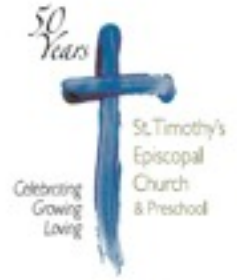




The St. Timothean



COG Children's Shopping Spree – December 12 by Mary Hovden

On Saturday, December 12, from 9 a.m. – 12 noon, the Church Opportunity Group (COG) and WDM Human Services will host up to 120 children aged 6-12, invited on a basis of need, and their chaperones. They will be bused to a local store to purchase Christmas presents for their family and return to the WDM Community Center to wrap their purchases and enjoy pizza.

We need:

Volunteer chaperones, aged 16 and up, for each child.

Financial assistance. \$50 is needed for each child to shop for their family. Checks can be made out to the Church Opportunity Group.

If you can help with this fun and rewarding event, please contact Mary Hovden at 221-3271 or maryhovden@att.net no later than December 6.

Come Give Thanks at the Thanksgiving Eve Service

Thanksgiving Eve Service will be on Wednesday, November 25 at 7 pm. Please join your church family to give thanks for all of our blessings. We will be collecting canned goods for the food pantry at this service as well.

Hunger Hike – Over \$1,500 Raised and Still Counting

By Tim Goldman

Eight hikers represented St. Timothy's by walking in the 40th Annual Des Moines Area Hunger Hike on October 11. Ned Montgomery, Zach Slocum, Jacob Nastruz, Dennis and Elizabeth Popplewell, Tim Goldman and Andrew and Nicholas Marshall found the weather cool and cloudy, but the rain stayed away, making it a good afternoon for walking with nearly 400 other hikers on the route.

Episcopalians were well represented on the hike as members of St. Paul's, St. Mark's and St. Andrew's joined in on the walk to raise money to feed hungry people locally and worldwide.

The walk started with greetings from Dr. Kenneth Quinn, President of the World Food Prize Foundation. Former Governor Robert D. Ray remembered Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, Nobel Laureate and father of the "Green Revolution" credited with saving the lives of millions of people from starvation. Other attractions included riding the heritage carousel in Union Park, live music and a post party at the State Historical Building.

As I write this in mid-October, we have surpassed our previous record of raising \$1,500 for the Hunger Hike. We are closing in on our goal of raising \$2,000 for the 2009 Hunger Hike. Will we make it? We may very well, as pledges are still coming in and a few hikers have yet to turn in their collection envelopes.

On behalf of the 44 agencies that receive funds from the Hunger Hike, thank you all for your financial support of the war on hunger!

November 2009

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Congratulations to St. Timothy's! by Elizabeth Popplewell

November is Community Ministries month at St. Timothy's. We honor and celebrate the tremendous expression of love and care for neighbor that is lived out so abundantly by the people of our faith community.

Thank you to all who have contributed their time, effort and money to accomplish the following array of activities and programs:

Casseroles – Last year we exceeded our goal of 1,500 and are clearly on track to exceed this year's goal of 2,009 casseroles given to the Salvation Army and Eddie Davis Center.

FreeStore – Serving over 1,000 clients since its inception, this year more than 3,200 volunteer hours have been contributed along with substantial donations of household goods which support children and their mothers who have escaped abusive living situations.

Episcopal Relief and Development – Last year we contributed \$1,300 for Midwest Disaster Relief and Malaria nets for Africa.

Faith and Food Fund – This was a new program which generated over \$14,000 to assist neighbors in need in these trying times.

Aid to Bp Samuel Peni, his family, and the Episcopal Church in Sudan – since his visit in January, St. Timothy's has generously given more than \$ 4,300 in support.

Food Delivery – We deliver over 500 meals annually to the homebound and elderly, and 170 dozen cookies to 44 families at Christmas time.

Food Pantry – This past year we contributed almost 1,400 food items and over \$2,100 to the Eddie Davis Center and DMARC Food Pantry.

Family Violence Center – We provided well over 4,000 personal items for residents, served a

Valentine's Day dinner, and helped clean up and paint.

Church Opportunity Group (COG) – Through this coalition of western suburban churches, St. Timotheans supported financially and served as chaperones to Christmas Children's Shopping Spree, served Thanksgiving Day dinner and other meals at the Eddie Davis Community Center, provided personal care items to WDM Human Services, as well as provided an Easter brunch for Senior Citizens and sponsored other activities to serve the community.

Advent and Twelve Days of Christmas Collection – generated over 1,200 items collected and distributed to WDM Human Services, the FreeStore and the Family Violence Center.

Other Outreach Efforts – include collecting funds through the Hunger Hike, assisting in the Meals for the Heartland, contributing items for the Mitten & Hat Tree, purchasing and delivering food baskets and Christmas gifts to needy families, partnering with the St. Paul's Indian Mission in Sioux City, contributing books and money to the Cedar Rapids Library and Parkersburg Relief Fund, and collecting \$6,540 the Renewing the Rebate Program.

Acknowledging our extensive efforts in community ministries, St. Timothy's recently received designation as a Jubilee Ministry Center. The Jubilee designation will allow St. Timothy's the opportunity to do even greater things in the future.

Please visit the display of ministries in the Parish Hall or check out our page on the website (<http://www.sttimothysiowa.org/community.asp>) to learn more about Community Ministries. We invite EVERYONE – young and old and everyone in between – to join us in serving our neighbors.

Thanks again to all for the care and attention and prayers you give to all of these ministries.

Ways to Help In November... by Elizabeth Popplewell

Upcoming: **Mitten Tree (Now!)** donate hats and mittens for children

COG Shopping Spree (December 12) Chaperone children (chaperones must be at least 16 years old), donate money for presents

Food Delivery (second Friday afternoon and Saturday morning of the month) take food baskets to West Des Moines elderly

Santa Sacks (early December) sponsor a holiday meal and/or provide gifts to a local family

Ongoing

FreeStore pick up and delivery crews, greeters

Casseroles make and bake

Recycler pick up church office recycling once per week

The Youth Page

Christian Formation Mission Project --

Raising the Roof: The Power of the Least Coin by Elizabeth Popplewell

A few weeks ago our youngest members started collecting pennies and other coins in the hope of raising enough funds to purchase supplies for a metal roof for a women's training center in Sudan. In less than two months the children have raised over \$50, enough to put 10 shingles on their display board. Their final goal is \$500.

Stop by the children's chapel to see their progress. Offer a prayer for the women who will be able to have a dry place to learn once the roof is in place. And please continue to encourage the smallest among us in their witness to infinite possibilities of God.

Thanks to Karen Lynch for her help in creating the children's storybook explaining the need for the women's training center and to Ann Koopal for creating the display board.

Updates from Lacey Howard

HIKE FOR THE HUNGRY

EYCers bundled up and braved the cold to participate with hundreds of other warm souls in the Hunger Hike in downtown Des Moines on October 11. Thank you to Jacob Nastruz, Zach Slocum, Andrew Marshall, and Nicholas Marshall for being the brave EYCers who walked for this wonderful cause!

COOKIES ARE COMING! This year's EYC Bake Sale will take place Sunday, November 1 and Sunday, November 29 in the Parish Hall. Please start fostering your benevolent cookie cravings now! All proceeds go toward providing Christmas cheer to a family adopted by the EYC through St. Tim's Santa Sack program.

A PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT: Remember that without adults willing to drive, chaperone, spend the night, and help with supplies, snacks, etc, EYC events can not happen. Please consider helping with upcoming events!

NEW BEGINNINGS #3 - GOD DON'T MAKE JUNK! Jr. High School youth (and a few high schoolers and adults, too) from all over Iowa gathered for New Beginnings #3, October 2-4 at St. John's, Ames. More than forty individuals enjoyed a weekend of singing, sharing, eating, personal reflection and group worship, separate from outside distractions and worries. New Beginnings is youth led and offers junior high students an opportunity to retreat from their hectic world to consider some of the important aspects in their lives with parents, siblings, peers, and God. Several St. Tim's youth and adults participated—Jenna Guy, Kiera Morrill, Tyler Losen, Ryan Mable, Jared Popplewell, Gracie Cobb, Liz Hada, Alex Andrews, David Rice, Parker Gesiriech, Claudia Hernandez, Elizabeth Popplewell, Lacey Howard, and Lydia Kelsey. Please ask these folks about their weekend!



The EYC and a few parents served a delicious hot dinner on October 13 to 40 West Des Moines residents at the Eddie Davis Community Center. Can you tell how much fun they're having?

A Reminder from Jade Fox

The K-3 Children's Choir will be singing November 1 at the 10:15 service and the 4-7 Children's Choir will be singing December 6.

On Being Episcopalian: Let's Get Ready for the New Year

by Terry Swanson

Well Consecration Sunday is over – though I'm writing this before the event to be able to reach the St. Timothean deadline. I was sick last Sunday so I didn't get to the town meeting but I did get detailed copies of the budget. Though the vestry has done a great job of trying to fund St. Tim's for us, it's scary to have such a deficit budget.

I was on the elementary school board early in the '80s when the farm crisis hit. Since we were a very rural community, the problem was very severe. We cut a librarian and library hours – not much community response; we cut the art teachers and program – not much community response; we said we were going to cut more staff and enlarge classes – not much community response. We said we would have to cut 7th and 8th grade boys basketball and coaches – hundreds of folks turned out to protest. We got our referendum passed. Ridiculous? It's up to us to keep our priorities straight!

It's up to us folks to make this work. The famous Pogo once said, "We have seen the enemy and it is us." To paraphrase: "We have seen the budget and it is (up to) us."

It's hard to be scared very long though because Advent is coming up and we are obliged to believe in the future – and in each other. Not only was I on a school board, I taught school for a number of years. It was pretty interesting because while I was teaching in one district about 20 miles from where I lived, I was on the school board in town we lived in. I remember how hard it was to be sure I was wearing the right hat at the right time. When we moved to Des Moines I went to work first doing marketing for a small software firm and then to Pioneer Hi-Bred Int. Inc as a technical writer. What a difference. The great thing about teaching school was no matter how bad it was, you got to start over the next year with a new class and a

clean slate. Not so true working in business. Some projects I worked on went on for years and a mistake early on could be quite costly in later phases.

I think being part of a church congregation is a lot like teaching school but also a little like business. Each year we start anew to participate in the wonder of Jesus' birth and life; death and resurrection. God forgives us our mistakes and at any point allows us to make a u-turn, make amends and move forward again. The Church reflects this each year as we begin again the cycle of living and learning from Christ's life. But in this practical world we also must take care of things carried over.

This year, Advent begins on November 29, 2009. As a liturgical church we Episcopalians take Advent seriously. Advent from the Latin *Adventus* means arrival. The four Sundays of Advent give us the time to prepare for this holy "arrival." In this busy world we live in it's easy for Advent to get lost in the preparations for Christmas.

Unfortunately for many of us the preparations for Christmas are heavy on cookie-making and shopping and light on considering the birth/rebirth of Christ. Try to give Advent some of the respect it deserves: maybe taking minutes to just sit quietly and think about the words, "Christ's birthday is coming," maybe making an advent wreath and lighting it each evening, maybe remembering each day to thank God for Christ's first coming to earth as a baby, for his presence among us today through the Holy Spirit, and for the anticipation of his final coming at the end of time.

Oh and Hey! Happy Thanksgiving!

Christmas Pageant: "The Journey to Bethlehem" by Elizabeth Popplewell

The Christmas Pageant will be here before we know it! There will be a *NEW* pageant this year called "The Journey to Bethlehem." There are many parts for many talents in the pageant this year, so if you are interested please sign-up so we know how many to expect for auditions and for the pageant. All rehearsals will take place following the 10:15 service from November 22-December 20.

Important dates to know:

November 15- all major speaking and singing parts will be auditioning downstairs after the 10:15 service with Jenna Guy and Jade Fox.

November 22- this will be the first rehearsal. Not all parts will be needed at this rehearsal. A schedule will go up later regarding the rehearsal the children will need to attend.

December 13- this will be a full rehearsal with all parts.

December 20- DRESS REHEARSAL this will include all parts and costumes. After the service, the children "Christmas Pageant" continued on page 10

St. Timothy's Designated a Jubilee Ministry Parish by Elizabeth Popplewell

At this year's diocesan convention, Bishop Scarfe and Leslee Sandberg, Diocesan Jubilee Officer, will recognize St. Timothy's as a new Jubilee Ministry Center.

Jubilee Ministry Centers are congregations or agencies with connections to the Episcopal Church that are engaged in active mission and ministry among and with poor and oppressed people. By its simplest description, Jubilee Ministry is faith in action: Faith that grows from loving God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength, and action that compels us to love our neighbors as ourselves. By creating a direct and dynamic link between our theology and our ethics—the talk and walk of our faith—Jubilee Ministry involves congregations in the important work of empowering people to change their lives.

Jubilee Ministry seeks to empower people to "do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly before their god" (Micah 6:8).

Isn't that what St. Timothy's has already been doing with our work with and through the FreeStore, Salvation Army Casseroles, the Family Violence Center, and partnering with various communities like New Orleans, St. Paul's Indian Mission, and Bp. Samuel? Of course! It's because of these ministries that St. Timothy's was selected as a Jubilee Center.

Becoming a Jubilee Ministry Centers provides the opportunity to expand our ministries in at least two tangible ways. First, as a Jubilee Center we join a network of experienced justice and charity ministries that shares best practices and proven techniques in working with neighbors in need, to lift up and empower individuals and communities. And, second, we are then encouraged to take our response a step further as we begin to address the causes of poverty, violence and inequity which violate human dignity, thereby connecting our responses of charity with responses of justice.

Your St. Timothy's Community Ministries Commission invites you to worship with us on Sunday, November 8, when The Rev. Christopher Johnson, Program Officer for Jubilee Ministries, will be our guest preacher at both the 8:00 and 10:15 services. Leslee Sandberg, Jubilee Officer for the Diocese of Iowa, will also be with us that day.

Iowa Jubilee Centers:

St. Timothy's joins Christ Church and Grace Church in Cedar Rapids; the Agape Cafe in Iowa City; Trinity Church in Muscatine; St. Thomas Church and St. Paul's Indian Mission in Sioux City; St. Andrew's Church in Waverly; St. Mark's in Ft. Dodge. All of these churches have made the commitment to serve people in need through their own unique way. These include food pantries, domestic violence prevention, a summer reading camp, medical lending closets, meal programs, baby's closet.

November

Please remember the following people in your prayers.

For those who suffer in body, mind or spirit:

Russell, Mike, Jacob, Marie, Barb, Betty Lou, Glenn, Phyllis Bruntlett, Sally, Shirley, Nicholas, Beth, Austin, Mike, Jack, Betty, Suzanne, Jane, Toby, Jeff, Jean, Hunter, Bennett, Amy, Linda, Merrill and Mary Lou

For those in service to our country:

Jacob, Kelly, Andrew, Nikki, Trevor, Mark, Mary, Joel, Jason, Philip, Christopher, Joseph, Will, Tim, Simon, Marshall, Rusty, Nicholas, Jeremy and Wes.

Happy Birthday to...

Nov. 1: Alexandria Cudworth
Nov. 2: Quinn Lynch, Sue Smith
Nov. 3: Scott Brennan, Gabrielle Arnold, Eric Power
Nov. 4: Glenn Uding
Nov. 5: Shellie Goldman, Andrew Lindstrom
Nov. 7: Sandy Davis
Nov. 11: Peter Graham, Erika Stennes
Nov. 12: Ronda Menke
Nov. 14: Maverick Inman, Kris Kittrell, Cindy McConnell
Nov. 17: Jenna Guy
Nov. 19: Jared Popplewell
Nov. 20: Chris Andrews
Nov. 24: Andrew Kallen, Logan Krantz
Nov. 26: Zohntay Proffitt
Nov. 27: Manuala Seaholm
Nov. 29: Kathy Larson
Nov. 30: Lucy Montgomery

November

Happy Anniversary to...

Nov. 1: Billy & Kathy Bryant, Chris & Sue Smith

Nov. 3: Alejandro & Diane Hernandez

Nov. 12: John & Bev Donnelly

Suggestions and Ideas from Town Hall Meetings: October 17 and 18

by Karen Voss

We speak of St. Timothy's as our faith family. When families are faced with difficult decisions its important to come together as a family to share concerns and problem solving ideas. This was the purpose of the town hall meetings held before Consecration Weekend. Attendees were given an opportunity to clarify their understanding of this year's pledge asking, voice their concerns and share helpful suggestions and ideas.

There were many excellent suggestions and your participation was greatly appreciated by the vestry, finance committee and clergy. As we prayerfully consider our next steps in the months to come we encourage each member of St. Timothy's family to share in the decisions which need to be made by contacting vestry members.

Following is a list of ideas from the three town hall meetings.

Building and Grounds

- Gutters: replace old gutters, replace with larger gutters, add gutter helmets or something similar, trim trees to protect gutters.
- Bless each project as its completed.
- Will the roof seal if replaced in cold weather?
- Instead of repair the clerestory as it is why not eliminate or significantly alter it? The idea would be to reduce the expense now and reduce or eliminate future costs related to its care.
- We should look for ways to convert the vacant land between the churches to cash by selling it or converting it to income property.

Communication

- Share your faith and commitment with others in the congregation and the importance of supporting all aspects of our church life so that we may continue to grow and reach out to the community.
- Focus on the positive things that are happening every day at St. Tim's.
- Post a scorecard showing the status of funds raised for deferred maintenance and project updates.
- Keep congregation informed of progress by posting building updates in timelines.
- Vestry representatives give weekly updates on progress and thanks to congregation
- Building improvements will also have a positive effect on our budget in terms of energy usage.
- Keep the Parish informed as to how the Vestry Pledge is leading by example.

Budget

- Offer the building to outside groups (charge usage fee).
- Begin work on roof immediately in order to take advantage of low bids.
- Research possibility of securing energy saving grants-are there parishioners who could help research, direct us where to apply?
- Does our Jubilee designation offer any financial help or suggestions to secure grants?
- Is stimulus money available?
- Enlarge the Big Event by inviting the community to a garage sale event, bazaar, bake sale, etc!

"Thank You" from Meals from the Heartland by Mark Aeilts

We asked "What if this year you helped?" and did you ever respond! More than 15,000 volunteers gathered over five days in Hy-Vee Hall in September to package more than 4,000,000 meals shipped to starving people in Haiti, South Africa, Nigeria, Jamaica, Israel, Mexico, New Mexico, and homeless shelters in Iowa. Thank you for your prayers, your volunteer service, your financial support, and your hearts that have ministered to the hungry in our world. May God bless you as you have been such a blessing to others! Thank you! Mark Aeilts, Chair, Meals from the Heartland
Isaiah 58:10 (NLT) "Feed the hungry, and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon."

Fighting Hunger – A Matter of Charity and Justice By Tim Goldman

St. Timotheans are a charitable bunch when it comes to helping feed the hungry. We are quick to open our wallets with a cash donation or to busy our hands making casseroles to feed hungry people. We bring canned goods to church and gather up our loose change each month. Then there is the Faith and Food Fund, Meals for the Heartland and the Hunger Hike.

As the worldwide economy remains weak, are there other actions we should take in response to the problem of growing hunger? The social teaching of our Church over the past one hundred year directs us to not only ask how much money or food people need but to ask why people are hungry. As a new Jubilee Ministry Center, this question is very pertinent for us as St. Timotheans. One reason that people are hungry is that structural changes are needed in the way our government administers foreign aid, and this is a justice issue we can address.

Currently, our government's global development policies and programs are scattered across 12 departments, 25 different agencies, and nearly 60 government offices. A more efficient foreign assistance system – with better coordination, better accountability and better clarity – means people get help faster and more effectively.

If foreign aid is fixed, more lives can be saved. Fewer children will die of hunger. Parents will be able to feed their families in the years to come. Better foreign aid also means less waste. Two bills now in Congress can help to fix foreign aid.

H.R. 2139, the Initiating Foreign Assistance Reform Act, is a good first step in making our nation's foreign assistance more effective and streamlined. It requires the president to develop and implement a comprehensive national strategy for global development

and includes other reforms to make U.S. foreign assistance more accountable and transparent.

S. 1524, the Foreign Assistance Revitalization and Accountability Act, is a good first step in making our foreign assistance more effective and accountable. S. 1524 says that U.S. policy should be to promote global development, good governance, and the reduction of poverty and hunger and it rebuilds the policy, planning, and evaluation capacity of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The bill would also increase transparency of foreign assistance programs and bring greater development coordination on the ground.

In 2009, a new U.S. president and Congress present a once-in-a-generation opportunity to make foreign assistance more effective in reducing hunger and poverty. Studies show that even in this era of email, handwritten, personal letters are still the most powerful way to reach members of Congress and that is what this Offering of Letters is all about.

This month we will talk about having an offering of letters at St. Timothy's. The letters will ask Congress to reform foreign assistance so that it is more focused on reducing hunger and reducing poverty. This will be an opportunity for interested parishioners to sign a letter to our Senators and Congressman to support these bills.

The Offering of Letters is a program of Bread for the World, a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. For information about Bread for the World, go to <http://www.bread.org>.

MUSICAL OPPORTUNITIES upcoming at St. Timothy's by Tim McMillin

Sunday, November 15 - 4 PM: The Des Moines Vocal Arts Ensemble presents "Harvest Home: An American Celebration" - Central Presbyterian Church - 3829 Grand Ave., Des Moines

St. Tim's parishioner, Dan Montgomery, and Jade Fox, St. Tim's children's music specialist, sings with the DMVAE and Tim McMillin, St. Tim's Music Director, leads the ensemble. Set in the exceptional acoustic found at Central Presbyterian Church, the Des Moines Vocal Arts Ensemble performs an array of inspired and entertaining American choral works in this "must see" performance featuring Carol Barnett's, "An American Thanksgiving." With featured guest guitarist, Aaron Powell, the ensemble will perform the awe-inspiring civil war poetry set in "A Procession Winding around

Me," by Jeffrey Van and the light-hearted American folk song, "Cindy." Selections by Copland, Hoiby, Paulus, Bernstein, Thompson and Luboff complete this celebration of American composers writing on American themes! For more information, please check out www.dmvae.org.

Sunday, December 20 - Special Presentation at St. Timothy's of John Rutter's "Magnificat"

Be sure to put this special musical performance on your calendar. The Choir at St. Timothy's will present John Rutter's inspiring setting of Mary's Canticle. If you are interested in being part of the choir for this special performance, please contact Tim McMillin at 515-321-7347 or tim.mcmillin@simpson.edu

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church & Preschool Vestry Meeting Tuesday, October 13, 2009, 6:30 – 9 p.m.

Present: Karen Voss, Mary Cole-Duvall, Elizabeth Popplewell, Stephanie Andrews, Marshall Little, Elizabeth Mansfield, Jack Hovden, Krista Tanner, Ray Gaebler, Tammy Guy, Maureen Hada, Sally Hood (prayer representative)

Prior to the beginning of the meeting, Bev and Dave Blaha presented a speech to the Vestry that they will give to the congregation this Sunday describing what St. Timothy's means in their lives.

Karen Voss began the meeting by inviting Vestry members to review their highs and lows in small groups then opened the meeting with a prayer. The minutes from the September meeting were approved. **(Tanner/Guy)**

Jack Hovden presented the Treasurer's Report. The September financials were approved. (Hada/Tanner) Vestry members gave updates on the calls that they have been making this week to parishioners regarding the letter that was e-mailed last week. Some of the concerns, suggestions shared are as follows: What are the mechanics of paying two pledges? What are the next steps? Questions about deferred maintenance. Can donations of goods or services be solicited from the congregation?

The Town Hall meetings scheduled for this weekend were discussed. A sign up list showing which meeting Vestry members plan to attend was passed around. Mary also distributed a draft outline/hand-out that will be used at the Town Hall meeting. Karen will take notes at the meetings and compile a list of parishioner suggestions.

Commission Business

Building and Grounds

Ray presented the contract bid from Evergreen for snow removal. The motion to use Evergreen for snow removal services for winter 2009/10 was approved. **(Gaebler/Tanner)**

Approval of patio repair tabled until the following information is obtained: Possible effect of using concrete on the tree, issue of memorial tree, decorative concrete options (within our budget), drainage issues.

Approved concrete work for air conditioning pad, in front of dumpster and in front of red door, **(Gaebler/Tanner)** Ray moved spending no more than \$22,000 to replace the center roof. Motion passed. **(Gaebler/Andrews)**

Parish Life

Krista and Maureen asked VROW to announce that Men's Breakfast donations benefit Emergency Food Pantry. Krista or Maureen will send out reminder e-mail to VROW each month regarding this issue, the last weekend of the month for the 10:15 service and the first weekend of the month for the 5 p.m. and 8 a.m. service. Krista and Maureen are actively trying to recruit a coordinator to organize/plan the 2010 Big Event. Any suggestions/recommendations for recruitment candidates are welcomed from the Vestry.

Rev. Mary Cole-Duvall gave her clergy report. Elizabeth Maxwell is new director of St. Timothy's Preschool. She no longer holds the position of Ministries Coordinator.

Rev. Elizabeth Popplewell gave her clergy report. St. Timothy's Communities Ministries has been approved as a Jubilee Center. Certification will be given at Convention.

New Beginnings was held October 2nd – 4th in Ames; 32 youth attended with St. Timothy's providing 10 participants, 5 as staff.

There are 17 youth currently enrolled in Confirmation class. It's going very well.

The new 4th/5th grade youth group held its first meeting/fellowship event on Sunday, Oct. 4th. Fifteen youth and their families attended. The youth group coordinators, Nancy Nastruz and Barbara Cobb, planned this first event. Karen Voss ended the meeting with a closing prayer.

Action Items

Prayerfully consider serving on next year's vestry selection committee for your class. (All)

Revise the 2010 draft budget with Consecration Weekend pledge commitments.

Enhanced coffee hour on November 8th to celebrate Jubilee designation. (Krista/Maureen)

Samples of roofing material will be presented to the vestry. Patio design options using concrete will be researched. (Ray)

Contact Fr. Hedges to gain information concerning the memorial tree on patio. (Ray)

Research effect of a concrete patio on the tree (Ray)

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 17, 2009, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Maureen Hada

Financial Report

The following is a summary of the 2009 financial forecast. This includes actual expense for the period of January through September with a forecast for the last three months of 2009. For more information, please see the bulletin in the Parish Hall (between the double doors and the coat rack). If you have any questions or comments, please contact the Parish Office at 225-2020 ext. 206 or e-mail at sttimsbookkeeper@msn.com.

January through September actual plus 2009 Plan/ Forecast for October thru December

	Actual/FC 2009	Plan 2009
Pledges	\$ 322,434	\$ 340,000
Other Income & Contributions	\$ 111,718	\$ 110,121
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 434,152	\$ 450,121

Community Ministry	\$ 66,702	\$ 69,950
Christian Formation	\$ 4,088	\$ 7,550
Liturgy & Music	\$ 22,017	\$ 16,063
Pastoral Ministry	\$ 263	\$ 350
Parish Life	\$ 3,740	\$ 3,370
Administration	\$ 335,360	\$ 376,548
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 432,169	\$ 473,831
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 1,982	\$ (23,710)

The Diocesan Loan Balance is \$ 59,017.89

Centering Prayer Group Meets on Saturdays at 9am By Tim Goldman

A new group is now meeting on Saturday mornings at 9am in the chapel at St. Timothy's and we would like you to join us. The Centering Prayer group is open to members of our parish as well as the general public. Childcare is available.

Our meeting includes time for beginners to receive instruction in centering prayer as well as a video or book study in addition to time to practice centering prayer as a group.

Centering Prayer is a method of silent prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of contemplative prayer, prayer in which we experience God's presence within us, closer than breathing, closer than thinking, closer than consciousness itself. This method of prayer is both a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship.

Centering Prayer is not meant to replace other kinds of prayer. Rather, it adds depth of meaning to all prayer

and facilitates the movement from more active modes of prayer — verbal, mental or affective prayer — into a receptive prayer of resting in God. Centering Prayer emphasizes prayer as a personal relationship with God and as a movement beyond conversation with Christ to communion with Him.

The source of Centering Prayer, as in all methods leading to contemplative prayer, is the Indwelling Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The focus of Centering Prayer is the deepening of our relationship with the living Christ. The effects of Centering Prayer are ecclesial, as the prayer tends to build communities of faith and bond the members together in mutual friendship and love.

For more information about the Centering Prayer group at St. Timothy's, please contact me at gold2231@msn.com or leave a message at 515-745-9842.

Congregational Hymn Singing in the Episcopal Church

(text from a sermon given by Tim McMillin on September 13)

The Episcopal Church has a rich heritage of congregational song dating back to the earliest days of the church in England. The Church of England's practices were later shaped by its experience in North America. Did you know that music education in America was born because of a desire that early Americans had to secure musically literate parishioners for church services – Psalms and hymns needed to be sung!

The same is true today. While serving on the selection committee for the Episcopal Church's *The Hymnal 1982*, editors helped evaluate 30,000 submissions-received for 250 slots.

So, what are hymns? Erik Routley, a prominent writer about church music, once defined hymns as “songs for unmusical people to sing together ... and such poetry as unliterary people can utter together.”

Hymns exist for those who sing them, not for an audience, and certainly less for a critic. By these definitions, hymns are vernacular, radical, and cultural forms of expression.

The 104th Archbishop of Canterbury described Christian song as giving us a “map of the landscape of faith.” We know that modern brain science tells us that music has a power that exceeds that of the spoken word. The science of “aesthetics” reports that the musical expression of a set of words does more than cognitively communicating them to the singer; it involves an emotional reaction and expression that the spoken word cannot. Thus, singing the stories of the church allows us to link on a whole new level to them. We teach our children the tunes of the church so that they will learn the stories of our faith.

Put simply, and as my grandmother used to say, “To sing is to pray twice.” When words fail us, we have song. When emotion overwhelms us, we have hymn singing. When we participate in congregational song, our minds and hearts are open to expressing our faith in a real and unique way.

Christmas Pageant (continued from page 4)

will be fed while the Greening of the Church is being done. The dress rehearsal will then follow the greening.

If you are not interested in a major singing or speaking role, have no worries. There are plenty of non-speaking parts including dancing and playing an instrument that will need to be filled. Both children's choirs will be singing songs for the pageant and those

Hymns are intended for a corporate body. They are for the use of all believers and build up a sense of shared identity and shared purpose, just as working songs, marching songs, and protest songs do. Hymns have a 'corporate I.' When we sing 'When I Survey the Wondrous Cross,' we are *sharing* an intense individual experience of the cross.

So, what does this mean for us today at St. Timothy's? On this Sunday, the choir returns to *help lead* the musical experience – not to provide the musical experience for worship. When hymns are sung, worship is taken to a new level of personal and communal expression. Just as we all (who gather faithfully) know that sitting at home and watching a televangelist on Sunday morning cheats us of experiencing the “fellowship of believers” we experience when we gather, likewise, standing by and failing to partake in congregational hymn singing while we are here cheats us and those around us of the communal and transcending power that music holds to teach, uplift and affirm our belief!

Nowhere in scripture does it say, “Lift your voice to the Lord (but only if it is beautiful, always 100% accurate, and if you read music).” In fact, the best known Biblical passage simply states, “Make a joyful NOISE unto God, all ye people! (notice there is no mention of “singing” whatsoever)! Hymns are designed to be repetitive for a purpose. If you are unfamiliar, listen as you gain confidence the first time...join with enthusiasm the second time through...make it stronger and better the third...explode with passion and fervor the fourth!

I challenge you to allow yourself to experience wholeheartedly the power that music can have at St. Timothy's during your worship experience this morning! When we sing our hymns, at the Offertory, even during our service music...be bold...be joyful... let the spirit work through your voice as it joins with many to proclaim Christ as the Redeemer and Lord of all.

rehearsals will take place at the normal time (K-3 during Godly Worship and 4-7 after the 10:15 service).

We hope that many of the children will join us in making this night of Jesus' birth memorable and special. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jade Fox (515-250-5681) or Jenna Guy (418-1988 or jennag@mchsi.com). The sign-up sheets for the participating in the pageant or helping with the pageant are located on the Godly Play bulletin board in the Christian Formation area on the lower level.

St. Timothy's
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50266

**Don't forget: The Deadline for the
December *St. Timothean*
is November 15.**

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(including the current month's *St. Timothean*)
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