



The WORD

September 2024

Dear St. Timothy's Family,

At our Annual Meeting in January, I announced, as one of my three priorities for the calendar year, the idea of "Joy in '24." Conscious that we were entering the quadrennial presidential election, I wanted to be intentional about St. Timothy's maintaining ourselves as a parish family and remaining connected to God as the source of joy in our lives.

I was concerned, and am still concerned, about the corrosive political rhetoric in our culture and the divisiveness that it spawns. Although I have not really experienced it within our community, we are in the "Stretch run" to November and thus I hope and pray that we continue as "One St. Timothy's"—even despite real differences in our political lives as citizens/ congregants.

My idea for "Joy in 2024" also involved engaging ourselves in the larger world around us, to find ways to connect with our political institutions outside of our church and to talk within our church about the issues that face us all. The latter involved a series in the Spring on "Faith and Politics" and a book study on the book by the same name. We will continue that conversation in the Fall with another series "Faith and Politics 2.0" in the leadup to the election. Be on the lookout for more details regarding that offering.

In terms of interacting across the "church-state" divide, I would say I was flattered at the beginning of the year with an invitation to deliver the invocation in Richmond at State Capitol for the Virginia House of Delegates. As the year progressed, such invitations persisted... and it became very clear, in an election year, that politicians were very keen on inviting faith leaders for lunches, coffees, roundtables, conversations, etc.!

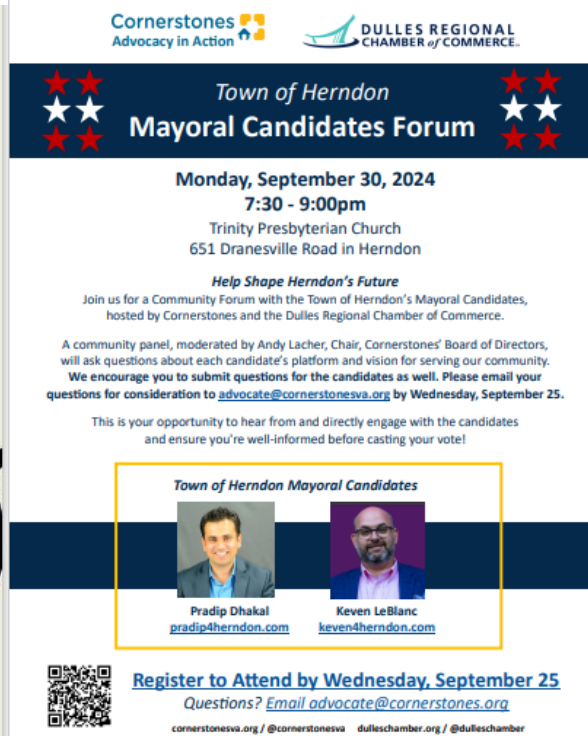
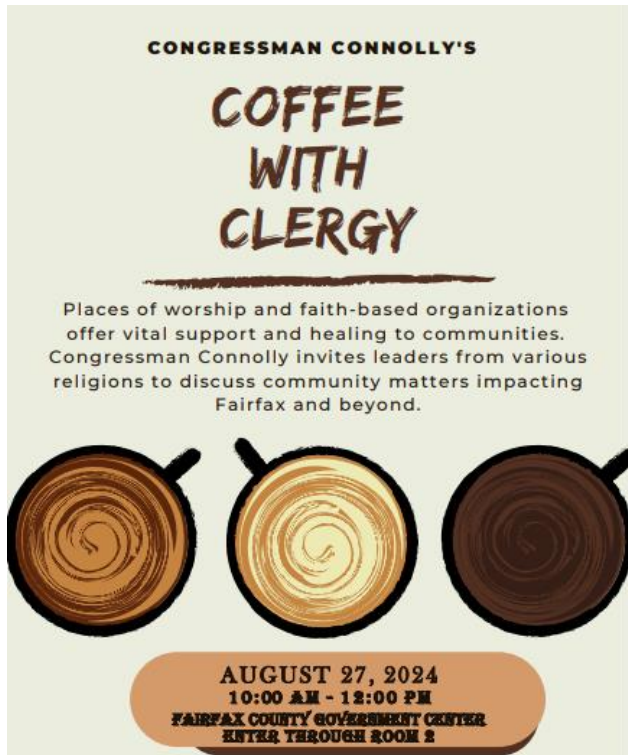
So, I have had to decline a few because of the amount but, in all seriousness, it's been a gift to interact with our elected officials alongside fellow clergy and lay persons in our area. Of particular interest have been meetings with CORNERSTONES concerning the homeless encampment on the "Hill" in Reston. Please contact the Service Ministry (service@saint-timothys.org) if you have any questions about that effort.



2
JOY in
2
4

I would like to highlight a couple more:

1) By the time this email goes out Mario+ will have participated in a “Coffee with Clergy” with Congressman Gerry Connolly. See the invitation below.



2) Then, coming up at the end of this month, I have been invited to serve as a panelist for the Town of Herndon, Mayoral Debate (see the accompanying flyer above), on September 30th. If you have any questions for the candidates, please let me know in advance.

3) Finally, mark your calendar for **Sunday October 20th, 2024, at 2 pm** as our local clergy group will be planting a “Democracy Tree” in Herndon. Details will be forthcoming but there will be an interfaith liturgy and representatives from many of our local places of worship participating and in attendance.

As you can see it’s a busy time, but I hope that we can all make the effort to maintain “Joy in ‘24” as a priority for this year.

Yours in Christ,

CHARLES+

St. Timothy's and Cornerstones Partnership

Did you know that St. Timothy's is a "Sponsoring Religious Organization" and holds a seat on the Cornerstones' Board of Directors? This allows St. Timothy's the opportunity to engage with our neighbors in our community in a much broader sense than we can on our own. Through our financial donations (the Vestry included \$2,000 from our 2024 annual budget in support) and our "gifts in kind," this is some of the work Cornerstones does in our community:

- Operates the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, aiding 615 individuals with services, and supported housing for 45.
- Through the Hypothermia Prevention program, hosts an average of 59 individuals per night, offering a warm place to sleep and a hot meal from December 1st – March 31st.
- Through the FREE from Hunger Center and the Cornerstones Pantry Program, distributed 165,000 lbs. of food and essentials to families and individuals.
- Provides affordable childcare through the Laurel Learning Center.
- Donated over 1,600 backpacks to over 300 students heading back to school.
- Collected and distributed over 1,000 winter coats and provided Gift Cards for Kids to more than 1,436 children and 124 senior citizens.
- Provided over \$4 million in rental, food and other assistance to community members in need.
- Provided over 9,000 volunteer hours to community initiatives addressing systemic issues through the Herndon Neighborhood Resource Center and other community connected sites.

If you're interested in learning more about ways that St. Timothy's and Cornerstones work together, write to service@saint-timothys.org or contact Carolyn Hamm, St. Timothy's representative to the Cornerstones Board.

Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Hamm

From the Service Ministry

First, a huge thank you:

- For your support of the Summer Food Drive during which you donated 65 bags of food, including a large supply of the requested personal care and cleaning products;
- And for the 65 backpacks (of the 50 requested!) donated for Cornerstones Back to School Drive.

And coming this Fall:

- We will hold our final 2024 LINK food drive from October 13 – 27th.
- The Angel Tree Gifts for Kids program will kick off November 17th and conclude December 6th.
- And finally, in collaboration with Cornerstones and the Fairfax County Hunter Mill District Supervisor's office, the Winter Coat Closet will open October 15th and run through November 8th for donations. Coats will be distributed on Saturday November 16th.

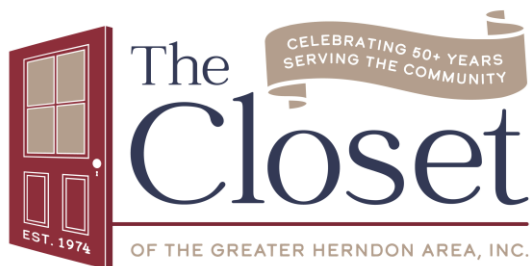
Keep an eye on the weekly eNews for the details on these projects. For other ways to put your faith to work, write to service@saint-timothys.org

Respectfully submitted by Tom Bosworth and Carolyn Hamm

From the Haiti Ministry

St. Timothy's first helped children attending school in Chapoteau, Haiti for the 2010/2011 school year. Since then, we haven't missed a year, and we are the sole support of this wonderful Episcopal school. We fundraise for this endeavor, the Haiti Agape, once a year, often in August. This year we have decided to postpone our campaign until January to allow us to better focus on the school and its story. Stay tuned for more on this effort and of course, your contribution to the Haiti School Fund is welcome at any time! If you have questions or are interested in helping, please write to HaitiMinistry@saint-timothys.org.

Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Hamm



The Closet: Growing Up with the Community

Since its founding in 1974, The Closet's voucher program has been a key aspect of the nonprofit thrift shop's community outreach. One reason local congregations wanted to establish a consolidated community thrift shop, rather than individual clothes closets at various houses of worship, was to serve the influx of Vietnamese refugees fleeing that war-torn nation. And in those early days, if The Closet didn't have appropriate clothing items available, such as undergarments, clients were directed to a local shop to find them, at The Closet's expense.

As The Closet approaches the 50th anniversary of its founding this fall, the voucher program continues to grow and expand, its clientele a reflection of our very diverse community. Clients are referred by local government and nonprofit social service agencies or our member congregations. In 2023 alone, the voucher program distributed more than \$118,000 in clothing and household goods, serving approximately 2,000 people per session (spring/summer and fall/winter). What an amazing resource for those in need, supported by our bighearted shoppers, generous donors, caring volunteers and hardworking staff!

SHRINE MONT

Stillness over water, touched with green, blue and gray.
Grass, green and brown with small touches of yellow and blue.
Rocks, gray, brown, ocher, touched with dark green lichen.
All shades of nature burnt into our souls and minds.

A sudden sound, a ripple, a sigh of wind, a rustle,
A plop, a green watery swish against those grey rocks.
A chirp, a peep, a jump, a scuttle and a whirr of wings.
All sounds of nature, burnt into all our senses.

On to the blur of color and noise that is our mundane life,
Speed, clanking, clanging, hammering, shouting and beeping;
Roar of overhead engines following the wind, who knows where;
Small sound of humanity in multi-hued colors,
Going to destinations of their own choosing.

Blue sky, multi - colored houses, flowers of all hues and size,
Trees green, yellow, large and small, brown earth, red mulch and grey paths;
Clothes white, blue, red, green, purple, pink and black,
The clash with Nature is eye-watering and ear-splitting.

Let us go back!

Respectfully submitted by Jill Cox

Vestry 2024



Kristie Rudolph (2025) – *Senior Warden*
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Vilma Iveth Lemus Magano (2026)
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Duane Hartge – Treasurer
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Rose Berberich - Registrar



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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.

Editor of The Word

Ron Boggio
wordeditor@saint-timothys.org

**Submission deadline for the
 October 2024 issue:**

Monday, September 23
Please note earlier date

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.

Rector

The Rev. Charles R. Cowherd
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 703-437-3790 x12



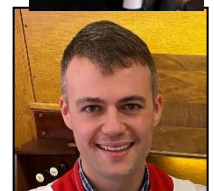
Associate Rector

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