



The WORD

December 2020

Dear Friends,

We are now in the Season of Advent. Generally, we understand Advent from two perspectives: it is either about preparing or waiting. This year is an unusual Advent for us, and of course, we are going to have to make adjustments. But the theme of waiting seems especially appropriate to me. Waiting involves looking toward something. In Advent we are waiting for Jesus' birth. We spend our time preparing our hearts to be touched by hope, peace, joy, and love. Those are the four traditional emphases during Advent. It is those four attributes that we seek to instill in our lives. They are what it means to be part of the Kingdom of God.

The Season of Advent seems especially appropriate this year because of the pandemic. We are waiting for the spring and the distribution of vaccines that will eventually enable life to return to normal. We all wish it had happened yesterday. It is to that specific point that I write. Waiting is hard. It goes against our human nature, which says I want what I want, and I want it now.

But waiting can also be turned into a spiritual practice that brings us hope, peace, joy, and love. Most of the time we experience waiting as standing in a line for our turn at the checkout counter. It is like a price we pay for getting what we want. But that understanding of waiting is really a bit shallow. It is transactional and the waiting itself is viewed as the price I pay. It is not very spiritual, and it doesn't really change or reshape our souls for the better. It is just something we have to do.



I want to offer an alternative understanding of waiting and propose a practice to help it happen. Waiting is an opportunity to reshape our souls. It is the chance to make ourselves and thus our lives into the a more Christlike person. Waiting is a practice that prepares us to fully receive that for which we are waiting if we take it. In America waiting is something we just have to get through. In God's Kingdom, waiting is being present to something before its arrival, thus establishing a relationship to it before it comes.

When we wait for Jesus' birth each year, our focus on hope, peace, joy, and love each Sunday prepares us and establishes a proper relationship to God with Us--Emmanuel. We spend four weeks focusing on and being present to Jesus through these four attributes, which when he arrives blossom in our hearts and our lives. The process of waiting can change from a transactional relationship to that of a fulfilled relationship. Fulfilled before the thing for which we wait even arrives.

How do we do this? Simple: spend time each day quietly waiting. Sit in a comfortable place and each week meditate and reflect on hope, peace, joy, and love. Turn waiting from a price we pay to an opportunity to change our souls. Enter into a relationship with Jesus that is already fulfilled even before he arrives. Be quiet and wait.

Advent Blessings,

Pine Ridge

News from the Rez – St. Timothy’s Lakota Ministry

As we in Northern Virginia have struggled to cope with the pandemic, COVID is a major concern for the people of the Pine Ridge Reservation. The tribe has taken it very seriously and not allowed outside visitors on the reservation since March. This includes groups like the St. Timothy’s Lakota Ministry that normally come for immersion experiences at the Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center (PRRC).

The PRRC continues to offer, in a COVID-safe manner, sandwiches and diapers out of the center. They take snacks and activities to the kids who participate in our Kid's Time Program and are taking the Kid's Time families a meal twice a month. The members of the Lakota Job Corps are hard at work maintaining the center and getting the new Kid's Time area ready for the day we can welcome the kids back.

Winter is already upon the reservation as they have already seen a -3 degree day, so it will be harder than ever for the people to stay warm. The normal tourists of the summer and fall could not come this year. Tourism is a major source of income for many people including our Cultural Guides and Artists. The Energy Matching Fund, a program that matches residents’ funds up to \$200 each month, will be needed this winter. If you would like to donate to the PRRC, you can send a check made out to the PRRC and note any ministry (Basket Ministry, Lakota Job Corps, Energy Matching) you would like to support in the memo line.

Another way you can support the local artists is by participating in the **Virtual Art Show** from November 29, 2020 - December 5, 2020 (link for

the art show: [Art Show - PINE RIDGE RECONCILIATION CENTER](#)). When visitors come to Pine Ridge there are many opportunities for them to purchase art and support local artists from the Reservation. With the reservation borders closed to non-residents this year, local artists have had fewer opportunities to sell their work. This virtual art show hopes to provide an opportunity for folks from across the country to support the work of Pine Ridge artists.

~ submitted by Tina Pinkard

Vestry Notes – November 17th Meeting

The Treasurer reported to the Vestry that \$20,000 less in income was received in October than in the previous month. The church spent \$10,000 more than was taken in during October. There was a savings realized on electric usage by lowering the temperature of the building. The church plans to apply for a grant from the state of Virginia which has made COVID relief funds available to small businesses. The amount requested will be the average of expenses over a two-month period.

The Vestry voted to adjust the number of elected members from twelve to nine. Three members will be elected over the next three years as four members’ terms end. This will allow more people to be available for other leadership roles.

Catherine Lamoureux suggested a fundraiser for communications equipment and maybe a communications director. More information will follow.

The majority of the meeting was used to discuss the 2021 budget and possible options if the total amount of pledges does not meet our needs.

~ submitted by Carmela Condro



Just the Facts

Every year in November and December the Vestry meets to discuss, and pass, the coming fiscal year's budget, and this year is no different. Well, except it is different, because our Vestry meetings are on Zoom and we have not gathered in our Sanctuary for worship since March. Our congregation is not meeting in our classrooms, in our Sanctuary, in our fellowship hall, and we are quite literally physically farther apart, all the time. Which means nothing is the same...

Or is it all exactly the same? This year our Angel Tree program functioned differently when we bought gift cards for the children instead of toys and clothes and games. But we still funded every family we promised to fund, just like we always have. We had our fall food drive for LINK and stuffed a truck AGAIN! Our Agape for Haiti exceeded the fundraising goal once again and ensured much-needed funds for our friends in Chapoteau. And we are still supporting each other, maybe with more letters and phone calls than before, but just as we always have.

We will meet again, God willing in 2021, in our church, in our Sanctuary, in our fellowship hall. Our children will meet in our classrooms for Sunday School, which will feature a vibrant program put together by the new Christian Education Director we need to hire before then. Our parishioners will meet in our Sanctuary *and* online, in a way we never have before but always will from now on, through the efforts of our fledgling tech team and with the help of the new Communications Manager we need to hire before then. Our Spanish congregation will come together again with sermons from Fr. Pedro and music performed by Julio Cuellar. We will finally sing together again with our Music Director at the organ. Our Bookkeeper and our Parish Administrator will keep on keeping the books and managing our parish, in the office with friendly visits from volunteers.

We promised you the facts, and we know you can't make an informed decision without them, so here they are: 1) We need about \$820,000 to fund our Vision for St. Timothy's, the Vision that brings our

families back, that reaches outside our Sanctuary walls and grows our church family online, that brings in newcomers. 2) We cannot count on any loose-plate offerings or space rentals the way we have in the past. 3) We currently have pledges for about \$350,000. If you have already pledged, we THANK YOU!

Final fact: at this moment we are about \$470,000 short of funding the budget that grows St. Timothy's next year and for generations to come. If you have not already filled out a pledge card, we ask that you take today to consider what financial contribution you can make to St. Timothy's in 2021 and return your pledge card as soon as possible.

~ submitted by Fr. Rich Bardusch, Rector, and Carmela Condro and Brian Flusche, Wardens





Bring new hats,
scarves, and gloves for
the Service Ministry
collection!

Sunday, December 20

Winter Revels 4 to 5 PM

Live Nativity 5 to 6 PM

(rain date January 3)

Join us Sunday December 20 for our Annual Winter Revels and our first ever Drive-Thru Live Nativity!

The Revels are an informal evening of fellowship, entertainment and s'mores around a warm crackling bonfire. The evening will be made up of entertainment provided by yourselves, or feel free just to come, watch and provide encouragement and applause.



- a song (only one singer at a time)
 - a poem
 - a reading
 - a joke
 - a skit
- an instrumental piece
- any original creative contribution!

- Would your children like to act the parts of the Holy Family or shepherds?
- Do you have something that could be a manger, or would you like to test out your carpentry skills to make one?
- If you are using hay bales in your fall décor, could you save them for us?

Like everything this year, things will be slightly different - we will be wearing facemasks and socially distanced, and you may bring your own refreshments.

For questions about the Revels or to contribute
contact Joe Weeden: joeweeden99@yahoo.co.uk

For questions about the Live Nativity
contact Julie Thompson-Gomez: julie.thompson.dablemont@gmail.com
or Jeanne-Marie Burke: jeanne_marie_raymond@hotmail.com





Let us welcome the newly baptized!



Living out Jesus' Greatest Commandment

Jesus made it clear that one of our primary duties as Christians was to care for others, and not only the others that we like and feel affinity with. In fact he was clear that mostly was not who he was talking about (Luke 14:12-14); but rather that we should care for those who are on the margins (the poor, sick, imprisoned, etc.) and those whose opinions and occupations we find distasteful and disagree with (prostitutes, tax-collectors, etc.). Jesus calls us to love those who we find ourselves opposed to or disgusted by, and those we tend to ignore, and we're supposed to *love them as ourselves*. So how do we do this? We believe that we are made in God's Image, so we can try to see the *Imago Dei* in those people, that God-piece that is in all of us as the children of God; but what does that look like, and how can we see it?

Fundamentally I believe the only way to do that is to practice empathy, and when I say empathy here I do not mean a feeling so much as an action, empathy as a verb, trying to find that part of another person's life where I can relate to them from their perspective. I can only do this if I learn about them, and I can only really learn about them if I want to learn about them, that is, only if I practice curiosity. Curiosity again here is used as a verb, not as a feeling, and not just curiosity but genuine curiosity; I have to be open to the learning, not open to selective learning or selectively open to learning.

I believe that Fred Rogers taught this kind of genuine curiosity, and it allowed him to practice empathy at a deep and impactful level. There are many stories about Fred that people tell that share similar sentiments to the idea of, "Fred made me feel as though the things I had to say were important, and he was genuinely interested in what I thought and felt". That genuine curiosity and deep empathy had an astonishing effect on many people, even through a television set. As one person said, the difference between Fred and everyone else was that he truly believed each person had something valuable to say, and people could tell that he meant it and believed it; that gave them the space to believe it about themselves. When you start from

that point, you are starting from a point of equality, a point of human dignity that allows for connection. By practicing genuine curiosity and deep empathy, Fred was able to 'love his neighbor' in a way that was palpable to the person he was loving. Fred often said, "love is a verb, like 'struggle'. It's an action word". For Fred, "love your neighbor as yourself" was his life's work. Fred said, "As human beings, our job in life is to help people realize how rare and valuable each one of us really is, that each of us has something that no one else has- or ever will have- something inside that is unique to all time. It's our job to encourage each other to discover that uniqueness and to provide ways of developing its expression." He was always curious about that unique thing in each person he met, finding it, and making sure to hold it up to that person to show them how wonderful it was.

I find this same example in another man who lives in the public realm, Mike Rowe, the narrator of *Deadliest Catch*, and host of *Dirty Jobs*.

Mike Rowe lives his life very publicly on his extremely active Facebook page, which has almost six million followers; and he is polite, firm, and kind in the way he interacts with folks. Often he will respond to absolute vitriol with a well-considered, thoughtful response that shows while he sees that mud is being slung, he is going to decline to step into it, and he is going to try to get the conversation to a point where empathy is possible. One of his recent pet project shows is called *Returning the Favor*. It simply highlights the good that unsung heroes are doing in our communities and tries to pay those folks back a little bit for their efforts. It is a wonderful attempt to push back the darkness, and every time I watch it, I find a little bit more hope in the foundational goodness of people. Mike is seeing the *Imago Dei* and treating it with the care and respect it deserves. I do not think he would see it that way, as he's pretty publicly not very religious, but to me it is a clear example of living the way Christ taught us. Mike has often said that his curiosity is foundational to the person he is, and how he got where he is today. He said he developed this approach to life from an early age,

“I’ve never met a person who is interesting who is not curious. If you’re genuinely curious, and I mean genuinely, you lose your ego. People who are genuinely curious do not care how they’re perceived, it’s quite liberating. If you’re genuinely curious, you’re a learner, and if you’re a learner you’re not measured on your knowledge, or your exactitude, or your authority. You are measured on your manners, your willingness to show up, stick around, and try. If you can be genuinely curious, anything you do will be interesting, it will be fun even if it’s gross or difficult. If you can’t be genuinely curious, then life is just work, it’s a slog.” For Mike, genuine curiosity is foundational to how he interacts with the world, and with others.

So how do we practice genuine curiosity? Well, Mike Rowe has an idea about that as well, “The things that make people nervous - ignorance and uncertainty - are the same things that make people curious. And yet, it’s hard to be nervous and curious at the same time. Nervousness will keep you from trying new things. Curiosity will force you to. So try to replace your apprehension with a heightened measure of wonder. Be intrigued by the uncertainty before you. Don’t look at your ignorance or your inexperience as the enemy. Look at them as the necessary qualities which allow you to become a more curious person.”

How do we live into the Greatest Commandment? I believe the best way we can do it, is by practicing genuine curiosity in order to build empathy, in order to love our neighbor as ourselves. Is it easy? I certainly have not found it to be, but I am trying, and as Fred Rogers said, “Love and success, always in that order. It's that simple AND that difficult.”

~ submitted by Shawn Rutledge

Nominations for 2021 Vestry

The Nominating Committee is meeting to select members of St. Timothy’s to run for Vestry positions. If you would like to serve for a 3-year term on the Vestry or you would like to nominate someone, please contact a member of the

nominating committee namely, Fr. Rich, Carmela Condro, Nancy Miller, Catherine Lamoureux, or Dean and Mindy Rohrbaugh by December 8th.

A nominee should be a member of St. Timothy’s who attends worship regularly. They agree to make a financial pledge to the church. They are expected to attend regularly scheduled monthly Vestry meetings. They would serve as a Liaison to one or more ministries and communicate issues to the Vestry. They would work as a team to serve the whole parish and should be as available as possible to support parish functions.

The Committee is also seeking members who would like to be regional delegates to the Diocese or to be delegates to the Diocesan Convention.

~ submitted by Carmela Condro

Frustration

A mental block that won't go away,
A wasted sunny day.
The child who should know better
Yet learns no number or letter.
A knot that remains all tangled.
A device that is so new-fangled,
It defies all attempts of activation
And invokes all tries of circumvention,
Around this modern "thing" that bedevils
Those who want to just find levels
Of a quiet life, security and calm,
To soothe the soul like Gideon's balm.

Frustration - in all walks of life
With continued threats of war and strife.
Homelessness, poverty and child abuse,
Cruelty to animals - there is no excuse
For mankind to behave this way.
We must change without delay,
To find our path to eternal bliss,
For our life was not meant for this
Continual fighting and contention.
But surely it was God's intention
That love and peace be widespread
And for Eden to exist again instead.

~ submitted BY Jill Cox

Opportunities to Put Your Faith to Work

- **LINK Annual Food Drive and Holiday Food Distribution** **Now through Dec 19th**
 - Collection of non-perishable food donations through December 19th; labeled collection bins at church entrance:
 - Trinity Presbyterian, 651 Dranesville Rd., Herndon (Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday)
 - Herndon United Methodist Church, 701 Bennett St., Herndon (anytime)
 - The Christmas food distributions on Dec 5th & 12th have been restructured this year for safety. Volunteers are needed to sort and pack donations and distribute food to clients.
 - For more information go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044ea9a7292-holiday1>
- **Community of Faith Methodist Church Food Distribution** **Ongoing**
 - 13224 Franklin Farm Rd., Herndon, VA
 - Anyone in need may receive food, 4 pm - 5:30 pm every Tuesday evening. **Bring ID** for contactless pick-up. Remain in your vehicle and volunteers will load your car with fresh fruit, veggies, bread, sweets, canned goods, and frozen meats.
- **Angel Tree Phase Two - Hats, Scarves & Gloves Collection** **Now through Dec 20th**
 - The Service Ministry will collect new hats, scarves, gloves and mittens in all sizes.
 - Also needed: adult sweatpants and sweatshirts in sizes small to 4XL. Generic store brands (such as Walmart) and neutral colors are best. Please, no socks or blankets.
 - Items will be collected on **December 20th from 4 pm until 6 pm** during St. Timothy's Christmas Revels and Live Nativity
 - Donations will be delivered to Cornerstones' Embry Rucker Shelter and the Laurel Learning Center
- **The Closet of the Greater Herndon Area, Inc.** **Ongoing**
 - SHOP: Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm plus Monday & Thursday 5 pm-8 pm
 - DONATE: Mon-Sat 8 am-12 pm
 - For more about The Closet Volunteer Opportunities: [The Closet of Greater Herndon](#)
- **Winter Coat Drive** **Now through January 9th**
 - Cornerstones & Hunter Mill District Supervisor's Office are partnering to collect new or gently used clean coats, hats, scarves, gloves. Collections points are:
 - Cornerstones Main Office, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston, VA, October 13th through November 6th, from 9 am to 5 pm, Monday - Friday
 - North County Government, 1801 Cameron Glen Dr, Reston, VA 20190, Saturdays only, November 14th, December 12th and January 9th from 10 am – 1 pm
- **Fairfax County Collections for Nonprofits:** **Ongoing**
 - Fairfax County is collecting items for area nonprofits that support the homeless. Supplies have been depleted during the pandemic.
 - Additional information: [Fairfax County Emergency Services Wishlist for Nonprofits](#)
- **Hypothermia Dinners** **March 2021**
 - St. Timothy's will provide dinner for 25 guests at Cornerstones' North County Hypothermia Shelter on Saturday and Sunday, March 27th & 28th
 - Contact carolynhamm@verizon.net if you are interested and stay tuned to the eNews for further information.

For additional information contact service@saint-timothys.org



**American
Red Cross**

Thank you!



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church November 17th, 2020

Date of Drive

35

Total Number of Donors

6

First Time Donors

33

Units Collected

99

Potential Number of Lives Saved

When you made the decision to host a blood drive, you helped change lives.

2020 Vestry with Liaison Assignments

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

Brian Flusche (2022)– *Junior Warden/
Ad Hoc/Emergency Preparedness*
fluscheb@gmail.com
719-235-7658

Terms Expire 2023

Catherine Lamb – *Service*
Catherine_michaels@hotmail.com
703-615-6522

Tatiana Martínez – *Latino Ministry*
Tatymartinez2002@yahoo.com
410-980-4739

Alex Schumann – *Christian Formation*
alexbmalin@gmail.com
571-442-6461

Ralph Tildon – *Pastoral Care*
rtildon1@verizon.net
703-464-9377

Terms Expire 2022

Allison Dodd – *Hospitality*
aahedley@yahoo.com
202-365-7595

John Druitt – *Fellowship/Newcomers*
druitt@aol.com
703-989-0770

John Nixon – *Buildings and Grounds*
jnixon@verizon.net
703-973-8005

Terms Expire 2021

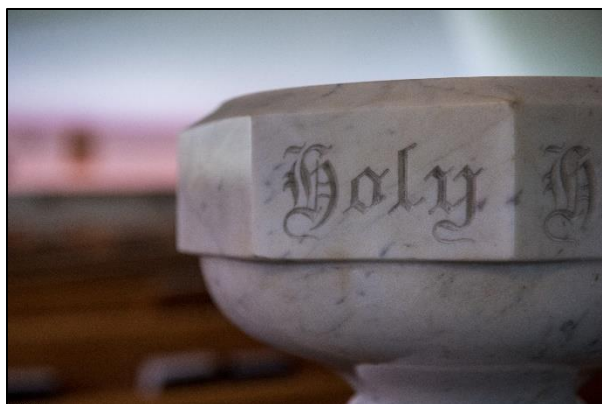
Andrew Hamm – *Finance*
andyhamm@verizon.net
703-435-0438

Catherine Lamoureux – *Communications*
catherine@lamoureux.us
540-818-9479

Nancy Miller – *Pastoral Care*
nancymiller5@cox.net
571-271-1966



Pictured left to right: John Nixon, Carmela Condro, Tatiana Martinez, John Druitt, Rose Berberich (Registrar), Nancy Miller, Catherine Lamb, Andrew Hamm, Ralph Tildon, Brian Flusche, Allison Dodd, Catherine Lamoureux, Fr. Rich Bardusch and Alex Schumann (not pictured: Duane Hartge, Treasurer)



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

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

Associate Rector: The Rev. Pedro Cuevas
pcuevas@saint-timothys.org

Director of Music: Mr. Roger Long
rogerl@saint-timothys.org
703-437-3790 x16

Director of Christian Education: *vacant*

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

Seminarian: Shawn Rutledge
srutledge@vts.edu

Editor of *The Word*: Ms. Susan Nixon
wordeditor@saint-timothys.org

Service Times

Saturday: 7 pm	Outdoor Chapel (Spanish)
Sunday: 8 am	Outdoor Chapel (English)
9 am	Virtual (English)
10:15 am	Outdoor Chapel (English)

Please Note: reservations are required for in-person services due to limited group sizes required because of COVID-19. Please contact the church office by phone or email to make a reservation.

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 do not 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

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 January issue:
Wednesday, December 23, 2020**



You have been gracious to your land, O Lord,
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
You have forgiven the iniquity of your people
and blotted out all their sins.

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying,
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.

Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness shall go before him,
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13