



SAINT TIMOTHY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

8101 Beechmont Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45255-3196
513-474-4445

THE CROSSBEAM

APRIL/MAY 2010

The Other Way. . .

As you may know we have had more than our fair share of burial services recently. Although the death of a member of our parish family is a significant loss, I and many others usually find the service to be extraordinarily uplifting. Why? When the church gathers to celebrate the life and witness of one of its members, we tap into the spring that gives us the “water of life (Rev. 21:6).”

What is this spring?

The spring is the love that binds us together. As I wait for a burial service to start, I am moved by watching the people arrive to attend the service. I am often surprised by who comes to someone's service. I find myself saying “Boy I didn't realize that they even knew each other.” I then find out that the departed had visited that person when she was in the hospital; they served together in the same ministry; and they sat together in the same pew for years. The service reveals the bonds of love that exist between people.

The spring is the service's affirmation that God's love is stronger than death. “Nothing,” writes St. Paul, “not even death can ever separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” When someone dies, our worship reminds us that God has overcome death in the resurrection of Jesus. The death of another assaults our mortality. We realize how much we fear death. We get distracted by all the things we have not done in life when we realize that our days will also come to an end one day. We mourn the dreams that never came true, the relationships that are broken, and our inability to overcome various personal issues. As we gather with our fears of things done and left undone, God has an opportunity to cast out our fears.

Of course, the spring is also the life of the person who has died. I am often struck by how the remembrances and sermons at funerals emphasize the mundane qualities of the person's life. Granted, some individuals have accomplished some pretty extraordinary things in the course of their life, and those accomplishments should be duly celebrated. Most, however, are remembered for having done the pedestrian stuff that keeps this world going. The New Testament refers to this ordinary stuff as ministry. Ministry, or diakonia in the New Testament Greek, is literally the dirty work. At one funeral I found myself moved by the number of times this mother, grandmother and great-grandmother had prepared meals for her family. I thought about all the school lunches prepared, all the dishes washed, all the clothes cleaned, all the beds made, all the diapers changed, all the homework checked, and so on. At another funeral we gave thanks for a woman who was infinitely patient. How blessed were her husband, children and friends to have a companion that had the capacity to love them so unconditionally! At another we celebrated a life steeped in daily prayer and the Word of God. If you have ever tried to maintain a daily practice of prayer and Bible study, you know how tough this is. We celebrated how her passion for God changed the lives of others.

As we celebrated these lives and what made them tick, we were reminded of our own lives and what makes us tick. We were reminded of the bonds of love we share in this community and how they make all the difference. We were reminded of the dirty work we do on a daily basis, and that this is the disciple's calling. We were reminded that death is not the last word; God's never ending love is. We were reminded that Christ is risen and with us now and forevermore, world without end. Alleluia!

Happy Easter Season!

Our Mission

The mission of St. Timothy's is to restore and deepen every human being's relationship with God and each other in Christ.

Why I Have Become Part of St. Timothy's

Reflections from members of this year's Inquirers' Class

Please keep all the candidates in your prayers as they prepare to be baptized, confirmed or received by Bishop Nedi Rivera on May 9.

Fabricia Duell
Samantha Dunn
David Ellis
Julie Gross

Ellen Guerrettaz
Richie Heimbrock
Bart Krebs
Connie Krebs

Carol Moore
Paul Spanja
William West

My partner and I attended the Brueggemann lectures last fall (2009). We met several people from the church during that time and felt very comfortable at St.



Timothy's. I was heavily involved in another denomination and local church at the time. While I was very comfortable with the community, I was growing increasingly uncomfortable with the constantly changing liturgy, the lack of a weekly

Eucharist, and the lack of power given to Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. St. Timothy's worship, music, events and community speak directly to my heart, soul and mind. I believe I have found a home in St. Timothy's and the Episcopal Church: good people who genuinely struggle to understand whose church this really is. ~William B. West

For me, "Why join St. Tim's?" encompasses two questions answerable within a Judeo-Christian contextualization of Scott Peck's definition of "religion" as "way of life":

1. Why Episcopal?

The "middle way" embodies:

- Loving social perspectives in present and toward future—e.g., inclusion, gender, sexuality, pro-choice/life issues
- Transubstantiate yet open Eucharist
- Grounded in historic, ritualistic, sacramental tradition
- Global presence/regional authority



2. Why St. Tim's?

St. Tim's contributes to my quality of life:

- Spiritual sustenance
- *Esprit de corps*—respect, acceptance, encouragement
- Responsive stewardship—time, talent, treasure

~Ellen Guerrettaz-Buelow

Initially, my decision to come to St. Timothy's was out of a belief that being involved in a church from the area in which you live is important. That alone is not enough to stay, however. The reason I have stayed is that I have found a spiritual home here. It is a home which is as welcoming as any place I have had the opportunity to worship. It is a home where the Gospel is not only joyfully proclaimed, but where it is faithfully lived out in a loving community. ~Richie Heimbrock



There are innumerable reasons for joining St. Timothy's. We were immediately welcomed our first visit, both before and after services, with hospitality. We



attended church and saw the reverence for the Eucharist, and everyone seemed so happy to be there. We had visited St. Timothy's website before ever attending

church and listened to one of Roger's sermons. We had never been to an Episcopal church so did not know what to expect. The website listed Brueggemann's class sessions and we attended. The ministers of the church are so impressive. We could see that the church as a whole was forward thinking and had a vision to bring people from all walks to this ministry. ~Bart and Connie Krebs

Susan and I began our search for a new church for many reasons, both individually and as a family. We both feel strongly of the importance of bringing up our two children with the values learned through the Church, and recognize how much the exposure to our respective religious communities impacted us throughout our

Inquirers Reflections (continued from previous page)

lives. We know in our hearts we have made the right choice as individuals and as a family by becoming members of St. Timothy's. We are amazed and delighted



at how we feel we have been embraced by everyone at St. Timothy's. ~Paul and Susan Spanja

After spending the better part of the last 7 years in an evangelical faith community, I felt led to return to a liturgical tradition

like the one I grew up in. We visited St. Timothy's and were so impressed with the culture of generosity and hospitality, we decided to look a little deeper. What we found was a



parish open for newcomers, welcoming and embracing. Because of this, my daughter and I decided, with the help of prayer, that St. Timothy's would be the place to plant ourselves. ~Julie Gross ♦



Youth Confirmation Class

Please pray for our youth who will be confirmed by Bishop Nedi Rivera on May 9.

Pictured: (left to right) Gil Rutledge, Andrew Ueltschi, Rosie Ecker, Kelsey Streit, Ben Versoza, Jack Harback, David Caggiano, Roger Greene (*leader*), Sandra Nwaobasi, Sharon Versoza (*leader*), Lawrence Vignola, and Maureen Vignola (*leader*).

Not pictured: Leslie Corbitt, Olivia Knodel, and Christopher Richardson (*leader*).



The Locker Room

by The Rev. Dcn. Christopher Richardson

On May 9, Bishop Nedi Rivera will be visiting our parish. She will be confirming a group of youth in their expression of a mature commitment to Christ. Over the past few months, Roger and I have been preparing this group for Bishop Rivera's visit. As we have moved along in this Confirmation program, I have continually been struck by how amazing it is to work with this particular group of youth. This is not to say that the other youth are not also amazing, but working with the Confirmation class has given me an opportunity to interact with a smaller group of youth outside of Sunday mornings. Last month I wrote about community, and I am convinced that this Confirmation group has the concept down.

At our last meeting, I gave out candy as a prize for a mini-game we played. They were to look up specific information in the Catechism, and the first person who could tell me the page number the answer could be found on won a Reese's Peanut Butter Egg. There was

one thing, however, that I did not think of. One of the youth in the program had a peanut allergy. He didn't say anything when I brought this up in the session, but his friends did. As soon as I mentioned the prize, three or four people asked, "What about Jack?" My first reaction was to apologize and try to quickly think of a way to still be able to include Jack in our game. What I realized afterwards, however, was how wonderful it was to see that so many of them were more concerned about Jack getting a fair prize than they were about getting a prize themselves.

There are many other things that have happened over the course of this Confirmation program that testifies to the greatness of this group of youth. Unfortunately, I haven't sufficient space to recount all of them to you. I just hope that this glimpse of what I experience in the Confirmation classes gives you further cause to come and support this group on May 9 as they declare before Bishop Rivera and the church their desire to be sent forth in the power of the Spirit to perform the service set before them. ♦

Easter at St. Timothy's ~ Easter at St. Timothy's ~ Easter at St. Timothy's ~



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EASTER



Easter at St. Timothy's ~ Easter at St. Timothy's ~ Easter at St. Timothy's ~

Easter at St. Timothy's ~ Easter at St. Timothy's ~ Easter at St. Timothy's ~



Easter Egg Hunt



Easter at St. Timothy's ~ Easter at St. Timothy's ~ Easter at St. Timothy's ~



Godspell

St. Timothy's recently welcomed students from Indian Hill High School. They sang selections from their spring musical *Godspell* at our Sunday morning services.



Women's Retreat

St. Timothy's *Caring for Body and Soul* women's weekend retreat was held recently at the Convent of the Transfiguration.



Good News Boys

The Good News Boys – Wade Owens, Ernie Vaughn and St. Timothy's parishioner, Wayne Luessen – are a local group whose music is a mixture of gospel music with bluegrass and country influences. Their second CD "We Need to Pray" debuted April 25 at a CD release party at St. Timothy's. Joined by other musician friends, they played at the 5:00 p.m. Sunday service. If you would like to purchase a copy of their CD, they are available in the church office for \$12. The Good News Boys are donating \$2 from the sale of each CD to St. Timothy's. For more information on The Good News Boys, visit www.thegoodnewsboys.com.

Parish News & Announcements

In Memorium

On April 3, parishioner and founding member **Billee Benagh** died. A celebration of her life and witness was held at St. Timothy's on April 17.

On April 11, **Ellen Roblou**, mother of parishioner Carolyn Rudolph, died. A celebration of her life and witness was held at St. Timothy's on April 17.

On April 15, long time parishioner **Joan Blough** died. A celebration of her life and witness was held at St. Timothy's on April 19. ♦

Pentecost Picnic

Sign-up for St. Timothy's Pentecost Picnic to be held Sunday, May 23 on the parish lawn beginning with games

for the children following Church School. We will have our regular schedule of services. The Fellowship Committee will provide meat, drinks, and tableware. Everyone is asked to indicate on the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Space whether they will bring a side dish or a dessert; there is also space to indicate how you are willing to help. Volunteers are needed! Sign up on the bulletin board. ♦

Baptisms

On April 3, we welcomed into the church **Kristen Ann Nelson, Erik David Nelson, Kurt Stefan Nelson** and **Peter Jeffrey Nelson**, children of David and Ann Nelson.

On April 18, we welcomed into the church **Landon Todd Baumgartner**, son of Todd and Kim Baumgartner. *Welcome to the household of faith!* ♦

Vacation Bible School

Baobab Blast God's Great Get Together!

June 14-18, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

To volunteer or to register your child, visit our website

(www.sainttimothys.com); on the left side of the home page, "click here" in the VBS article and follow the link.

When you register your child, be sure to submit the form online **and** print, sign and mail the form and your check to St. Timothy's. Questions? Contact Judy Gardner (474-4445 or children@sainttimothys.com). ♦

Budget Report

Income & Expense Report 3 Months Ended March 30, 2010			
	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Difference</i>
<u>INCOME</u>			
Pledges	\$153,122	\$156,500	\$ (3,378)
All Other Income	20,588	14,990	5,598
TOTAL INCOME	173,710	171,490	2,220
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Personnel	103,142	106,203	(3,061)
Insurance, Maintenance, Utilities	36,707	31,482	5,225
Office Services	11,031	11,474	(443)
Altar Guild, Fellowship, H&W	801	1,280	(479)
Programs	4,368	3,819	549
Outreach Budget	10,894	10,820	74
Diocesan Assessment	35,864	35,864	0
Other	29	25	4
TOTAL EXPENSES	202,835	200,967	1,868
OVERALL TOTAL	\$ (29,126)	\$(29,477)	\$ 351



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Parish Staff

The Rev. Roger S. Greene *Rector*
The Rev. Heather B. Wiseman *Associate*
The Rev. Dcn. Ellen P. Cook *Deacon*
The Rev. Dcn. Mooydeen Frees
Pastoral Care Coordinator
The Rev. Dcn. Christopher Richardson
Associate for Youth Spiritual Formation
Philip D. Clary *Organist/Choir Director*
Paul Rank *Outreach Facilitator*
Judy Gardner *Director of*
Children's Spiritual Formation
Ruth Franke *Parish Administrator*
Theresa Kimball *Parish Secretary*

St. Timothy's Vestry and Wardens

John Rudolph, Senior Warden
David Dreisbach, Junior Warden

Vestry Members

Don Buckley	Donna Passick
Patty Carr	Debbie Rathsack
Tracy Hickenlooper	Maureen Robertson
Joe Jeffcott	Andy Ruttle
Alicia Kimball	Barbara Ryan
Brandi Nierling	Bob Willoughby

St. Timothy's Schedule of Services

Sunday

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I (no music)
9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:00 a.m. Church School for all ages
11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Wednesday

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Office Information

Phone number: 513-474-4445
Fax number: 513-388-4161
Email: church@sainttimothys.com

Parish Support Services

Remember, your parish family is here for you in emergencies or just when you want to "touch base."

Prayer Chain: MOOYDEEN FREES (513-474-4445, ext. 20; prayerchain@sainttimothys.com) who sees that requests are circulated throughout the Prayer Chain, a network of 23 parishioners who, on a confidential basis, offer daily intercessory prayer for you and your loved ones with special needs;

Emergency Home-Cooked Meals: JERRI SPURLOCK is the coordinator of a group of dedicated parishioners who provide a couple of short-term, home-cooked meals for parishioners, individuals or families in immediate need of such support. Referrals to her come only through the clergy. If you are in need of a couple of home-cooked meals or know of another parishioner who might use some, please contact a member of clergy.

Friendly Visitors: KAKI MCCLANAHAN who arranges for a Friendly Visitor to make visits and/or phone calls to parishioners. A range of ministries, from assistance with paperwork and other tasks, to listening, games, and conversation, may be provided;

Health and Wellness Coordinator: SUE RANK who oversees health ministries, including Parish Nurse, and the Health and Wellness Cmt.;

Transportation to 11:15 Service: DEBBI KERN who arranges for volunteers to furnish transportation to the 11:15 service for non-driving parishioners who live within a reasonable distance.

Stephen Ministry: DONNA PASSICK who, as Stephen Ministry coordinator, arranges for trained Stephen Ministers to provide listening and care for the sick, shut-ins and those in crisis.