands, also teaches confirmands that we are not independent Christians, but part of an interdependent body of Christ. Christians cannot be followers of Jesus alone.

What is the commitment? Confirmands will be asking mentors in January to commit to meeting four times leading up to Confirmation on June 7th. The meeting times will be selected by the mentee and mentor; book study and sample session questions will be provided. Remember, the mentor doesn't have to have all the answers, but should be willing to walk in faith alongside the confirmand.

By saying "YES" to being a mentor you are taking up the cross. You are agreeing to "let your light shine before people, so they can see the good things you do and praise your Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). Through you, your young person will see Jesus' light shine.

The youth will be asking for mentors throughout January. If you would like to volunteer ahead of being asked, please let me know and I will connect you to a confirmand. You would not only impact a young person's faith journey but also grow the body of Christ.

~ submitted by Alyssa Stoffer



St. Timothy's
Annual Trip to
Antietam





Christmas Eve
at St. Timothy's





Christmas Eve
at St. Timothy's



Wolverhampton

On December 8th, Fr. Rich prefaced his homily with a story about Queen Victoria and a statue of her husband, Prince Albert, in Wolverhampton. The message of the sermon gave food for thought about the coming Christmas season, preparation and expectation during the season of Advent, as well as more mundane thoughts about a period of my life when I lived in the general area around that same city.

I called to mind the small city of Hereford, where the cathedral preserves the largest collection of “chained Bibles”. The 12th century church contains about 1550 Bibles all chained to their 16th century bookcases. The volumes go back to Anglo-Saxon times with Gospels written in Latin about 800. The other precious object housed in the cathedral is the “Mappa Mundi”, a “flat earth” map of the world drawn around 1280 by one of the clergy.

In a nearby small village called Kilbeck there is a Norman church which has a plethora of carvings ranging from the beautiful to the grotesque, some amusing and some that offended the Victorians so much that they were destroyed! No doubt they had a message for those who could not read but may have been deterred from sin by the results portrayed in the carvings.

The lovely town of Ludlow is full of black and white medieval and Tudor buildings, the most dramatic of which is the Feathers Hotel built in 1521. The castle held the two little princes, Edward and Richard, before they were transferred to the Tower of London where they were mysteriously killed.

The ashes of the poet, A.E. Housman, the writer of “A Shropshire Lad” and other poems, are buried in the shadow of the tall church tower which dominates the town. John Milton’s “Paradise Lost” is performed each summer in the ruins of the castle,

Another small village, Hartlebury, boasts a 15th century castle, currently the home of the Bishop of Worcester, and a county museum which has a large collection of gypsy caravans. Each one is highly decorated and there is also a well-preserved 300-year-old cider mill.

A last reference to a “church” subject refers to Tewkesbury, a town which was the scene of a great Yorkist victory in the Wars of the Roses. The site of the battle is still called “Bloody Meadow”. Tewkesbury Abbey, founded in 1092 by a kinsman of William the Conqueror, was closed by Henry VIII in 1541. The townspeople paid the King, £435 in order to retain the Abbey church, which contains 14th century stained glass and a 132-foot-high Norman tower (about \$525 at the current rate of exchange – I cannot quote the equivalent then as the dollar was not yet in existence!). Who pledged that amount? It begs the question of how important a building is and whether we would respond in a similar manner. Thank goodness someone did, or several people donated small amounts, for it is truly a wonderful place and a building full of music and prayer and, of course, a sense of history and continuation of faith.

There is so much more to be said about this area of England and my hope is that some of the St. Timothy’s family will be able to visit in the future and enjoy the beauty and history of this rather neglected area of the U.K. Tourist companies generally ignore it in favor of places like Oxford, York, Cambridge, and of course, London. You might take advantage of the public transportation that will convey you to these lovely places or take courage and try driving on the left-hand side of the road!

~ submitted by Jill Cox



Announcements and Upcoming Events





THANK YOU to Jeanne-Marie Burke for organizing the Epiphany Play this year! We appreciate you and your committee.

THANK YOU to Joe Weeden and all the organizers for our Winter Solstice and Revels celebration. Thank you to all the participants and to all those who attended. It was a perfect night for Wassailing.

THANK YOU to the Dubishar Family, Dave Dopsovic and all participants for the Christmas luminaries. It was a great day for setting them up and lots of fun. They looked beautiful on Christmas Eve!

Annual Meeting and Vestry Elections

Please plan to attend the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 12th, immediately following the 10:00 a.m. service. Lunch will be served. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Elections for new Vestry members will occur at all services on the 11th and 12th of January. Voting members of the parish are those baptized persons who are also registered as communicants in good standing. Voting by absentee ballot is permitted provided the qualified voting member presents the ballot in person to a Warden at least two days prior to the election. Please contact Elizabeth Witter egwitter789@gmail.com or Carmela Condro ccondro@verizon.net

	<p>Club 456 is a ministry designed for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders. The club meets once a month on Sunday after church. They are invited to go on Club 456 outings where they will enjoy fellowship and fun with their friends. This group will also work on a number of mission projects throughout the year. Club 456 will foster relationships with peers and encourage discipleship through service. Next meeting dates are January 5th and February 2nd, following 10 am worship.</p>
	<p>We are excited to offer a confirmation instruction this Winter/Spring 2020 to youth interested in being confirmed into the Episcopal Church. The recommended age is 8th grade and up. The main component will be a Mentoring book study and those study dates will be selected by the Mentor/mentee (about 3-4 sessions). Other important dates: January 5th - Information session and mentor selection (luncheon following church) May 17th - Episcopal 101 with Fr. Rich (luncheon following church) June 7th - Confirmation with the Bishop.</p>
<p><i>Adult Christian Education</i></p>	<p>St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church has launched “A Sparkle for Christ Class”. During the next months, this adult Christian education class will be held each Sunday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the Upper Room. The class provides educational material in support of theological doctrines of Christianity, with the purpose of overcoming intellectual obstacles to the Christian faith. The class has a structured program. Each lesson includes a presentation of theological topics and allows a discussion among the participants. Bringing a Bible and taking notes is encouraged. Please contact the parish office with any questions.</p>
<p><i>Capital Campaign</i></p>	<p>Thank you to those that have returned your Capital Campaign pledges. If you have been visited by one of the Capital Campaign team members, we would love to have your completed Capital Campaign Pledge returned to the church before Christmas. For those that have not yet been contacted or visited, please be patient with the Capital Campaign Committee, as we continue to set up and conduct visits. We are planning to have a Capital Campaign luncheon in January, where we hope to provide the Capital Campaign materials to parishioners in a group setting. Please contact John Nixon at 703 973-8005 or at jrnixon@verizon.net if you do not want to be contacted for the Capital Campaign.</p>
<p><i>Centering Prayer</i></p>	<p>The first and third Saturday of the month from 10:00 am to 11:30 am in room B-1 Please consider joining Father Rich and the Centering Prayer group for quiet meditation and fellowship.</p>
<p><i>Bible Study</i></p>	<p>Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 11:00 am in St. Timothy’s kitchen. If you have questions or would like to join, please contact Nikki O’Malley at nikki.omalley@gmail.com.</p>
<p><i>Shawl Ministry</i></p>	<p>The first Wednesday of each month from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm and the second Tuesday of each month, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm in the Narthex.</p>

January

2020

Events at St. Timothy's



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Centering Prayer
5 Club 456 Information Session and Mentor Selection for Confirmation	6	7 Shawl Ministry	8 Bible Study	9	10	11
12 Vestry Elections and Annual Meeting	13	14	15 Bible Study	16	17	18 Centering Prayer
19	20	21	22 Bible Study	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Bible Study	30	31	

(Print and save this calendar of events at St. Timothy's)

2019 Vestry with Liaison Assignments

Elizabeth Witter (2020) – *Senior Warden*
egwitter789@gmail.com
703-244-7940 (cell)

Carmela Condro (2021) – *Junior Warden/Worship*
ccondro@verizon.net
703-620-1110 (home)

Terms Expire 2022

Allison Dodd – *Christian Formation*
aahedley@yahoo.com
202-365-7595 (cell)

John Druitt – *Communications*
druitt@aol.com
703-989-0770

Brian Flusche – *Stewardship/Finance*
fluscheb@gmail.com
719-235-7658 (cell)

John Nixon – *Communications*
jrnixon@verizon.net
703-973-8005 (cell)

Terms Expire 2021

Andrew Hamm – *Buildings & Grounds*
andyhamm@verizon.net
703-435-0438 (home)

Catherine Lamoureux – *Youth*
catherine@lamoureux.us
703-391-7807 (home)

Adaku Nwachukwu – *Pastoral Care*
adaku.nwachukwu@gmail.com
301-775-7870 (cell)

Terms Expire 2020

Vidai Genovez (Andres) – *Latino Ministry*
vidaigenovez@live.com
703-867-4612 (cell)

Gerritt Peck – *Service*
gpeck14@su.edu
571-232-0113

Sandy Wright – *Fellowship*
quiltdiva730@gmail.com
703-716-9094 (home)



Pictured left to right: Fr. Rich Bardusch, Vidai Genovez (Andres), John Nixon, Adaku Nwachukwu, Carmela Condro, Elizabeth Witter, Allison Dodd, Andy Hamm, Brian Flusche (not pictured: John Druitt, Catherine Lamoureux, Gerritt Peck, Sandy Wright)



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
432 Van Buren Street, Herndon, VA 20170
Voice: 703-427-3790 Fax: 703-787-9781
www.saint-timothys.org

Service Times

Saturday: 7:00 pm Santa Eucharista
Sunday: 8:00 am Eucharist, Rite I
10:00 am Eucharist, Rite II
Godly Play ages 3-2nd gr.
SPARK+, 3rd-5th grade
Christian Education
Nursery Care
Wednesdays: 12:15 pm Eucharist and Healing Service

Rector

The Rev. Dr. Rich Bardusch
rbardusch@saint-timothys.org
703-437-3790 x12

Director of Music

Mr. Roger Long
rogerl@saint-timothys.org
703-437-3790 x16

Director of Christian Education

Ms. Alyssa Stoffer
alyssas@saint-timothys.org
703-437-3790 x17

Parish Administrator

Ms. Wanda Rixon
office@saint-timothys.org
703-437-3790 x10

Bookkeeper

Ms. Deb Angerman
bookkeeper@saint-timothys.org
703-437-3790 x13

St. Timothy's Pre-School Director

Ms. Monica Despina
sttimothypreschool432@gmail.com
703-437-4767

Welcome New Members

(no new members this month)

Please be aware that there are MANY active congregants who have been attending and donating to St. Timothy's for many years that 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 congregants can participate in all aspects of church worship with the exception of 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, giving us a stronger vote in Diocese matters.

If we don't have an email address for you and your family, or if your email has changed, update your information at www.saint-timothys.org or send the information to office@saint-timothys.org.

To transfer your membership to St. Timothy's or to find out if you are a registered member, contact Mindy Rohrbaugh (blessed2boma@gmail.com) or fill out the Parishioner Information Form: www.saint-timothys.org/uploads/docs/info-form.pdf

Editors of *The Word*

Ms. Susan Nixon and Ms. Ching Fang-Weeden

The Word is published monthly and emailed to members and friends the first week of the month. It also appears on the website. 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.

Unless otherwise noted, all photographs are by Wm. Craig Dubishar, © Wm. Craig Dubishar.

**Submission deadline for the February issue:
Sunday, January 26, 2020**

**Submit articles to:
wordeditor@saint-timothys.org**



Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!"

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.

The Lord shall give strength to his people; the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

~ Psalm 29

(New Revised Standard Version Bible)

First Sunday after the Epiphany