

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church



Annual Report
November 8, 2015

ST. TIMOTHY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
2015
PARISH DIRECTORY

Bishop.....The Rt. Rev. George Young, III
RectorThe Rev. Derrick C. Hill
Priest working with Young Families and Youth.....The Rev. Robert Hartmans
Director of Music Ministries Philip Newton
Parish AdministratorAmy Sandy
Bookkeeper Cary Haney
Communications ManagerJenna Haines
Plant Manager/SextonJabus Braxton
Nursery Supervisor Linda Gehron

Vestry Officers

Senior Warden David Head
Junior WardenScott Gaskill
TreasurerSharon Hamrick
Clerk.....Sarah McKenzie

Members of the Vestry

Term Ending 2015..... Leigh Althaus
Bill Chimley
David Head
Joe Johnson

Term Ending 2016.....Sarah McKenzie
Uno Avisto
Daniel Durant
Blake Murchison

Term Ending 2017.....Scott Gaskill
John MacCoon
Cathy Pyron
Tonda Rawls

SWEEPSA Ministry Contacts

SERVICE

INREACH Tonda Rawls – Vestry liaison

MOST – Wes Boyd

WOST – Laurie Buchanan

Parish Life Fellowship – Patrick Emanuel, Ann Pinion, Betty Ewing, Kittie Williams,
Rob Robertson, Paul Miller

Progressive Dinners

Easter Egg Hunt

Shrimp boil

Rally Day

Wedding Coordinators – Allie Thomas, Keith Barry, Betty Jones

Supper Club – Janet Fisher

OUTREACH John MacCoon – Vestry liaison

Committee Chair – Leigh Althaus

Family Promise – Leigh Althaus, Susan Gruber

Metropolitan Ministries – Lolly Durant, Kitty Kay

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation – Kevin Green

Project Canterbury – The Rev. Robert Hartmans

Thrift Shop – Joselyn Willis

Hosanna Community – Molly Miles

Neema Resettlement Ministry – Greg Goodgame, Susannah Murdock

Community Kitchen – John Leavens

Children's Nutrition Program (Haiti) – Kemmer Anderson

Signal Mountain Social Services – Judith Miller

St. Isidore's Hands – Alison Chimley, Laura Witherspoon

Chattanooga Food Bank – Uno Avisto

Salvation Army Angel Tree – John MacCoon

WORSHIP Cathy Pyron – Vestry liaison

Verger – Katie Piper

Eucharistic Ministers – Bill Steverson

Lectors/Intercessors – Dave Maley

Acolytes – Nora Faris

Ushers – Scott Snider

Music – Philip Newton

Handbells – Kathy Tugman

Zammarin – Tarbell Patten, Kathy Tugman

Bluegrass – James Kee
Scheduler – Renee Leavens
Children's Chapel – Leslie Goff
Altar Guild – Cathy Robbins (8:00), Wendy Roth/Kitty Kay
Liturgical Arts Guild—Sarah McKenzie, Lena Dot Templeton

EDUCATION/FORMATIONBill Chimley – Vestry liaison

Children's Sunday School – Keith Barry, Erin Woodrow, Allie Thomas
EYC –Robert Hartmans, Alex Pirkle, Elizabeth Gaffney, Anna Dinwiddie
Children's Chapel –Alex Pirkle
Adult Christian Formation – Woody Piper, Lisa Parsons
Rector's Forum – clergy
Younger Adult Christian Formation – Bill Chimley
Adult Christian Education Series – Jim Dunbar
Nursery – Linda Gehron, Mitzi Ruth
Women's Book Study – Betty Ewing
Women's Bible Study – Donna Collier
Men's Book Study – Tom Williams
Confirmation Class – Clergy
Journey to Faith – Rick McEvoy, Nora Faris, Kitty Kay

EVANGELISMBlake Murchison – Vestry liaison

Welcoming Church – Betty Ewing
 Bread Ministry
 Greeters and Oblations
 Mentor Program
 Newcomer Activities
Community & Support Groups (scouts, AA)
Library Committee – Tiffany Quarfordt
Neighborhood Meetings – Beth Hackett
Preschool – Susan Laseter, Director

PASTORAL CAREDaniel Durant – Vestry liaison

Eucharistic Visitors – Katie Piper
Meal Ministry – Elizabeth Ruffner
Transportation – Daniel Durant
Prayer Shawl Ministry – Beth Hackett
Card Ministry – Carol Llewelyn, Barbara Warner
Birthday Caller – Betty Ewing
Flower Delivery – Leslie Brannon
Prayer List – Daniel Durant, Jenna Haines
Intercessory Prayer/Prayer Chain – Anne Johnson, Katie Piper

New Baby Ministry – Leatha Plank, Samantha Ward
Yoga – Sandi Pierce, Anne Johnson

STEWARDSHIP..... Leigh Althaus – Vestry liaison

Stewardship Committee
Annual campaign – Leigh Althaus, Patrick Emanuel
Gifts and Talents/Volunteer coordination – Darrington Crane
On This Rock Endowment – Buddy Werner, Patrick Emanuel
Yearlong Stewardship – Leigh Althaus

ADMINISTRATION:

OFFICE AND COMMUNICATIONS..... Uno Avisto – Vestry liaison

General office & finance – Amy Sandy, Cary Haney
Finance Committee – Sharon Hamrick
Personnel Committee – Woody Piper
Memorial Contributions

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS Joe Johnson – Vestry liaison

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Trey Palmer
Grounds Committee
 Memorial Gardens Committee – Allison Chimley
 Outdoor Commons – Scott Mattice
Buildings Committee
 Space and Storage Committee--Tiffany Quarfordt
 Stained Glass Windows Committee – Bill Wilkerson
 Cross and Altar Committee – Bob McKenzie
Physical Survey – Lamar Hutcheson
Disaster Response Committee – TBD
 Disaster Preparation
 Respond and Recover

AGENDA FOR THE 2015 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

1. Call to order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Presentation of the Slate of Candidates for Vestry/Vote
4. Treasurer's Report and Budget Discussion
5. SWEEPSA Reports
7. Rector Report
8. Senior Warden Report
9. Other Business/Open Forum
10. Concluding Prayer
11. Adjournment

The By-Laws of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church provide for an Annual Parish Meeting for the election of the Vestry and for the purpose of presenting annual reports of parish organizations. All confirmed Communicants of the parish in good standing who are at least sixteen (16) years of age are eligible to vote at the meeting. Fifty (50) such Communicants must be present to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Voting by proxy is not permitted.

CANDIDATES FOR THE VESTRY 2016-2018

Bill Chimley

I have been a member of St. Timothy's since 2011. My spouse, Alison, and daughters, Catherine and Virginia, enjoy participating in all that this parish has to offer. I have facilitated the Sunday School offering "Young at Heart" (often referred to as YAH) since 2013. Additionally, I currently serve on the Christian Formation Committee, which recently led me to fill the temporary Christian Education liaison vacancy on the Vestry; I have successfully carried out this role since midsummer.

Previously, I have taught chapel and High School Sunday School and participated in a Shared Ministry Discernment Team at our prior parish, Good Samaritan, in Knoxville. I work at Komatsu in their Supply Chain Division. I enjoy everything outdoors, especially the hiking trails that Signal Mountain has to offer.

Adam U. Holland

I grew up in Red Bank, where I graduated from High School in 1999. My immediate family is from the Chattanooga area. My wife, Genimar, is from Venezuela. We have two children, William and Isabel, both of whom have been baptized in the Episcopal Church.

Genimar and I began attending St. Timothy's in the fall of 2013 and now consider it our church home. We have been abundantly blessed by the wonderful people of the parish and are thankful for the opportunity to serve. Genimar was raised Catholic, and I was raised Pentecostal. Neither of us, however, felt comfortable in the faith traditions of our upbringing. We were fortunate to find the Episcopal Church, a Christian faith tradition that felt right for our family, about six years ago. I am thankful that my spiritual journey led me to St. Timothy's and look forward to raising my children in this wonderful church.

In my professional life, I am a Tennessee lawyer. I practice commercial and general civil litigation, as well as volunteering time for the legal clinic offered by Metropolitan Ministries. I also currently serve on the board for the Partnership for Adult, Children, and Families.

I have been asked if I would be willing to run for a position on St. Timothy's Vestry, and I am honored to have been considered. If elected, I would dedicate my time and professional expertise to my duties and responsibilities to the Vestry and our Parish.

Tony Hullender

I was born and raised in Chattanooga but, between college, graduate school, and military service, lived away for almost twenty years. Our family (Tina, Faith-22, and Garrett-18) has lived on Signal Mountain for 17 years. I've been employed by BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee for ten years.

Neither Tina nor I are cradle Episcopalians. When we married, I was Methodist, and she was Baptist. We visited several churches before settling in the Episcopal Church about 25 years ago. However, we've been at St. Timothy's for long enough now that it's hard to remember being anywhere else. Membership at St. Timothy's has been a great spiritual grounding force for me in a life that we often let get too hectic.

In addition to attending services, I've enjoyed serving as a Lector, Intercessor, and Greeter, as well as volunteering with Family Promise. I believe my varied life experiences (living in two foreign countries, serving as an Army officer, and working as an attorney and corporate executive) have helped me develop leadership and problem-solving skills that would be useful to the Vestry and the congregation.

Lamar Hutcherson

I have been a member of St. Timothy's for the past five years and have been a pledging member throughout. My service to St. Timothy's has included singing in the choir for the past three years, attending the Men's Book Study, helping with Family Promise for three years, and going on the NOLA 11 mission trip to New Orleans to help restore homes destroyed by Hurricane Katrina.

Prior to moving to Signal Mountain, I attended Central Christian Church in Columbus, Georgia. During my time at Central Christian, I served as deacon for two years and an elder for one. I was on the board of trustees, New Building Planning Committee, and helped serve evening meals weekly for the Food for Manna program.

I also previously attended South Park Christian Church in Charlotte, North Carolina, where I sang in the choir and served on the long range planning project. I was on the Board of Directors for Habitat for Humanity in Monroe, North Carolina.

Lastly, I attended University Christian Church, where I completed the Stephen Ministries program.

Hiram G. “Chip” Langley III

I have been an active member of St. Timothy’s for 12 years. I currently serve as Head Usher and a member of the Worship Committee. I previously served as a Eucharistic Minister. I was a Convention Delegate at the 2013 East Tennessee Diocesan Convention and served on the Search Committee that selected Fr. Hill as our Rector.

I grew up in Chattanooga, where most my family were active members of First Cumberland Presbyterian Church. After graduating from The University of the South at Sewanee, I was confirmed into the Episcopal Church in Marion, Alabama. Since then, I have been an active member of the Episcopal Church in states where I have lived, such as Alabama, Oklahoma, and Tennessee. I have served on the Vestry, served as Jr. Warden, served as Treasurer, and served on two search committees.

My wife, Betty Ann, and I are a blended family of four children and 14 grandchildren. I am retired after several years of teaching and coaching and 40 years in the mortgage industry.

Judith Miller

One of my first adult decisions at 18, after going off to college, was to become confirmed in the Episcopal Church right around the corner from my dorm room—unusual college freshman story, right? But that decision placed me on a life path that has been truly amazing, a path that led me to a little island church near Charleston, South Carolina, where I met my husband, Paul Miller, known to many of you as the St. Timothy’s “Christmas Tree” guy.

We have two sons, Mitchell, who is 28 and lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Emerson, who is 19 and lives in Chattanooga. Because of Paul’s job, we have lived all over the United States and have found our home in the parishes of each city in which we have lived. My home church is my place to worship, to study, to make dear friends, and to become connected with my community through the outreach that I am involved in.

One area of the church that I have never served is on the vestry. I have always assumed that it has been God’s plan to use me in other facets of the church, but, when I was asked to consider having my name included on the slate of candidates, I prayerfully considered making myself open to the opportunity. I look forward to seeing what God has planned for me next.

Catherine (Cathy) Robbins

I am a Chattanooga native and have been a contributing member of St. Timothy's since February 1999. Jim and I married in 1994 at St. Paul's, where I was a member before transferring here. I have two grown step-children, Walker Robbins and Elizabeth Robbins, and one granddaughter, Whitney Robbins.

I grew up in the Catholic Church but converted to the Episcopal Church as an adult. I graduated from Notre Dame High School, Loyola University in New Orleans (BS Medical Technology), and Owen School of Vanderbilt University (MBA). My work experience includes nine years as Director of Financial Planning at Memorial Healthcare System, ten years as Financial Consultant at Unum, and five years as Controller at Richmond Graduate University. In August 2015, I retired to enjoy the benefits of catching up on projects at home and reconnecting with family and friends. I am a long-time member of the Altar Guild and have been in charge of the Chapel Altar Guild for most of that time. I am also a member of the Worship Committee. Outside of St. Timothy's, I have served on the boards of several non-profit organizations over the past 30 years, including Chattanooga Civitan Club, Epilepsy Foundation of Southeast Tennessee, Chattanooga Ballet, and Reflection Riding.

I humbly submit my name to serve on the St. Timothy's Vestry and promise to serve you responsibly if elected.

Frederick "Rick" Sommer

My wife, Willie, and I began attending St. Timothy's a year ago and became pledging members for 2015. Since then, I have joined the Men's Book Study, ushered at the 8 o'clock service, became a contributor for the Community Kitchen, and volunteered at MetMin downtown.

Prior to moving to Alexian Village last year, we lived in Sewanee for eight years. It was there that we became Episcopalians, and I served as Treasurer at Otey Parish. I also became active at the St. Mary's Sewanee Retreat Center and St. Mary's Convent. During this time, I served the Board of both organizations. In addition, while attending morning mass at the convent, I participated as an Acolyte, Reader, and Server. I also availed myself of several courses at the College and School of Theology.

I retired as a manufacturing executive after 38 years with Ford, Nissan, and two suppliers. My hobbies include reading, spending time with our granddaughters, outreach, and continued spiritual development.

TREASURER'S REPORT

2015 has been an exciting year in the life of St. Timothy's with the long-awaited calling of our new rector. The vestry, clergy, and staff have been good stewards of the financial gifts provided to carry out the various ministries of our parish.

Attached to this report are two presentations of our 2015 budget. The first contains the expenses categorized by the traditional SWEEPSA format, which we have used for many years now as a means of organizing the categorizing parish activities.

The second format presents the budget on a Ministry-Focused basis. This method of allocating the budget has been adopted by many parishes across the country, recognizing that essentially all of the expenses included in the budget of the parish are dedicated to some aspect of the ministry of the parish. As can be seen in the pie chart, our financial gifts are supporting our music and worship, Christian education, pastoral care, inreach, and outreach through our diocesan pledge and other direct financial outreach. As the total pie grows larger through a growing budget, so can each slice of the pie.

The finance committee and the vestry are in the process of developing proposals for the 2016 budget. Your vestry will approve a budget for 2016, after prayerful consideration, based on pledges and how we can use these financial gifts to continue to nurture our spiritual growth and spread God's kingdom outside our doors.

Looking forward, there are many opportunities and challenges facing us that will be expounded upon in the reports from various areas. These will include the continuation and enhancement of various ministries, as well as some new opportunities. We must also always be mindful of the requirements necessary to maintain and enhance our church facilities.

2015 BUDGET

2015 INCOME BUDGET

2015 Pledge income	\$ 700,500
Prior year pledges received in 2015	3,000
Plate offering	30,000
Preschool overhead	6,500
Special offerings	3,000
Reallocation of designated funds for rector compensation	25,000
Reallocation of unrestricted reserve funds	53,572
	<u>\$ 821,572</u>

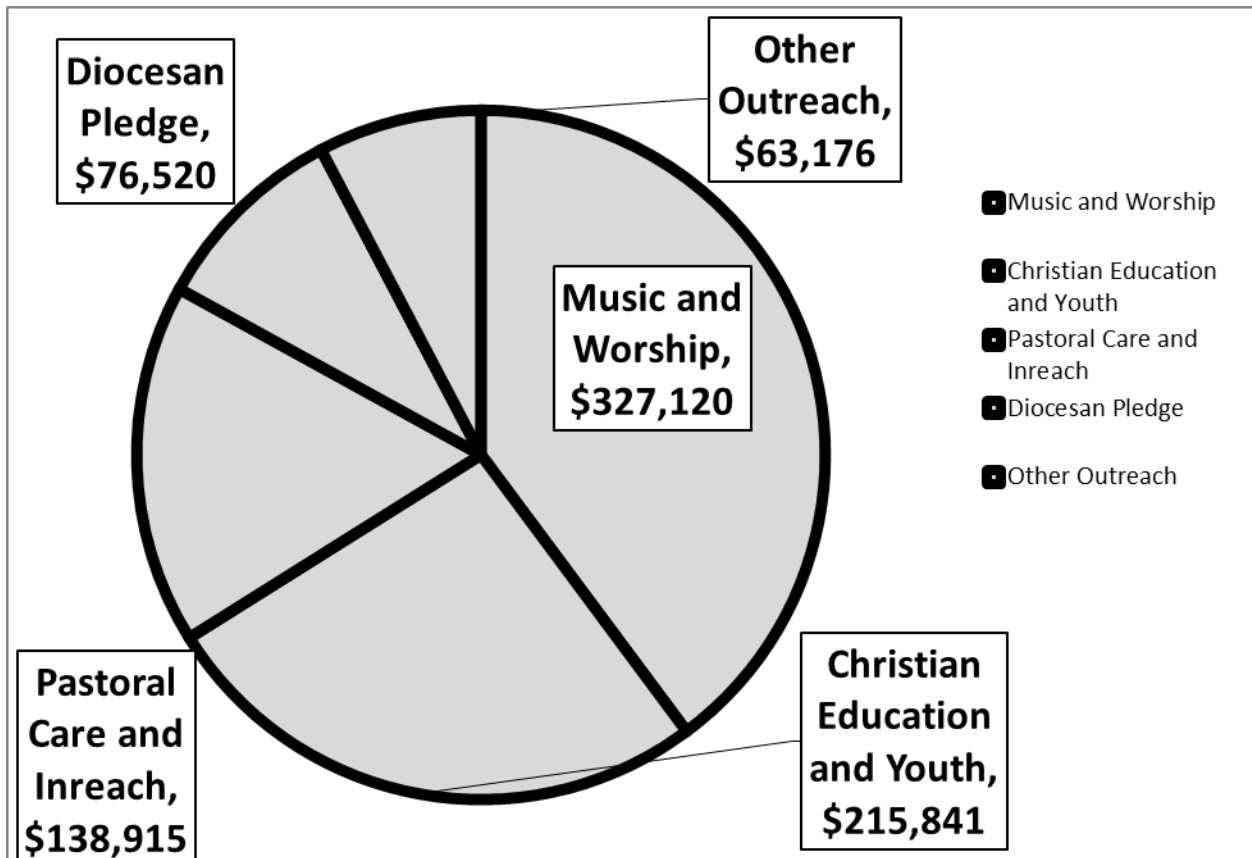
2015 BUDGET BY SWEEPSA AREA

Administrative and support	\$ 568,118
Buildings and grounds	70,980
Christian education commission	23,496
Evangelism/newcomer ministry	615
Diocesan pledge	76,520
Other local outreach	44,909
Parish life commission	11,250
Pastoral care	500
Stewardship commission	6,380
Worship/music ministry	18,805
	<u>\$ 821,572</u>

2015 BUDGET BY MINISTRY-FOCUSED AREA

Music and Worship	\$ 327,120
Christian Education and Youth	\$ 215,841
Pastoral Care and Inreach	\$ 138,915
Diocesan Pledge	\$ 76,520
Other Outreach	\$ 63,176
	<u>\$ 821,572</u>

2015 BUDGET Continued . . .



SWEEPSA MINISTRY REPORTS

Service Inreach

**Ministries, social activities, fellowship within the Parish.
Tonda Rawls, Vestry Liaison**

The year 2015 has been an exciting one for Inreach, entirely due to the commitment and dedication of the parishioners, who have given their time and talents to the various ministries, which serve the members of the St. Timothy's community.

This year we have had numerous events:

1. The reception honoring the visit to St. Timothy's by Bishop Young
2. The farewell reception of John Talbird, Interim Rector
3. Welcoming reception of our new Rector, Father Derrick Hill
4. Ladies luncheon welcoming Beverly Hill
5. Progressive dinner
6. Shrimp boil event
7. Homecoming Sunday meal on the grounds with bluegrass music

All of these events would not have been possible without the help of many people who volunteered to make them happen. There is always room for more. Anyone who might be interested in coordinating or volunteering to assist with future events is invited to contact Tonda Rawls, Vestry Liaison, at 423-290-8762.

Other ministry areas within Inreach also have seen the continuation and development of their own sub-ministries. The Women of St. Timothy's (WOST) help outreach via the operation of the St. Timothy's Thrift Shop. The Men of St. Timothy's (MOST) provide an annual sale of Christmas trees and wreaths.

Supper Club continues with its once-a-month fellowship dinners. If interested in being a host, please contact Tonda Rawls.

Inreach is looking forward to a 2016 with lots of service and fellowship, and we look forward to seeing many new faces.

Outreach

Ministries to people outside the Parish John MacCoon, Vestry Liaison

In our church profile, we proclaim that we are a congregation “driven by its passion for doing good works in the world.” Among our top priorities is “expanding outreach ministries that provide direct services to those living on the margins of society.”

And in 2015, our outreach efforts did expand.

The Outreach Commission discretionary budget was about 50 percent higher in 2015 than in 2014, totaling \$22,686.

We added new ministries, as well. We now serve ten principal ministries:

- Metropolitan Ministries
- St. Isidore’s Hands
- Family Promise (IHN)
- NEEMA Resettlement Ministry
- Community Kitchen/Maclellan Family Shelter
- Signal Mountain Social Services
- Children’s Nutrition Program of Haiti
- Honduras Medical Mission
- St. Timothy’s Thrift Shop
- Hosanna Community

We serve these and other ministries through our time, talents, and financial support.

We also, with the help of Jenna Haines, produced a pamphlet this year for newcomers and others looking for ways to serve that summarizes our outreach ministries and provides contact information.

In 2015, our outreach discretionary budget represents 2.76 percent of the church’s operation budget. To continue “expanding outreach ministries” in accord with our stated goal, we are proposing a 2016 outreach budget that grows to 5 percent of the church’s operating budget. Through your continuing generosity we can achieve this goal.

We thank all of you who have worked so diligently in 2015 on behalf of our outreach ministries.

Worship

The groups and activities that support our worship services.

Cathy Pyron, Vestry Liaison

Highlights:

- Welcome to our new rector, Fr. Derrick Hill!
- Debut of the 5 p.m. service in September, which gives the option now of a 3rd service outside of the summer season. This is in response to the needs of St. Timothy's continued growth and Fr. Derrick's vision of a service reaching out to people looking for an alternate time of worship, a distinct musical offering, and a more casual service. "Blue Grass and Stained Glass" has been our initial offering and will be followed with "A Celtic Advent" during Advent.
- The Rev. Robert Hartmans announced his departure effective the end of 2015. His replacement has yet to be selected.

The Church year with Worship:

January saw the annual visit of Bishop George Young on January 18, complete with a Bishop's forum, Eucharist, and a brunch reception afterwards. In **February**, St. Timothy's presented an Epiphany pageant on February 1 in place of the normal liturgy at the 10:30 service. The Lenten season was ushered in on Ash Wednesday on February 18, with services held at 7 a.m., noon, and 7 p.m., and "come and go" ashes available for those unable to make service times. The Nave was rearranged for Lent, with the altar located at the center of the nave to visually reiterate the introspection of the season.

March saw the departure of Deacon Suzanne Burch on March 8, Fr. John Talbird on March 15, followed by the arrival of Fr. Derrick Hill on March 22. This was immediately followed by Holy Week from March 29 to April 4. Holy Week started with Palm Sunday service, including the procession in front of the church (thanks again to RL and Elliot William, and "Huey" the donkey!). This was followed by a Maundy Thursday service in the evening, Stations in the Nave at noon on Good Friday, and the Good Friday Liturgy in the Chapel at 6:30 p.m., climaxing with sunrise vigil service at 6:30 a.m. on Easter morning and a Eucharist at 10:30 a.m. The Nave returned to normal arrangement for Easter morning.

May 17 saw the return of the 9 a.m. service in the outdoor Commons, with Pentecost celebrated on May 24. The Celebration for the Renewal of Ministry and the Installation of The Rev. Derrick C. Hill as Ninth Rector of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church was held on Wednesday, May 20, at 6:30 p.m. The Right Rev. George D. Young III presided and, at the beginning of the service, consecrated the newly built altar in the Outdoor Commons.

We had a good, more relaxed summer season through the months of **June** and **July**. **August** included our Worship Focused Sunday on August 16, in which we recruited several new volunteers for our ministries.

September brought a close to the 9 a.m. service on September 6 and the strong beginning of the 5 p.m. Bluegrass and Stained Glass on September 20. In **October**, we celebrated the Blessing of the Animals in the outdoor Commons area on October 4.

November started this year with a busy All Saints' Day on November 1, where we saw 3 baptisms and the pageantry of some of our children processing with saints' banners. Upcoming, we will have a simple Thanksgiving Service on Wednesday evening, November 25, in the Labyrinth, and the beginning of Advent on November 29. This day, we will see the transition from bluegrass to Celtic music for the 5 p.m. service.

In **December** we anticipate a beautiful Advent season, with the climax of Christmas Eve of "Christmas Lessons and Carols" on Thursday, December 24th. We will be offering 3 services on that day: the popular 4 pm "Family Friendly" service, along with 7 pm music service and 10 pm candlelight service. A "come as you are" Christmas pageant will precede the 4 pm service.

The ministries in Worship: The names mentioned below are the contacts or leaders for each ministry. Thank you to each and every one of you!

- **Altar Guild/ Flower Guild** – Wendy Roth.
- **Acolytes** – Nora Faris (We got new robes this year!)
- **Children's Chapel** – started off 2015 under the leadership of Leslie Goff and ran through May; started up again in September with our intern, Alex Pirkle. It is anticipated that Children's Chapel will transition into Christian Education's management in 2016.
- **Eucharistic Ministers** – Bill Steverson (We got new training manuals!)
- **Liturgical Arts Guild** – Sarah McKenzie and Lena Dot Templeton
- **Lectors and Intercessors** – Dave Maley
- **Ushers** – Chip Langley (He has updated the training manual for us and had a retraining session in June.)
- **Wedding Guild** – Keith Barry and Allie Thomas

MUSIC DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2015

Here are the highlights of the 2014-2015 season for the Music Department at St. Timothy's:

- The season began with the planning of a Harvest Hymn Festival for the community, a joint sponsorship between St. Timothy's and Signal Mountain Baptist Church, in an effort to return ecumenical worship to the community. St. Timothy's Choir and Choristers participated along with adult and children's choirs from the Baptist church. The event was held Sunday, 23 November 2014, at the Baptist church, followed by a full

Thanksgiving meal. About 350 were in attendance, and the offering was donated to Signal Mountain Social Services.

- In the Fall, the children's singing choirs began work on a new project, a Christmas Dinner Theatre held December 7, 2014 in the Parish Hall, featuring a musical show, "Room for Christmas," directed by Michael Dexter, our Broadway theatre-experienced director of the Young Singers/Ringers. Numbers in both choirs grew as we moved toward this performance. Members of the adult choir supported this effort by smoking the meat and providing sides and desserts. This project was a successful fundraiser for the choir program, producing a Chorister Scholarship Fund with the proceeds and several generous gifts. The fund assists with Chorister participation in the annual Nashville Chorister Festival and Charlotte Course of the Royal School of Church Music in America.
- Jazz Vespers with Kathy Tugman and the David Walters Trio was held on January 25, 2015.
- Both St. Timothy's Choristers and St. Timothy's Ringers participated in a Children's Evensong, featuring area Episcopal church choirs and a choir from Alabama was held at 4:00 p.m. on February 8, 2015 at St. Paul's Church, Chattanooga.
- Four Choristers participated with other local Episcopal choir members in a Chorister Festival at Christ Church Cathedral, Nashville, singing the morning Eucharist and Evensong on March 8, 2015.
- St. Timothy's Handbell Choir participated in the Chattanooga Handbell Festival March 20-21, 2015.
- St. Timothy's Choir participated in an Evensong by area adult Episcopal choirs on the Feast of the Ascension, May 14, 2015, at St. Paul's, Chattanooga, at 7:30 p.m.
- One Chorister participated with choristers from St. Paul's Church in the Charlotte Course of the Royal School of Church Music in America July 6-12, 2015.
- We held our first "Children's Choir Rally Day" sampler rehearsal and pool party on September 13, 2015.
- Members of St. Timothy's Choir participated in a hymn festival led by Richard Webster (Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston) at All Saints' Chapel, Sewanee, on September 26, 2015.
- St. Timothy's hosted "Pedals, Pipes and Pizza," sponsored by the Chattanooga Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO), on October 19, 2015. It was attended by 75 children dressed in Halloween costumes, and they were introduced to the organ by local AGO members, who were also dressed in costume.
- Also, Zammarin was able to purchase new in-ear monitors. This is part of our continued attempts to improve sound quality.

Upcoming highlights of the 2015-2016 season for the Music Department at St. Timothy's:

- St. Timothy's will host the Harvest Hymn Festival, sponsored by the Signal Mountain Ministerial Association, on Sunday, November 22, 2015, at 5:00 p.m., followed by a reception.
- St. Timothy's Choristers and the Young Singers/Ringers will produce a Christmas Musical and Dinner Theatre in the Parish Hall on Sunday, December 6, at 6:00 p.m.; this year's musical is "*Radio J-O-Y-!* Where the Best Songs are Songs about Christmas."
- A Jazz Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. on January 31, 2016, with Jazz Vespers held that afternoon 5:00.
- Children's Evensong will take place on Sunday, February 21, 2016, at 4:00 p.m. at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Lookout Mountain, with guest conductor Scott Hanoian from Christ Church, Grosse Point, MI.
- The Choristers will participate in the Nashville Chorister Festival led by Richard Webster March 5-6, 2016.
- St. Timothy's Choir will participate in an adult Evensong with area Episcopal choirs on the Feast of the Ascension, May 5, 2016, at St. Paul's Church, Chattanooga.

What else is coming in 2016 with Worship:

After Advent is over, we will revert back to Bluegrass theme for the 5 p.m. service starting January 3 and continuing through Epiphany on February 7. We will transition to a Celtic Lent from February 14 through March 20, and then begin Bluegrass again through the Easter season until the beginning of the summer outdoor service.

We are looking for improvements to the Nave in 2016 to enhance the worship experience. We are hoping to get the services of an acoustician to start a comprehensive plan to improve the sound in the Nave. We also have had our first meeting of a committee to improve the shelf area behind the Altar.

Education

Christian Education for Children, Youth and Adults

Bill Chimley, Vestry Liaison

St. Timothy's Christian Formation is growing.

It is growing in response to our parishioners desire to learn more about God, about our Church, and about each other. Our programs are well positioned for success due to thoughtful planning, as well as excited, supported, and well-trained instructors/facilitators. From a budgetary standpoint, while we are slightly behind YTD, we expect to arrive at the end of the year even.

Please come learn what it is to be “part of the human family in the image of God.” Feel free to look at this report to learn more about our Christian Formation offerings or contact The Rev. Derrick Hill or me, Keith Barry, with your questions.

CHILDREN

- Young Disciples Program (Pre-K through 5th Grade): Children learn about stories from the Old and New Testaments while sharing their faith with teachers and with each other. Trained storytellers bring the bible alive using props. Sunday mornings include music, arts, crafts, and games. The program is interactive and engaging. Faith and Fun are both high priorities. Meets at 9:30 a.m. in Room 17 for music!
- Vacation Bible School: A Summertime offering for the entire family's Christian formation. More information will be released on this website as next summer approaches.
- Children's Chapel During the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service: Children are invited to exit for Chapel at the Hymn of Praise and return at the Peace. Format is based on 'Celebrate the Good News' and provides children an experience that closely mirrors the Sunday readings.

YOUTH

- Journey of Faith for Youth (6th through 12th grade): Meets at 9:30 a.m. in Rooms 19 and 20. Youth are invited into a two-year program focused on discovering and sharing what it means to be teenagers figuring out their faith. This program serves as confirmation preparation and so much more. Youth enjoy breakfast together, build community with peers, watch videos, share stories, and discuss issues with their faith. Some conversations will be casual, and others will be more formal. Hot beverages will be served!
- EYC: Meets from 6 to 8 p.m. on Sundays. This group shares fellowship together through recreation, food, and devotional study. EYC leads the 5:00 p.m. service once a month, as well as occasionally venturing away from the church for service projects and social

events. This group is led by a dedicated group of parent volunteers. Parents of EYC members are welcome to participate in all EYC events, service projects, and gatherings. For more information, contact The Rev. Derrick Hill! All middle and high school-aged parishioners are encouraged to participate.

ADULT

- Confirmation classes are facilitated by the Clergy and begin this fall through Bread for the Journey. Contact The Rev. Derrick Hill for more details.
- YAH (Young at Heart Group): Meets on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. under the Choir Room. YAH works to foster fellowship, community, and growth by spending time discussing real life issues, deepening understanding of others and our spirituality, and discerning together who God would have us be in the world.
- Rector's Forum: Hear our clergy and guest speakers discuss a range of topics every Sunday from 9:30 to 10:20 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Forum includes table discussions and opportunities to share.
- Video Ministries: Enjoy a video series from the best minds and scholars of Holy Scripture and Christianity. Discuss these videos on Sunday mornings starting at 9:15 a.m. (note different start time). Class is facilitated by Jim Dunbar.
- EfM (Education for Ministry): Facilitated by Bill and Bess Steverson, the Education for Ministry (EfM) program provides people with the education to carry out ministry. During the Service of Confirmation, we ask God to "Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at Baptism. Send them forth in the power of the Spirit to perform the service you set before them." EfM offers an opportunity to discover how to respond to the call to Christian service. Contact Bill or Bess for more info.
- Cursillo: Facilitated by Paul and Judith Miller, Cursillo focuses on showing Christian lay people how to become effective Christian leaders over the course of a three-day weekend. The weekend includes fifteen talks called "rollos" given by both priests and lay people. Participants are asked to take what they have learned back into the world, on what is known as the "fourth day." The method stresses personal spiritual development, as accelerated by weekly group reunion (after the weekend).
- Bread for the Journey: Facilitated by Derrick Hill, this class provides an opportunity for our parishioners to dive deeper into their faith by sharing it with others. The group has dinner, a presentation, and then breaks into small groups to discuss a topic. Be present with others as they think about who they are spiritually on their journey. Preparatory for Confirmation.

St. Timothy's Christian Formation also supports seasonal offerings like Lent, as well as the nursery during Sunday School, church services, and/or other parental events.

Evangelism

Welcoming visitors and incorporating new members.

Blake Murchison, Vestry Liaison

The primary focus of Evangelism at St. Timothy's is the welcoming of visitors and new members into the parish. Every week's services this past year have been graced with the presence of new faces. These individuals are made to feel at home, not only through the continuing Bread Ministry of Betty Ewing, but through the many members of our community who go out of their way to greet unfamiliar faces.

In order to help new members become incorporated into the parish, this year, a new member information packet has been created largely through the efforts of Jenna Haines and contributed to by the clergy and the leaders of the various ministries. It is our hope that, by providing information about the church and its ministries, new members will more easily find their places and their ideal ministries within the community.

In addition, we will see the beginning of small-scale newcomers receptions to welcome new members to the church in the coming year. Father Derrick has been kind enough to volunteer his home for these receptions, and our hope is to have these events quarterly.

Probably the largest ministry area that comes under the umbrella of Evangelism is St. Timothy's Episcopal Preschool, or S.T.E.P.S. The past year has seen another successful year of fun and education for our community's children, in addition to the wildly popular Butterfly Brunch fundraiser. Unfortunately, I know very little about the Butterfly Brunch beyond its success and popularity because, alas, men are not invited. Maybe someday.

The preschool also underwent some renovations this summer. Due to the increased demand for Pre-Kindergarten, the classroom space being used was no longer adequate. This summer saw some redirecting of hallways and exits and the combination of two smaller classrooms to accommodate both increased numbers of children in the program and safety concerns.

Pastoral Care

Caring for one another in illness or other special circumstances.

Daniel Durant, Vestry Liaison

- An open invitation exists for our entire Parish to help those in need of attention, comfort and prayer
- Assistance needed for Eucharistic Visitors, Meal providers, Prayer Shawl knitters, and other ministries described in the Parish directory
- Our Parish is thankful Barbara Warner and Carol Lewallen have deftly continued our card writing ministry after the loss of Samantha White.

The Pastoral Care Ministries are teams of volunteers who ensure members of our Parish are cared for in illness, family crisis, birth, and death. Previous leadership organized a Ministry that communicates the needs of our Parish within in these committees and our Clergy. St. Timothy's volunteers and staff are an amazing force within our church. Below are the various ministries:

Birthday Callers: Each member of St Timothy's receives a call on their birthday. There are seven callers who share that special call. This is a great way to let our parishioners know that they are loved and appreciated. It is especially meaningful for the children in our church. If we do not have your birth date please call St. Timothy's church office at 886-2281 and give Jenna Haines, our church secretary and communications manager, your information. This ministry is under the leadership of Betty Ewing. If you have any questions or would like to get involved, please call her at 886-1770.

Card Ministry: Carol Lewallen and Barbara Warner send cards from St. Timothy's to those who have had a recent illness, surgery, death, etc. To get involved, contact Carol at 423-886-5097 or Barbara at 423-886-3368.

Eucharistic Visitors: During each service on Sunday morning after we have received the Holy Eucharistic ourselves, we, the congregation of St. Timothy's, send forth a Eucharistic Visitor bearing the gifts of the Holy Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ to members of our congregation who cannot be with us because of illness or infirmity. In doing so, the Eucharistic Visitors on our behalf, are including those recipients by extension into our community of faith. This ministry is under the leadership of Sissie Hodges If you have any questions or would like to get involved, please contact her at 886-5136 or sissiehodges@gmail.com.

Flower Ministry: The Flower Ministry, led by Leslie Brannon, delivers altar flowers each Sunday to our sick or homebound members, and for other special occasions. This service brings part of the beauty and life four services to the homes of our parishioners. Join this ministry and see how a mere arrangement of flowers can brighten someone's whole day. If you have any questions or would like to get involved with the Flower Ministry, please call Leslie Brannon at 423-886-6292 or email her at leslieb@epbfi.com.

Intercessory Prayer Group: This group meets every Monday morning at 9:00 in the chapel to pray. Confidentiality is always observed. If you would like to join us on Monday morning or would like more information or would like to add a name to the Intercessory Prayer List please contact Anne Johnson at 423-886-2817 (home), 423-645-0876 (cell) or at midnight@epbfi.com.

Meal Ministry is under new leadership and expresses care and support by providing meals to those in the parish who are suffering or recuperating from an illness or injury, having a baby, or the death of a family member. The Meal Ministry uses emails and telephone to schedule meals for short-term situations. Scheduling for long term needs is more easily handled using the MealTrain website. If you would like to get involved, contact Leaba Cash at 423-886-4087 or hrcash1@bellsouth.net.

New Baby Ministry: Leatha Plank and Samantha Ward welcome babies into our parish family. They bring a basket of items for the baby, a special prayer, a children's book about God, and an instructional book about Baptism at St. Timothy's. You can call Samantha Ward at 423-580-2368.

Prayer Chain: Organized by Katie Piper, members of this group are relayed information on any prayer needs of the congregation. To get involved, contact Katie Piper at 423-886-6550 or kwpiper1@comcast.net.

Prayer List for St. Timothy's is located in the Sunday bulletin and is read aloud by the intercessor during the service. Names are placed on this list for various reasons including illness, surgery, birth, death, etc. If you would like to put you or a loved one on the prayer list, contact Daniel Durant at 423-886-5755 or durantstt@gmail.com or the church office at 423-886-2281 or sttims@sttimsignal.com.

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Throughout the ages, shawls have come to symbolize shelter, peace and spiritual sustenance. Whether they are called Prayer Shawls, Comfort Shawls, or Peace Shawls, the shawl maker begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient. The intentions are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. When the shawl is completed, a final blessing is offered before the shawl is sent on its way. Some recipients have continued the kindness by making a shawl and passing it onto someone in need. Thus, the blessing ripples from person-to-person, with both the giver and receiver feeling the unconditional embrace of a sheltering, mothering God! If you would like to be a part of St. Timothy's Prayer Shawl Ministry, please contact Beth Hackett at 423-400-5540 or email her at bethhackett@epbfi.com.

Transportation Ministry will provide rides to and from church, as well as medically related appointments. If you would like to get involved, contact Daniel Durant at 423-886-5755 or durantstt@gmail.com.

Yoga: Yoga is meditation in motion. It is the joining of mind and body, leading to strength, vitality and peace of mind. Yoga is both preventative and therapeutic. Yoga classes are Monday evenings at 5:30, and Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at 9:00. Fees are \$100 for a card good for 10 classes. If you have any questions, contact Sandi Pierce at 423-886-6989 or sandpierce@aol.com.

Stewardship

The pledge campaign and year-round stewardship awareness.

Leigh Althaus, Vestry Liaison

- Stewardship is how we take care of the gifts and resources God has provided for us all the time. It, therefore, involves all that we do in our ministries, our inreach, and our outreach throughout the entire year.
- The stewardship campaign is an annual effort to give back to God a proportionate share of the financial gifts bestowed upon us.
- St. Timothy's is beginning to evolve into a Church in which stewardship is part of everything that goes on in our daily ministries and mission—all that we do with all that we have all of the time. It is neither separate nor apart from those ministries, and, in a sense, those ministries are manifestations of our stewardship of God's beneficence to our Church, our community and the world of which we are part.

Our stewardship campaign is ongoing at this time. This campaign last year, concluding in the beginning of 2015, saw pledges from 183 families and individuals in the Church donating a total of \$689,466. We have also seen an increase in our plate offerings, thanks in part to the new families making this Church their home, and to the vibrant and giving Church for which St. Timothy's is known.

AAdministration

Business functions, infrastructure, and daily operations

Office and Communications

Uno Avisto, Vestry Liaison

In the communications sector, significant steps have been taken to improve St. Timothy's visibility and to strengthen our message, particularly through the church's website and our growing social media platforms, which now clearly dominate over other options in both functionality and reach.

The newly designed website, maintained by Jenna Haines, is now more aesthetically appealing, less confusing, and serves more practical purposes. While many forms were already available online in pdf form, parishioners can now electronically fill out visitor cards and prayer requests, view the current bulletin and announcements, write reviews, submit orders (like in the case of this year's MOST Christmas Trees & Wreath sale, which is currently online), and contact the church—all directly through the website. When forms are submitted online, the server immediately e-mails the information to the church office and all other important contacts, helping ensure that important information is delivered to the person who needs it expediently.

The website also now has an operating blog. This medium provides us with the opportunity to share information, showcase our church and its ministries, and entertain guests and parishioners alike in more multi-dimensional and creative ways. Blog posts, in their inherent design, are easily shared across all social media platforms. This helps add to our social media presence and increases the likelihood that important messages will reach the intended recipients. The blog, when updated frequently, also increases our website's position on Google Search because of an algorithm that places blog posts higher on the search due to their timely nature.

Jenna is currently working on adding more electronic forms to the website (such as membership forms) and is developing a strategy and schedule for the blog that will ensure it's utilized for maximum effect.

As touched on previously, we have drastically increased our social media use over the last year. We have been posting on the Facebook page more often and using Facebook ads to market events, such as the Harvest Hymn Festival (last November and this November) and the start of the Bluegrass evening service. We have created a YouTube channel and added videos and playlists, which allow us to advertise for events and showcase our different ministries in an engaging medium that is easily shared. Jenna, who manages the majority of these social media accounts, is currently researching more into YouTube and its possible uses, such as live streaming. We are also planning the launch of a Twitter and Instagram account; we are

researching how to optimize our use of these applications so that we have a clear direction and purpose before presenting them to the public.

Outside of the online spectrum, we have developed a more efficient and comprehensive system in how we handle visitors and new members. Jenna created a visitor packet, updated our letters, and developed an organization system that makes certain we don't let potential and new members fall through the cracks or feel neglected. This system was updated at the beginning of this fall, so we will hopefully see positive improvement in this area over the coming year.

Additionally, with the use of Adobe Illustrator, InDesign, and Photoshop, we have designed substantially more of our promotional materials (brochures, flyers, etc.) in-house this year than we have in years past, as well as having updated the appearance, information, and wording of our paper forms so that our materials and templates are more uniform, professional, and fit for the changing times.

Outside of the Communications and Marketing sector, we are on our way to meeting our needs for a part-time sexton through the hire of John Payne, who works early mornings during the week. However, we still have need of someone to work another 10 to 15 hours each week. Referrals from the parish in this regard would be greatly appreciated.

Last but not least, the Finance staff is in the process of evaluating the current accounting software. The objective is to consolidate and expand the church's contribution software in order to move from a traditional reporting mechanism to a ministry-focused, or fund accounting, reporting mechanism. The goal is to implement this conversion by 2016 year's end.

Buildings and Grounds

Joe Johnson, Vestry Liaison

Things to Consider: We need an elevator adjacent to the back parking lot because: 1) None of the handicapped parking spaces in front of the church are fully compliant and half are located on a slope (from the latter location, the mobility impaired find it very challenging even to exit their vehicle). In our back parking lot, we could have as many fully compliant parking spaces as necessary; 2) At funerals, it is not possible for a wheelchair bound person to proceed from the chancel or chapel to the memorial garden without being carried downstairs or being driven or pushed around to an entrance at the rear of the church. If there is a reception after interment, this process must be reversed; 3) If you are blessed with a long life and/or have parents, you will likely have need of an elevator one of these days.

Our upstairs bathrooms are not wheelchair compliant, nor are they adequate to accommodate the needs of parents with infants in need of diaper changing or adult males. Imagine the impression these spaces make on visitors looking for a church home.

Accomplished this Year:

- The water damage to the chancel's "Creation Story" rose window and to the wall below the window was repaired, and the window is better than ever thanks to its new frame and the efforts of Bill Wilkerson, who supervised the effort, and Carol and Mike MacKinnon, who built the window frame.
- Joshua Gable's Eagle Scout project, Duke's Den, was dedicated over the summer. This project allows access to a cleared space below the rear parking lot that has benches and a fire pit. Both our new Cub Scout pack and the preschool are making use of this space.
- Our Commons Space and Altar was dedicated this last spring.
- All exterior doors were repaired and re-varnished. Previously, one could see light between the boards of the doors and the bridge doors were quite challenging to open or shut, not to mention lock.
- We are adding infant changing stations to both the downstairs bathrooms before the end of the year.
- With the approval of the Vestry, the generosity of the Butterfly Luncheon attendees, and the vision of the preschool parents and staff, the Preschool was able to combine two small classrooms. This renovation allowed the school to accept more students without an increase in staff.
- The Thrift Shop has new front steps and rails; the rail to the handicapped ramp was also restored to functionality.

Priorities for Next Year:

- We have several serious problems with ground water runoff. On November 25, we selected an engineering firm with the expertise to conduct the assessments and cost estimates necessary to address these issues. Eliminating water pouring through the rental house garage and into its basement will have priority because we cannot rent the house until these problems are corrected. Each month that this problem goes uncorrected, St. Timothy's loses about \$1,800 in rent.
- We must determine whether to construct a second fire escape exit at the back of the Parish Hall or to install sprinklers in this space. Making this decision has increased priority since we now are sponsoring a large Cub Scout pack.
- In 2016, we also need to make plans to change the layout of the men's bathroom and to convert the "family" bathroom into a fully accessible handicapped bathroom with a changing station. Wayne Williams has advised that this is the best option to address our needs within the space.

Longer Term Priorities:

- Sometime within the next two years, it is probable that the computer-controlled lighting system in the chancel will fail and will not be economically repairable. We are looking into the possibility of converting the existing system from computer to manual control.
- Within the next two years, the fire alarm system will likely fail as well; this system is obsolete and repair parts are unavailable.
- We need to conduct an inventory of church property and estimate time remaining before it will have to be replaced or repaired. This will be part of the long-term planning by our parish.

RECTOR'S REPORT

November 8, 2015

The Rev. Derrick C. Hill

I bid you greetings on this my first annual report as your rector. Since my arrival at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, I have heard my colleague, Robert, point out numerous times that "Christ is contingency." That is, Christ is on the move here. This has definitely been my experience, as well.

In the Senior Warden's report from 2014, David Head observed, "perhaps we are still in the wilderness, but we are beginning to see beyond the trees. It has been a good place for us and for all we have done together." My experience with you during the last seven months is that you have come out of the "wilderness," but your time in the wilderness was well spent. The many ministries and leadership roles that developed during the interim period are astounding. Shared ministry is not just a buzzword at St. Timothy's; it is a model for how we live together as the Body of Christ. The following are some areas of our common life that exemplify our shared ministry:

- **Pastoral Care:** Over 100 people are involved in pastoral care at St. Timothy's. This includes Eucharistic Visitors that carry the Sacrament each week to our homebound parishioners, sometimes as many as 16. Whenever someone experiences crises in our St. Timothy's family, our pastoral care teams kick in with meals, cards, flowers, etc.
- **Outreach:** Each week, participants in St. Isidore's Ministry gather in the kitchen and assemble a hot and cold meal for numerous families on the mountain that are in need. But it is not just feeding that they do; St. Isidore's is about building relationships and experiencing Christ. The works so many of you do in the wider community through our partner ministries, like Hosanna Community, Metropolitan Ministries, Community Kitchens, and so forth, are also examples of shared ministry.
- **Worship:** We have over 150 people that assist in every aspect of making the church and gospel accessible, and this does not include the participants in our many expressions of music.
- **Attendance:** We are seeing considerable growth in worship attendance. Since adding a 5:00 pm Sunday evening worship, our average Sunday attendance has been 270 as compared to 211 over the same period in 2014. We have welcomed numerous families into our parish and visitors continue to come.

I could continue with this list, but I think this gives you the picture of a parish that is alive and well, one in which Christ is on the move.

And finally, a key leader in St Timothy's emergence from the Wilderness in a far better state than before is The Rev. Robert Hartmans. We are eternally grateful for Robert's ministry and leadership during uncertain times, and through my recent transition. A few areas of our body that have benefited from Robert's presence with our youth, Bread for the Journey, our young families, pastoral care, sermons, weddings, education, etc. But the Holy Spirit has called on Robert to minister to the church outside these walls full-time. And now St. Timothy's can allow the Holy Spirit to bring another minister into our family.

The state of the parish is very good, but there are many opportunities for growth and development. With these opportunities, we need to share in prayerful discernment and choose our paths carefully, always remembering that Christ is contingency—on the move—here at St. Timothy's.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

David Head

A year ago, St. Timothy's had been in the wilderness for three years but was beginning to see beyond the trees. Now we have emerged from our interim wilderness with a permanent rector, Father Derrick Hill, who joined us on March 16.

We have experienced a lot of change during the last four years. While change often results in anxiety, it can also present us with new opportunities, new experiences, and new blessings. I think this has been the case for St. Timothy's. We were given the opportunity to examine our identity as a Church, and vision where we would like to be when we emerged from our interim wilderness. We got to know two outstanding and inspirational interim rectors along the way. Most importantly, we got to know each other along the way. Although St. Timothy's represents different things to different people, we discovered something along the way that the founders of St. Timothy's knew 62 years ago; that, together, we are St. Timothy's, and St. Timothy's is its people. Together, we could make a difference, and we did. Father Hill walked into a Church that was alive and growing and vibrant with activity and ministry. And it has only gotten better.

One of the tools we used for identifying who we were as a Church was the SWEEPSEA model, which organized our ministries around our core leadership. SWEEPSEA is an acronym for all of our ministries, and vestrypersons act as liaisons to them. These ministries and the people involved in them are at the heart of St. Timothy's, and the reports from these vestry liaisons are the core of this Annual Parish Report. The SWEEPSEA model is not perfect, as it tends to isolate the component ministries, and it is now time to begin shifting from this model into one focused on our programs at St. Timothy's—programs that support our ministries and, in turn, are supported by them and defined by them. So, once again, shift creates change, change creates anxiety, which all lead to opportunity and growth!

Our relationship with the Diocese of East Tennessee and Bishop George Young remains strong. St. Timothy's and Grace Episcopal Church will co-host next year's Diocesan Convention! Our clergy have been nothing less than phenomenal. While we sadly bade farewell to Father John Talbird and The Rev. Suzanne Burch in March, we gladly welcomed Father Derrick Hill and his wife, Beverly, to our parish. Father Robert Hartmans has been a blessing to St. Timothy's, and I think it is fair to say that he has learned from his experiences with us since his ordination, and we have learned immensely from him. He will be deeply missed at the end of the year when he moves on to the next phase of his life in Christ.

The Vestry, of course, are your agents and legal representatives in all matters of the parish concerning its corporate property and the relations of the parish to its clergy. That is what it says in the canons of the Episcopal Church, but that is all it says. It is much more than that. The vestry works together, and, in partnership with the rector, guides and governs the Church to support its

ministries and mission and to strategically vision the future of St. Timothy's. A few of the issues confronting the vestry this year were:

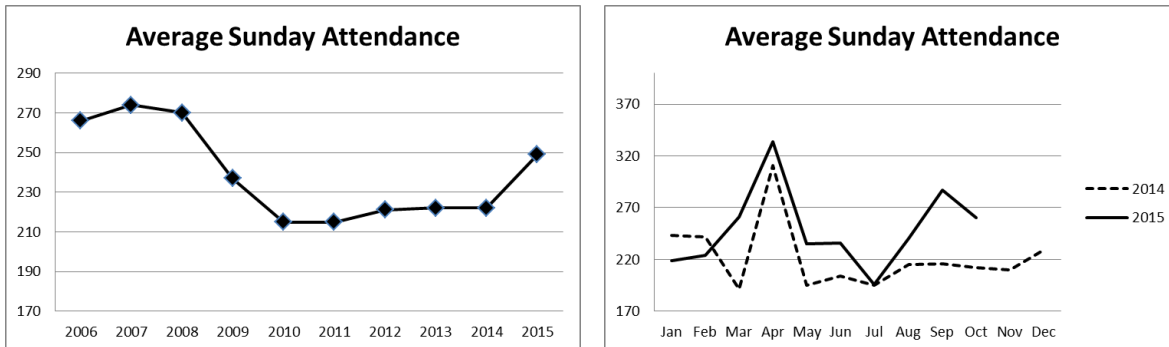
- Working with the Search Committee to call our new rector and with the Transition Committee to welcome him and his family to Signal Mountain and St. Timothy's.
- Working diligently to balance a very difficult budget, focusing on outreach and youth initiatives.
- Working to bring Cub Scout Pack 3076 with their 100 scouts and strong leadership to St. Timothy's as their charter church.
- Working with Father Hill to add an evening service, Bluegrass and Stained Glass.
- Working to revise and update St. Timothy's Building Use Policy, and revising its Bylaws.
- Working to approve the staff position for a Children's Christian Formation Director and a job description for this position.
- Honoring Sharon Hamrick after nine years as Treasurer and welcoming Nancy Ruby to this position.
- Working with a number of immediate issues with the physical plant, among others:
 - Extensive and expensive repairs of the God the Creator rose window in the nave, requiring six months of work
 - Water drainage plan
 - Plans to improve the rental property
 - Support for the Preschool in reconfiguring some of its classrooms
 - Repairs or replacements of two furnaces, the main red doors, fire alarm system issues, and other problems with a gradually aging facility

While St. Timothy's, its ministries, and parishioners have accomplished a great deal this year, there is yet much to do. We still need an elevator to open access to all areas of the Church for all of our parishioners, and we would still benefit from a mini-bus to assist our parishioners who cannot drive and to transport youth, choral, and other ministry groups to events. The acoustics of the nave still needs to be studied and improved. The list is long. While we have been generous with many of our programs and with our outreach, we lag behind in replenishing our reserve funds to keep our own house in order.

We have also realized that some of our problems are good problems. We are growing. We have many newcomers of diverse backgrounds and ages. We are at a size in which no one of us can know every single person in the Church (except Betty Ewing, of course). It is no longer possible for a single priest to meet all of our pastoral needs. It is not possible for a small group of people

to sustain all our ministries and their leadership, or for vestrypersons to both guide the Church and personally lead many of its ministries.

The first of these graphs depicts our average Sunday attendance over the last ten years, and the following graph shows our attendance by month for this year and last year:



Last year, we were at the cusp of becoming a program-sized church, and we are now there. Program sized churches are those with average Sunday attendance of more than 225. These churches constitute only 15 percent of Episcopal churches and are where 25 percent of all Episcopalians worship. Such growth requires changes in the organization and leadership of the church and its ministries. Again, change leads to anxiety, which leads to opportunity and growth!

Finally, and on a personal note, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to have served on your vestry and as your Senior Warden. I appreciate your support and the trust you have placed in me. I have learned so much more than I ever knew about our Church, our religious institutions and tradition, and the quality of the people who make up St. Timothy's. It has been an experience that I wish each of you can also share.