



The WORD

September 2023

Dear St. Timothy's Family,

This past Sunday was “Welcome Home Sunday”—the Sunday that we start the program year in the church and welcome all back from their summer vacations. We moved this Sunday up from *after* Labor Day to *before* that holiday in order to reflect the Fairfax County Public School schedule and to get a jumpstart on some exciting offerings in our parish life! So do consider getting (re)involved in a ministry, or in a formation opportunity, or in some other area at St. Tim's.

“Welcome” comes in many forms and one of those is how our physical campus greets parishioners and newcomers alike. By the time that you read this, the “Office Area Widening Project” should have been completed inside the church. Previously as one entered the building through the doors outside the offices, one was greeted by a narrow hallway with a limiting set of posts and passageways. Through the hard work of the Bosworths and the redoubtable Deke Smith, that area now is being transformed into an inviting space where people can sit and wait for an appointment, catch up with a friend, or simply have a cup of coffee. I am excited for how that area of the building will now “welcome” people in, particularly those who are new or visiting the church.

“Welcome” begins, however, even further outside of our doors. One of my priorities for this calendar year has been campus improvements—and specifically a sign for our Van Buren St. entrance. After the Town's completion of their work there, St. Timothy's Staff and Vestry worked diligently with a local sign company to make this happen. We learned a lot about signs and easements and ‘right of ways’, way more than we would ever want! My overarching goals for this sign were that it be some combination of the following attributes:

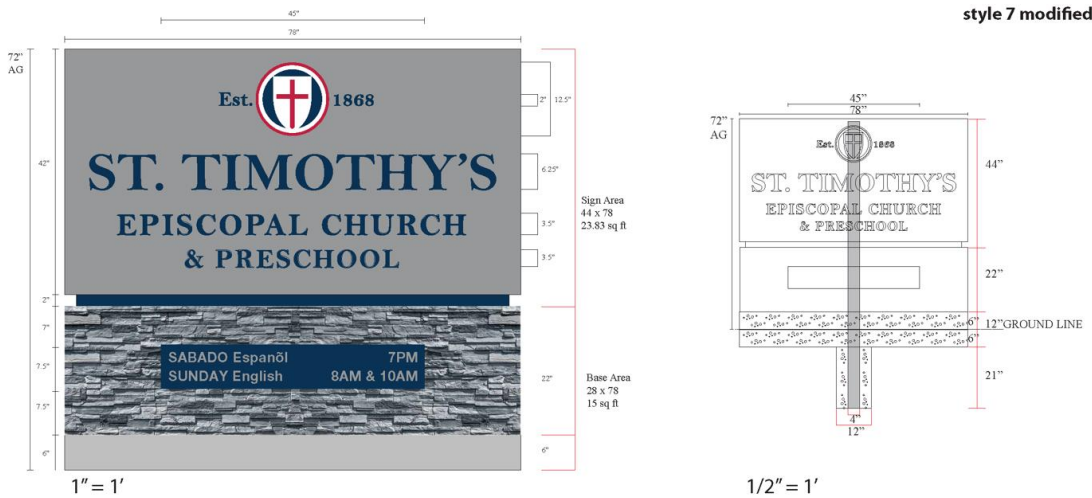
Attractive
Welcoming (!)

Durable
Visible

Affordable
Consistent with our existing signage.

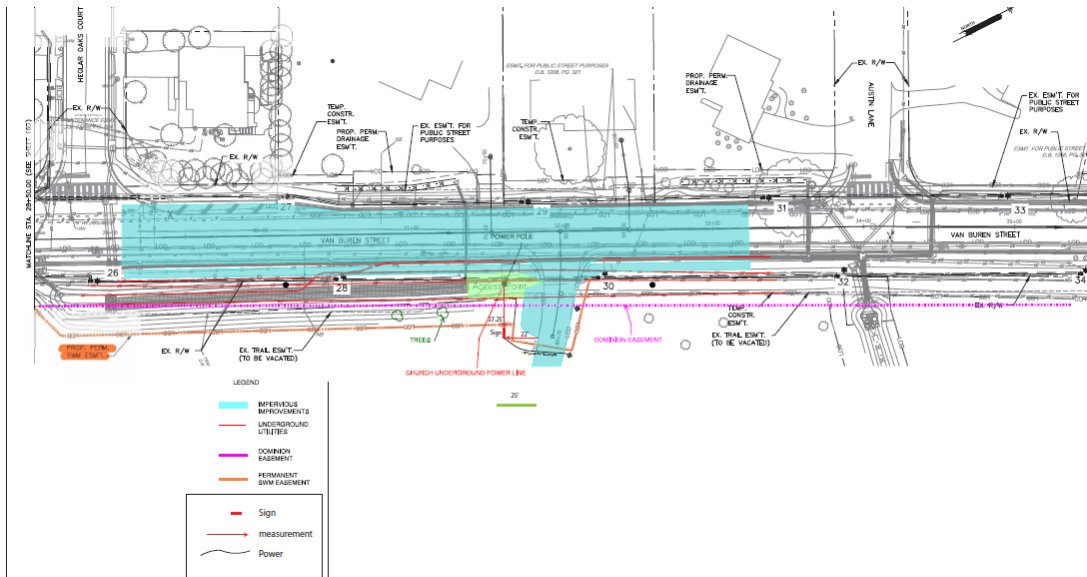


Those were a lot of attributes that sometimes competed with one another. After much discussion and back and forth, we came up with the following:



My hope and prayer is that this sign will go up in the coming months and be a welcoming presence to all those seeking to find God at St. Timothy's for years to come.

(To give you an idea of the complexity of what goes into erecting a sign in the Town of Herndon, here is a copy of the schematic that was presented in our Site Plan:



Again, many thanks to the Vestry, to Deb Stolar our Parish Administrator, and to all those who helped make this sign a reality. Feel free to ask any of us any questions you have regarding the signage.

“Welcoming” does not, of course, consist primarily of aspects of our physical campus. Our warm and

caring congregation is the most important way we welcome others into our common life of faith. Please do continue to welcome those you meet “in the valley of the world” into this community.

Yours in Christ,
CHARLES+

Mutual Ministry Review

On Saturday, July 23, 2023, your Vestry and Charles, St. Timothy’s Priest-in-Charge, came together to conduct a Mutual Ministry Review (MMR). The Very Reverend Fran Gardner-Smith from St. Thomas, Mclean, was our facilitator. We spent the morning discussing St. Timothy's values, what we consider important, and the impact we've experienced since Charles was hired as Priest-in-Charge in April 2022. Charles was hired on a contract for 3 years during which we could mutually discern after 18 months whether we should transition together with him as Rector.

We value St. Timothy's - the building and our congregation. We know we can count on St. Timothy's as a place of respite. We value our place in the Herndon community and enjoy the times when we gather together. We're excited to travel to Shrine Mont (Charles' favorite place!) in September and are bringing back the Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday.

COVID brought lots of anxiety, some of which remains. To help us transition out of that, we have an emerging online/electronic presence (Livestream via St. Isidore’s, eNews, Facebook, *The Word*, Instagram), while continuing, of course, to offer in-person worship.

One area of need is people helping us grow. We considered all of the ministries vital but without a designated leader or one or two people leading a ministry (Hospitality, Building and Grounds, Haiti, Lakota), we won't be able to sustain certain ministries.

We are searching for an Assistant Rector (whose responsibility would include but not be limited to our Spanish-Speaking members) to help Charles and our growing church. Most churches our size (three services, 120 average attendance) have two or three clergy.

Your Vestry agreed to continue to support Charles in good times and in difficult decisions.

At the conclusion of the MMR, Charles expressed that he would like to transition to the role of Rector of St. Timothy's. Your Vestry joyously approved of hiring Charles Robison Cowherd as our Rector effective October 1, 2023. His Letter of Agreement will be signed to reflect that new date and we will have a Celebration of New Ministry on Sunday, November 5, 2023 at 4:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by Maria LaWalt

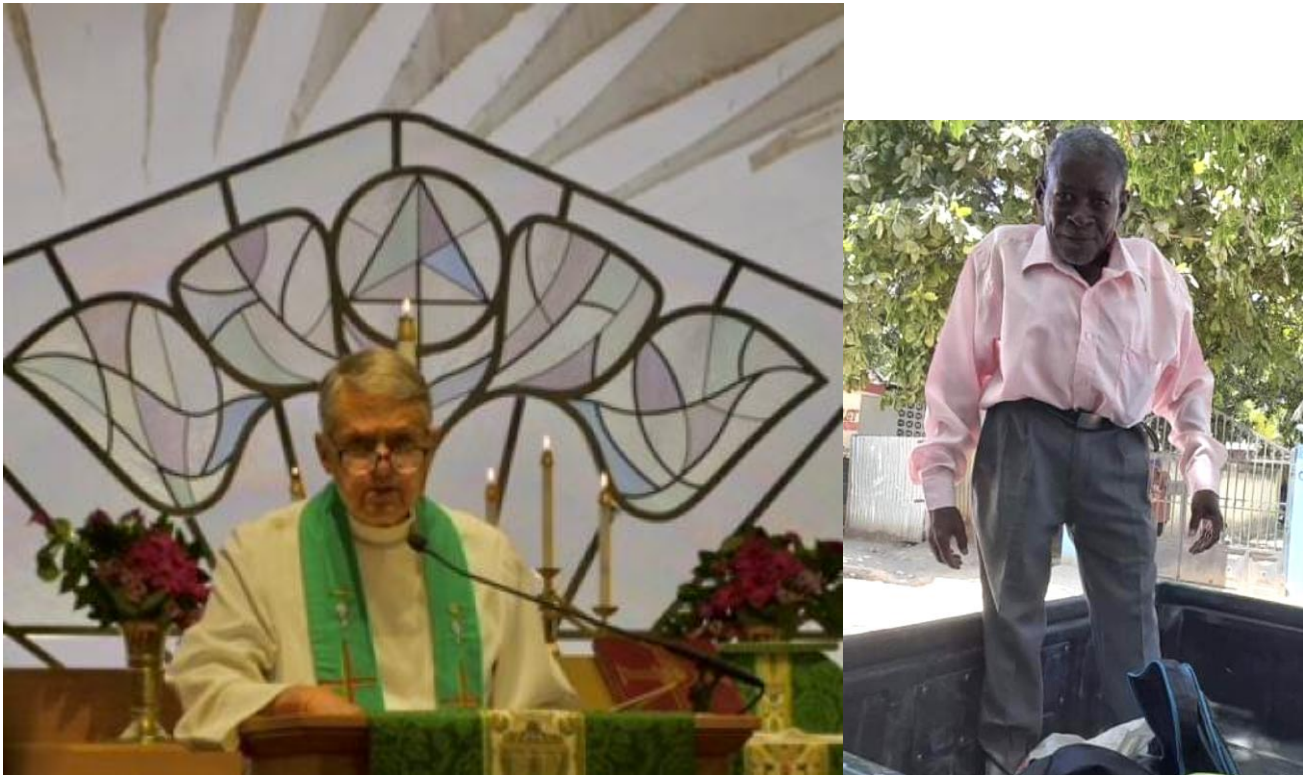
Haiti Agape 2023

Our Agape for the children of St. Mathieu's Episcopal School in Chapoteau, Haiti is over for the year. It is a poignant time, thinking of the children that we have not seen for several years, knowing the tragedy life in Haiti has become. Yet we have hope for their future because the good people of Saint Timothy's have contributed **\$15,503** to the Haiti School Fund – just short of our goal of \$21,000 - and donations are still being received. THANK YOU!!!

It was wonderful having the Rev. Roger Bowen with us again. His story of his friend Bosi, walking the dusty trails bible in hand, ministering to the children of Cerca-la-Source was incredibly moving. We heard from Pere Kesner Gracia, the Priest-in-Charge in Chapoteau, thanking us for our continued support, telling us that 195 of the 205 students at St. Mathieu's School passed their exams. A video was also shared from Jacob Venet, the Director of the School, thanking St. Timothy's for continuing over a decade of support to the children.

St. Timothy's is at its best when we are helping others. August 27th was the final day of our focused fundraising, however, donations are gladly accepted any time of the year by writing a check to St. Timothy's with Haiti School Fund on the memo line. If you have questions, or are interested in joining the support team, please write to haitiministry@saint-timothys.org.

Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Hamm; Picture of Fr. Roger courtesy of Paige Williamson



Fr. Roger Bowen and his friend, Bosi

The Closet

Another Way to Support The Closet

The Closet will present a Fashion Show on Saturday, September 9 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Moose Lodge, 779 Center Street, Herndon.

There will be a show of fashions from The Closet (and you may recognize a model or two,) fun and refreshments. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the store (845 Station Street, Herndon.)

Hope to see you there!

Respectfully submitted by Holly Hartge



The Closet's Fashion Show The Closet's Fashion Show is a community event where you can see the variety of fashions available at The Closet and learn how The Closet gives back to the local community.

When: Saturday, September 9th, 6-8pm

***Where: The Herndon Moose Lodge
779 Center St, Herndon***

***Tickets (\$10) are on-sale now at The Closet.
Please join The Closet for this community event!***

LET'S GROW TOGETHER AT ST. TIMOTHY'S

Check out the exciting Fall 2023 schedule!



**FAITH FORMATION at ST. TIMOTHY'S
(resumes Sunday August 27th)
In the sanctuary at 9 am and also live-streamed**



Sunday. Adult Forums:

We begin with a 3-part series, taking its name from the famous church song "I am the Church, You are the Church..."

Sunday August 27th: "We are the Church." We are blessed with a number of PKs ("Preacher's Kids") at St. Tim's who have a unique perspective on growing up at church. Come hear from these folks, including some who grew up HERE as a PK!

Sunday September 10th: "You are the Church." We had so much fun last year with our Ecumenical Round Table where different members shared how they landed at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church ... that we decided to do so again! This discussion will feature a different cast of newer and older members of St. Tim's describing their faith journey.

Sunday September 24th: "I am the Church." In this final session, our organist Todd Grivetti will step away from the organ console and share with us the story of his spiritual journey. Come to learn more about how Todd's life has been a witness and testimony of his faith!

Next we will take a look at the background to Scripture and how the New Testament accounts came to be:

Sunday October 15th: How the Gospels Developed: We hear from the Gospel every week and our faith rests on their words, but ever wonder how these writings came to be known as "The Gospels"? Ron Boggio will present on how the story of Jesus' life came to be told, written and recorded!

Sunday October 22nd: "The Historical Jesus": This term refers to the reconstruction of the life and teachings of Jesus by critical historical methods, in contrast to religious interpretations. Although almost all agree that Jesus was a historical figure, this scholarly "quest" has caused much disagreement in church and academic circles. Come join the "quest"!

Finally, as the lectionary year comes to a close, we will spend some time with the upcoming and outgoing gospels. **First Three Sundays of November (11/5, 11/12, 11/19): The Gospel of Matthew.** We will end the Matthean year with one last look at the "First Gospel" - the Gospel that the Church has historically given "primacy of place" to. The first two sessions will give background and content-related to the Gospel while the final session (11/19) will be devoted to discussion and answering of questions of how the Gospel touches us in our lives today.

First Three Sundays of December (12/3, 12/10, 12/17): The Gospel of Mark. In Advent, we move to the "Second Gospel" - the shorter and oft-forgotten Gospel of Mark. Come hear from your Priest-in-Charge why this is his favorite Gospel! The first two sessions will give background and content-related to the Gospel while the final session (11/19) will be devoted to discussion and answering of questions of how the Gospel touches us in our lives today.



Outside Church for Youth

"St. Tim's (Sunday School) is back" - outside! **During the 10 AM Sunday Service, children and youth from 4th grade** and up are invited to meet at the outdoor chapel, weather permitting, where our kids will have time to gather, learn a bible story, and play on our beautiful church grounds. We will rejoin worship before communion. In case of wet weather we will gather in Henry Hall. Dates: 27 Aug, 10 Sept, 24 Sept, 1 Oct, 22 Oct.

Come join the fun! For safety and enjoyment of all, we will need at least two adult volunteers for each session. If interested, contact Matt Schumann (matthew_schumann@hotmail.com). Older youth and young adults are especially welcome to help.

Godly Play:

Last but not least, **our children (age 3-3rd grade) will continue to attend Godly Play during the 10 AM Sunday Service.** This Montessori-based curriculum uses hands-on storytelling and wondering to introduce children to Bible stories and church traditions. Children who attend Godly Play head downstairs after the reading of the Collect and then rejoin their parents in the Sanctuary during the Peace prior to Eucharist. St. Timothy's began its Godly Play program with the construction of the classroom in 2009, and many of the materials are donated or made with loving care by our parishioners. Parents are invited as well!

After The Storm

Even in the turmoil of storm and recovery, charity and love have not been forgotten.
Sacrifice and donations thrive, despite the stress and loss of comfort.
Pleasures will be simpler, consumption of luxuries, smaller,
But gatherings of families will be treasured and remembered for all future years,
And the grace and mercy of God will be sought and received
In love and gratitude from believers and non-believers alike;
As they pursue their dream of peace and happiness in a united world,
Full of God's love and the spread of that love
From person to person
Each and every day.

Respectfully submitted by Jill Cox

2023 Vestry



Maria LaWalt (2025) – *Senior Warden*
mjlawalt@verizon.net
703-318-9838



Vilma Iveth Lemus Magano (2026)



Kristie Rudolph (2025) – *Junior Warden*
kristie.g.rudolph@gmail.com
571-599-8262



Paige Williamson (2024)
Paige_williamson@me.com
703-793-5907



Betsy Bosworth (2025)
kblc@verizon.net
703-851-4435



Midori Yanagihara (2026)



Tom Davis (2024)
Tkdavis278@verizon.net
571-420-8544



Rick Wilson (Alternate)



David Dopsovic (2024)
ddopsovic@lmvlaw.com
703-407-7271



Matt Schumann (Alternate)



Carolyn Hamm (2025)
carolynhamm@verizon.net
703-593-4148

Kathy Lombard – Treasurer treasurer@saint-timothys.org
Rose Berberich - Registrar



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
 432 Van Buren Street, Herndon, VA 20170
 Voice: 703-437-3790 Fax: 703-787-9781
www.saint-timothys.org

Service Times

Saturday:	7 pm	Spanish Service/Rite II
Sunday:	8 am	Rite I (English)
Sunday:	10 am	Rite II (English)
		Also available via Zoom (Livestream on YouTube/ Facebook/Website)

Please check the website for up-to-date information about opportunities to worship

Welcome New Members

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

If we do not have an email address for you and your family, or if your email has changed, send the information to office@saint-timothys.org.

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.

Priest-In-Charge

Rev. Charles R. Cowherd
priest@saint-timothys.org
 703-437-3790



Organist/Choirmaster

Mr. Todd Grivetti
music@saint-timothys.org
 703-437-3790 x16



Parish Administrator

Ms. Deb Stolar
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. Allyson Showalter
sttimothypreschool432@gmail.com
 703-437-4767



Editor of *The Word*

Ron Boggio
wordeditor@saint-timothys.org

Submission deadline for the October issue:

Wednesday, September 25, 2023

Spirituality and Psychology

Sin and Psychology, Part 2

Last month we looked at how the concept of the True Self (TS) and the False Self (FS) can help us better understand the Christian call to live in grace and avoid sin. We saw how the FS (that part of us that acts out of a misalignment with God's value system) sabotages the TS (the part of us aligned with God and desiring to grow further in his grace). We also saw that the way to move away from the FS and into greater harmony with the TS is through reflection on the value system that is governing the FS. We need to patiently learn from the FS rather than attempt to vigorously eradicate it. An over-emphasis on eradication typically leads to denial of the roots of the FS and a superficial attempt to be good by refusing to look at the roots of misalignment within us. For example, deciding that we need to spend less on superficial things may miss how deeply consumerism has us in its grips,

Jesus' parable of the Wheat and the Weeds (Mt 13:24-30) gives us further guidance in the approach that may best help us grow into further alignment with God's value system. As you will recall, Jesus said that the Kingdom of God is like a farmer who sowed his field with good grain, but at night, an enemy sowed the same field with weeds. When both the wheat and weeds began to sprout, the farmer's assistants asked if they should pull up the weeds. The farmer, however, urged caution, saying to wait until the harvest at which time the wheat and the weeds would be more clearly distinguishable from one another. His caution was based on the conclusion that a too hasty attempt to remove the weeds could inadvertently lead to removing the wheat instead.

In this parable Jesus reveals himself to be far more patient with human error and waywardness than many Christian preachers. His insight is profoundly rooted in an understanding of how human growth occurs – little by little, step by step. As anyone who has done any gardening knows, it is not only necessary to separate the weeds from what we are trying to grow, but also to remove the weed at its root, lest it merely grow back again. In our own lives it is always both harvest time and not yet harvest time. As we listen to what our FS desires and come to grips with the value system that guides the desires and choices of the FS, we find ourselves getting to the roots of our misalignment (e.g., as in the consumerism example above). Then, we gradually become aware of and able to move away from that false value system and become more aligned with the movement of God's grace within us (TS). Those are the moments of harvest, when our patient endurance of and examination of the FS can usher in new ways of living in union with God that we cannot even imagine until we have done the work of investigating the FS. The rest of the time we are waiting. In doing this, we are taking care not to short-circuit the process of growth by rushing to tear out what we think are the weeds, and either leaving their roots behind or tearing up what is slowly growing toward God in us.

Respectfully submitted by Ron Boggio