



The St. Timothean

NOVEMBER 2011

FOCUS: THE VESTRY



Our Vestry

Welcome to the "Vestry Edition" of the St. Timothean!

My name is Stephanie Andrews and I'm your friendly neighborhood Senior Warden. No, I cannot swing from the Empire State Building down to City Hall to save Mary Jane, but I can tell you about the Vestry at St. Timothy's and why serving on it has been part of my ever growing Faith Journey.

The current Vestry is made up of 13 incredibly talented and dynamic individuals. I'm sure that doesn't surprise you, because that is the demographic of St. Timothy's as a whole. This group is charged with the vision and future of the Congregation while following the canons of

the Church - and take it very seriously. Each and every action/reaction is made with consideration for the Church, the Congregation and with Faith. While it IS serious business, and a lot of serious discussions are had and decisions are made, there are also many laughs and joys had in the process as well.

I have learned a lot about the inner workings of a Church and Diocese these last few years on the Vestry. I have learned that it takes many people, of many minds, coming together to create a community of Faith and Worship. Serving has helped me grow as an individual and

as a part of a larger community.

St. Timothy's
Vestry
Stephanie Andrews
Senior Warden, 225-2020

I ask you to read through the following pages with an open heart and an open mind. There has been a call for nominations to the Vestry for 2012. There will be four seats to fill. Please consider serving and being part of a wonderful team.

Editors for the St. Timothean are:
Liz Brennan and
Jennie McKinney

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On Being Episcopalian: Stewardship Defines You

by Terry Swanson

As I write this, Harry and I are on a cruise to Hawaii and I've just returned from a lecture about Hawaiian culture before Cook and the western world invaded those islands. One thing burned into my mind. The lecturer was talking about how the lives of the natives were very cooperative on these islands where food was plentiful and the weather balmy. He said, **"A man's wealth was determined by how much he gave away."** I could hardly wait for the lecture to end so I could share that with you.

Every year I worry about how to write about Stewardship and every year I'm guided to someone or something that makes my story. I have no doubt in my mind that God's spirit walked in his beautiful garden we call Hawaii. I have no doubt the early people living there perceived the bounty He gave and understood they were to follow His example of sharing.

They understood that they did not own what they possessed. We also need to remember that all we possess really belongs to God and we are responsible for the stewardship of it. The old testament tells us we are give to God the "first fruits of our labor." (Like the sign I saw outside a church the other day: Give God what's right, not

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All articles for the December/January St. Timothean are due by November 15. Please send them to newslettereditor@sttimothyiowa.org.

Who's Who on the Vestry

Class of 2013

Dick Leonard
Mark Slocum
Annie Waskom
Marjorie Proffitt

Class of 2012

Mary Crandell
Lisa Hall
Vince Preston
Josh Wilson

Class of 2011

Tammy Guy
Stephanie Andrews
(continuing as Sr. Warden)
Jack Hovden
Marshall Little

Youth Representative

Ryan Mable

Vestry Privileges and Duties

The affairs of the Parish shall be managed by the Vestry. The Vestry shall be the agents and legal representatives of the Parish in all matters concerning the corporate property. The Vestry shall represent the Parish in its relationship with the Rector.

The Vestry shall perform all of the duties prescribed by the Canons of the Church and the Canons of the Diocese including the following:

1. It shall cooperate with the Rector in promoting the spiritual welfare of the Parish and shall aid the Rector in the initiation, conduct and development of the program of the hutch both within and without the Parish.
2. It shall accept responsibility for the Mission of the Church in

the community, the Diocese, the nation and the world, and shall be the means by which the Church and the Diocese communicate with the Parish.

3. It shall serve as a Council of Advice for the Rector upon her (or his) request, or whenever in the judgement of both Wardens that should be brought to the Rector's attention.
4. It shall encourage fit men and women to enter specialized ministries of the Church.
5. It shall supervise the care and maintenance of the buildings, furnishings and other properties of the Parish.
6. It shall be responsible for the proper care of the finances of the Parish.
7. It shall make arrangements for the support of the Rector.

EYC News

by Lacey Howard

WE DIG THE GARDEN More than twenty youth from both St. Tim's and St. Anne's, Ankeny, gathered in the Faith & Grace garden on Sunday afternoon, October 4. We dug potatoes and carrots, picked tomatoes and peppers, laughed, sang, and had fun in the sun!

NEW BEGINNINGS #7 Sixty youth and adults gathered at St. Luke's, Des Moines, for New Beginnings, a weekend retreat for 7th-9th graders put on by youth, for youth, October 7-9. Many St. Timotheans participated in the event, including Leah Cole-Duvall, Katy Green, Kelsey Hagen, Anna Losen, Madison Nastruz, Meredith Nastruz, Lacey Howard, Kevin & Kay-Kay Saunders, Tyler Losen, Ryan Mable, Anna Mable, Gracie Cobb and Alex Andrews. Please ask these folks about their experience! (Check the Facebook page for some awesome pictures!)

Upcoming Events.....

EYC FEEDS OUR NEIGHBORS EYC will serve dinner at Eddie Davis Community Center on Tuesday, November 1, 5:30 to 7PM. Please let LACEY know if you are planning to help!

CALLING ALL BAKERS It's that time of year again! EYC Bake Sale Time! EYC will gather in the St. Tim's Parish Hall on Saturday, November 5 at 3:30PM and Sunday, November 6 at 8:30AM to bake cookies and sell our wares following each service. Please bring two boxes of cake mix as well as any add-ins (chocolate chips, etc) and a large mixing bowl, mixing utensil (spoon, spatula, etc), and cookie sheet to Saturday's baking extravaganza. Please make sure your tools are labeled with your name and RSVP to LACEY for this event.

PLEASE RSVP for all EYC events by calling, emailing, or FaceBooking LACEY: 205-516-3052 or LNHoward@hotmail.com

General Obligations of the Vestry

I really want to be more involved at St. Timothy's . If I decide to run for a seat on the Vestry, what do I need to do as a Vestry member? Here is a quick list...

- Regular worship attendance
- Annual retreat with the entire vestry
- Read materials and prepare to actively participate in vestry meetings
- Commit to attending all vestry meetings
- Strive to attend special functions of the church, such as the church picnic
- Participate in Newcomer orientations and dinners
- Support Program Ministries and general administration functions
- Assist Ministries in understanding their role in fulfilling the Church's mission
- Help Ministries process their annual goals
- Ability to tell the Ministries' stories
- Call for and participate in an annual review
- Give guidance when asked
- Active participation in the Stewardship process
- Worship greeter
- Pray, pray, pray

2011 Faith and Food Fund

Offering a Cool Drink of Water

Where We Can

What if you needed – really needed -- one tank of gas, a monthly bill paid or one-month's rent? The current economy means that more and more people are finding themselves in need of a small amount of help – small help with big consequences. One tank of gas can mean being able to keep a job. One month's rent buys time to figure out how to maintain stable housing. Starting in November, St. Timothy's will embark on a campaign to raise money to replenish the Faith and Food Fund, which provides money when families within the church or local community need assistance with food or other items that provide sustenance. Having money in this fund means that if a friend or stranger comes looking for a bit of relief or assistance, we are able to answer that call.

The main way this is funded is through

Alternative Gift Giving, which works as follows:

- ❖ Anyone can make a donation in honor of a loved one, friend, co-worker or neighbor.

(Faith and Food Fund, continued on page 4)

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what's left.) Like it or not I think that means we look at our bounty and think about how we should share it – and we should look at that bounty before we pay Mediacom or even the mortgage.

Most of us pay bills, keep out enough money for play and household expenses, and God gets a portion of what is left. This is not first fruits--this is giving God the leftovers. We need to come to the understanding that when we give to God first, everything else falls into place.

Okay. That's nice, kind of theoretical, but what does it mean in terms of St. Timothy's Consecration Sunday? Next Sunday when you're in church, look around. Do you like what you see? Is it a comfortable place to be? Are your kids meeting Jesus in a meaningful way? Are you secure in the knowledge that Mary and the staff are there if you need them? Would you like the air-conditioning and heating system to work? Well, if you do, think about it as you would your home – because this is your church home, also known as God's house. And, just as you maintain your home to the best of your ability, if you are a responsible, caring Christian, you will maintain your church home to the best of your ability.

The meaning of stewardship has been often debated with definitions surrounding time spent focusing on the Lord, building relationships with others, and using the gifts God has given. The good steward is someone who is doing the best he can with the things that God has given him. You ask, "What has God given me." He has given you time, talents, and treasures and says, "These are yours to do with what you will." How you manage those gifts, how responsible you are using those gifts and how much you are willing to sacrifice to use those gifts to support your church and to better the lives of those less fortunate – that determines how rich you are..

Are you being a good steward of the Spirit that lives within you? How are you caring for the gifts that God has blessed you with? Think about it and be the richest man you can, Hawaiian style.

Faith and Food Fund, Continued from page 3

- ❖ A card will be sent by the church to the honoree letting them know that a gift was given in their name to "feed the hungry in our community."
- ❖ A minimum donation of \$10 per honoree is requested.
- ❖ Checks should be made payable to: St. Timothy's
- ❖ All proceeds are designated for the Faith and Food Fund.

- ❖ Gifts received by December 15 will guarantee the delivery of an acknowledgement card to the honoree.

In addition to using the Alternative Gift Giving program to replenish the Faith and Food Fund, the campaign also hopes to raise awareness about local needs, which are increasing daily. Weekly collections and updates, special prayers, identifying family opportunities to serve and increasing participation in previously existing programs will be part of the campaign.

We invite you to contribute to these efforts in whatever way you can. If you would like to participate in this effort, please contact Diane Hernandez at diane.hernandez@mchsi.com or 515-321-5393.

Matthew 25: 34-37 -- Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.

Quick Updates!

The Faith & Grace Garden has provided 8335 pounds of food!
St. Timotheans have prepared 2195 casseroles - including 818 dozen eggs!

Vestries: Yesterday and Today by Terry Swanson

So what is a “vestry” anyway? Funny you should ask. I’ve been an Episcopalian for almost 50 years and I just found out. A vestry is a room in or attached to a church in which the vestments, vessels, records, etc., are kept – kind of like what we now call the sacristy. Because in the early English churches the administrative committee would commonly hold its meetings in the vestry room, the committee came to be called “the vestry”.

Because we trace our Episcopalian roots back to the Anglican church we keep some of their language and covenants. It is interesting to note that the first Anglican church in the colonies was in Virginia, and it operated much differently than we do today. A colonial Anglican parish operated in almost all respects as do today's county governments. That is, the vestry managed affairs for not only for the church but the whole community. In colonial Virginia the Anglican Church and its practices were imposed by law on all parish residents, regardless of religious preference.

Thomas Jefferson said about Colonial Anglican vestries and their role in taxation, "This (tax) assessment is levied and administered by twelve persons in each parish, called vestrymen . . . so distributed through their parish, that every part of it may be under the immediate eye of some one of them. They are well acquainted with the details and economy of private life, and they find sufficient inducements to execute their charge well, in their philanthropy, in the approbation of their neighbors, and the distinction which that gives them."

The role of vestryman was one of the most important duties in Colonial Virginia. Upton described it this way: The vestry itself was an institution of hospitality. Vestrymen did for their neighbors whatever needed to be done to keep the parish running. The parishioners expected the vestrymen to fulfill their duties honestly, thoughtfully, and diligently. The vestrymen expected, and were expected, to discern the needs of the parish and to satisfy them in a timely fashion. When a church needed to be repaired, a Church Warden had the work done at his own expense, and was reimbursed. The vestry expected obedience to their orders as masters of the parish, along with acquiescence to

their decisions about church building, taxation, ministerial hiring, and the prerogatives of mastery in general."

Fast forward to 2011. Times have changed. A vestry person certainly now is only responsible for church efforts, not for the whole community government. But, some things remain the same. As quoted above, “The vestrymen expected, and were expected, to discern the needs of the parish and to satisfy them in a timely fashion.”

To become a vestry person at St. Timothy’s, a candidate

- must be a communicant in good standing (which means s/he has been confirmed or received into the Church by a Bishop of the Church
- should have received Holy Communion at least three times during the preceding year
- be at minimum sixteen (16) years old, or be a member in good standing of like age
- have regularly attended worship at St. Timothy’s
- have contributed to its support for the previous three months.

St. Timothy’s by-laws have specific responsibilities and obligations for its vestry persons. They manage the affairs of the Parish and act as agents and legal representatives of the Parish in all matters concerning the corporate property; they represent the Parish in its relationship with the Rector; and also perform all the duties prescribed by the Canons of the Church and the Canons of the Diocese.

Additionally, vestry persons agree to regularly attend worship services, read materials and prepare to actively participate in vestry meetings, commit to attending all vestry meetings, strive to attend special functions and participate in other like activities. They are urged to PRAY! PRAY! PRAY!

Sound like a big job? It is, but the work cannot compare to the benefits that come with knowing you are furthering the work of the church, the body of Christ. So, the next time you see a St. Timothy vestry person, say, “Thanks. I’ll pray for you and for all the folks on the vestry.”

At the end of life we will not be judged by how many diplomas we have received, how much money we have made, how many great things we have done.

We will be judged by "I was hungry and you have me food to eat, I was naked and you clothed me, I was homeless and you took me in."

Hungry not only for bread -- but hungry for love. Naked not only for clothing -- but naked for human dignity and respect. Homeless not only for want of a room of bricks -- but homeless because of rejection.

-- Mother Teresa

Together Let's Count Our Blessings Stewardship Weekend November 5 – 6

Watch for more information and return your pledge card

Together we are changing lives!

Hungry Flock

The Hungry Flock is back! A great tradition at St. Timothy's is a monthly gathering at fellow parishioners' homes. The host decides the menu, asking each couple to contribute a side dish, appetizer or dessert. Hungry Flock dinners are a great way to meet new friends and catch up with current friends!

The first Hungry Flock event will be on Saturday, November 5th. Please indicate your interest on the sign up sheets in the Parish Hall.

Can't make it this month? Don't worry! The Hungry Flock meets monthly! Watch for future gatherings.

Questions? Please contact Josh Wilson or Dick Leonard.

The Vestry announces that nominations for the four soon-to-be-vacated Vestry positions are now officially open.

Nominations will be accepted until December 31, 2011. Being a Vestry member is an opportunity to use your skills and gifts to serve the parish, get to know other members of the congregation and have fun working to strengthen St. Timothy's future. Please consider this rewarding opportunity prayerfully and feel free to contact any member of the Nominating Team (Marjorie Proffitt, Mary Crandall and Jack Hovden) with any questions.

Vestry Minutes - October 18, 2011

Present: Marshall Little, Mark Slocum, Tammy Guy, Dick Leonard, Majorie Proffitt, Josh Wilson, Stephanie Andrews, Mary Crandell, Jack Hovden, Vince Preston, Annie Waskom, Mary Sheldahl (Treasurer), Bev Blaha (Prayer Team), Mary Cole-Duvall

Treasurer's report:

We are down in pledges by \$8,824.42 compared to where we expected at this time of year. This is well within our normal reception rate of pledges of collecting 95% of our pledges. Our non-pledge contributions are down by \$3914.00. This is not surprising since we really worked hard last year during the stewardship process to encourage 100% pledging from our members.

Expenses year to date are still down. This is still largely due to savings in personnel and utilities.

The Building Fund should have enough funds in it by the time we pay for the air conditioner. We will remind members the beginning of December when we send out preliminary Pledge statements about catching up with their building pledge, as well as regular pledges.

Endowment Policy:

Mary Sheldahl presented the revisions to the proposed Endowment Policy including the clarifying language the Vestry requested.

The Vestry voted to accept the proposed Endowment Policy pending the correction of the Legal name of the Parish. (Hovden/Waskom)

Budget Recommendations:

Mary Sheldahl discussed the budget snapshot for Stewardship Weekend.

Stewardship Weekend:

Mark Slocum discussed the plans for Stewardship Weekend. The goal is to keep pledging in

the front of the parishioners' minds. This will include sending personal thank-you's from the members of the Vestry as well as quarterly updates on the works of the parish that were made possible through the stewardship. The goal is year-round stewardship.

Faith and Grace Garden:

Tim Goldman brought a proposal to the Vestry to start selling a portion of the produce from the garden to the Tall Grass Co-op with the proceeds going to further the garden and buy additional food for the area pantries. Potential tax implications were discussed as this would be unrelated income. This should not be a problem as long as income stays below \$1000. The Vestry approved the proposal by e-mail vote on the condition that income remain below \$1000.

The irrigation meter for the garden was not hooked up to the water system. This has resulted in higher water bills than expected. The Faith and Grace Garden will be paying to have the irrigation meter installed before next spring.

As the Faith and Grace Garden continues to grow in scale, liability issues will need to be addressed. Tim Goldman is working with Dowling High School on a five year commitment to provide volunteers.

Upcoming Events:

Trunk or Treat is October 29th after the 5pm service.

Hungry Flock is going to start up again. First dinner is planned for November 5th. There will be a call for hosts soon.

The Vestry formed a nominating committee (Marjorie Proffitt, Mary Crandall, and Jack Hovden) for next year's Vestry election. Nominations will be accepted through December 31st.

Josh Wilson led the closing prayer. Submitted by Vince Preston, Clerk

Prayers & Celebrations

For those who suffer in body, mind or spirit: Jacob, Bill, Betty, Patti, Angela, Robb, Ed, Heather, Nelda and Amiete

For those in service to our country:

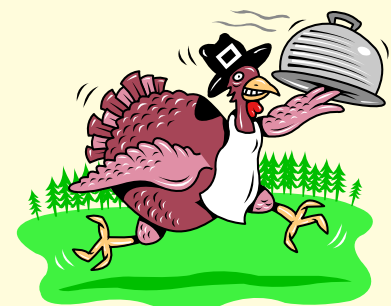
Jacob, Trevor, Mary, Joel, Philip, Christopher, Joseph, Jeremiah, Ted, Keith, Nate and Nathan

Happy Birthday to:

1: Alexandria Cudworth, Eric Power
2: Quinn Lynch, Sue Smith
3: Scott Brennan, Gabrielle Arnold
4: Glenn Uding
5: Shellie Goldman
7: Sandy Davis
11: Peter Graham
12: Ronda Menke
14: Kris Kittrell, Cindy McConnell
17: Jenny Guy, Will Rosenmeyer
24: Logan Krantz
26: Zohntay Proffitt
27: Manuala Seaholm
29: Kathy Larson
30: Lucy Montgomery

Happy Anniversary to:

1: Billy & Kathy Bryant, Chris & Sue Smith
3: Alejandro & Diane Hernandez
7: Rick & Laura Green
15: John & McB McManus



St. Timothy's
Episcopal Church & Preschool
1020 24th Street, West Des Moines, IA 50266

Celebrating and sharing God's love in a
welcoming faith community

TO:

Upcoming Events at St. Timothy's

Nov. 1, 5:30 pm: EYC at Eddie Davis
Nov. 3, 7 pm: From C to c
Nov. 5, 8 am -4 pm: Lectio Divina Workshop
Nov. 5, 4 pm: EYC Cookie Bake
Nov. 5, 5 pm: Holy Eucharist followed by EYC
Cookie Sale
Nov. 5, 6 pm: Hungry Flock
Nov. 9, 7:15 pm: Confirmation Meeting
Nov. 15: December & January *St. Timothean*
articles due
Nov. 24, 25: Office Closed
Nov. 26-27: EYC Lock-in and Sale
Nov. 27: First Sunday of Advent
Dec. 3, 6 pm: Hungry Flock

Saturdays:

9:00am Centering Prayer
5:00pm Holy Eucharist

Sundays:

8:00am Holy Eucharist
8:45am Child Care available
9:00am Christian Formation for all ages
10:00am Children's Ark
10:15am Holy Eucharist with Children's Chapel

Mondays:

6:30pm Boy Scouts
7:00pm O.A.

Wednesdays:

10:00am Staff Meeting
11:30am Men's lunch at Cubs Club
3:45pm Evening Prayer
4:00pm Book Study
5:30pm Holy Eucharist
6:00pm Lectionary Study with light supper
7:00pm Concluding Prayer
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursdays:

7:45pm Recovery Group

Fridays:

10:00am Books, Brew and Banter

Please visit <http://sttimothysiowa.org> for up-to-date happenings at St. Timothy's.
You can also find St. Timothy's on Facebook at [sttimothysiowa@groups.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/sttimothysiowa@groups.facebook.com).