



# SAINT TIMOTHY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

## THE CROSSBEAM

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2011

### *The Other Way. . .*

Maybe it was the torrential rains that were coming down on the way to work combined with listening to one of my favorite songs by U2. Whatever the reason, as I was driving down Beechmont, wondering what to write about Lent which begins Wednesday, March 9, all I could think about was Miriam dancing after the exodus from Egypt. Actually it was Miriam—and “all the women”—dancing with tambourines in their hands on the other side of the Red Sea. As I turned up the volume even more, I said to myself, “This is what Lent is all about!”


Before you think I just don't want to deal with time in the Lenten wilderness, let me tell you what I mean. You see, too often we think of Lent as a time to be miserable, inflict a little spiritual pain, and oh yes give up a lot of stuff. What then happens? When we fail to do what we set out to do, we may feel worse than when we started. We may also realize that all our spiritual striving is ironically part of the problem. Too often we are simply trying to justify our lives in God's eyes, which of course is doomed to failure. But what if Lent is all about learning to dance! Or better yet, finding a reason to dance. What if a renewed commitment to a daily practice of prayer is about discovering that the Holy Spirit dwells within us before we ever begin to pray? What if St. Paul is correct when he tells us that the Spirit is already interceding on our behalf “in sighs too deep for words” before we ever get on our knees? What if prayer is about simply listening to the prayer that the Spirit is already praying in us? There is a reason to dance!

And what if reading the Bible a little more during Lent is about discovering that we are forgiven—even before we confess a single thing? What do we read in the Gospel of John: “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world”(1.29). The verb form for “takes away” has the sense of continually taking away. The Lamb of God doesn't take a break, but is endlessly forgiving our sins and blotting out our offenses. There is a reason to dance! Don't get me wrong. I am not suggesting that confession isn't important. Confessing our sins is how we remember that they are forgiven, but the forgiveness has already been given.

What if all our spiritual disciplines—whatever they might be—are about getting on the dance floor, tambourine in hand? And what if the same is true about serving others? Isaiah tells us on Ash Wednesday that the fasting that interests God has nothing to do with not eating and everything to do with feeding the hungry, liberating the oppressed and housing the homeless. If there is ever a reason to dance, it is when human need is addressed and suffering alleviated. If you have ever been to the closing celebration for a Habitat for Humanity house, you will know what I mean. If you have ever been part of the good-byes after a week at El Hogar, you will know what I mean. If you have ever taken a plate of cookies to a neighbor in need, you will know what I mean.

Most adults don't take to dancing easily. Part of the problem is that they don't know what to do on the dance floor, but for the most part it has to do with whether there is a compelling reason to dance. The best dancing is what comes out of our gratitude for what God has done for us: like liberating us from Egypt, forgiving our sins, giving us the Spirit and using us to liberate others.

Shall we dance?

In Christ, 

### **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.*

## Report from the Planned Giving Committee

*"We all warm ourselves by fires we did not build and drink from wells we did not dig." Ancient Proverb*

Charged with safeguarding and growing St. Timothy's Endowment Fund, the Planned Giving Committee knows that a fully-funded endowment can empower and enable St. Timothy's to continue to fulfill its mission – to let future generations drink from wells they did not dig. To that end, the Committee was diligent in achieving its 2010 goals.

After introducing the brochure at the 2010 Annual Parish meeting, the Planned Giving Committee has told the story of the Endowment Fund – its purpose and how parishioners can be part of growing the Endowment. In February 2010, the Planned Giving Committee sponsored a seminar on the Basics of Estate Planning presented by Dan Bird. Have you noticed the well-placed articles in the Weekly Bulletins and *The Crossbeam* entitled "Leave a Legacy"? The Committee certainly hopes the brochure, seminar and articles have increased your awareness of estate planning and raised your level of understanding of St. Timothy's Endowment Fund.

With a small base of assets provided by donors who believed in St. Timothy's mission, the Endowment

Fund has grown to \$361,000 as of December 31, 2010. The money is invested in funds that have good performance records and risk profiles appropriate for an endowment. St. Timothy's Endowment assets are invested 60% in equities and 40% in fixed income. The funds, the Diocese Consolidated Growth Fund (2010 return of 13.06%) and the Diocese Consolidated Income Fund (2010 return of 6.93%), are held and managed by PNC. Thank you to the parishioners who have invested in the Endowment in the past year.

As the Planned Giving Committee begins work in 2011, new officers have been elected. Dan Bird chairs the committee, Jim Russell is the Treasurer, and Judy Copetas remains the Secretary. The at-large committee members are Jerry Eichert, Peter Briggs and Ellie Berghausen. All of the committee members have been elected at an Annual Parish meeting to serve 3-year terms. Rector Roger Greene, Vestry Senior Warden John Rudolph, and Development Committee Chair Pat Ryan are ex-officio members of the Planned Giving Committee. Any of these people are willing and able to answer questions about St. Timothy's Endowment Fund. ♦

## Reflection on Planned Giving

*by Susan, Jay, Matthew and Jim Russell*

When my family and I first moved to Cincinnati 16 years ago, we found ourselves without a Church home. For a year, we drifted until one night we found a small group of friends who also wanted to nail down a great place for Sunday mornings. We talked and we talked some more until one of the neighbors indicated he had heard good things about St. Timothy's. As this was Saturday night, we all decided to go to St. Tim's the next morning for the first time. Being somewhat new to town, we were nervous about this step and indicated as much. I turned to my neighbor who simply said, "If I can do it, I bet you can too." Guess what? Sixteen years later we are still coming back for more.

It is my safe assumption that many of the individuals and families who are part of the St. Timothy's family have had a similar experience. Over the past 16 years, we have seen some people come and go, some due to transfer and some forever. We have seen our children grow into young men with the help of the St. Timothy's community. We have seen our share of proud moments as a family and our share of challenges – just like you.

We have also seen St. Timothy's ministry, with Roger Greene's leadership, move to a new level. The message, the enthusiasm, the energy, the programs – all high quality and built with hearts of gold.

We like what we see and feel. Our family has decided that we would like to help this ministry not only sustain, but perhaps grow in terms of scope and effectiveness in the years ahead. For this reason, we have chosen to fund St. Timothy's endowment with a modest sum in 2010 and will again do so in 2011. Additionally, we have chosen to include St. Timothy's in our estate planning documents to maintain and enhance the ministry in the areas of children's programs, outreach, music and building maintenance.

These are choices we have made. We are a family of average means with all the financial obligations consistent with most families with children. A second round of college tuition payments and retirement are both pending. Like so many things in life it comes down to priorities and choices. We have decided to make this happen.

Just like the neighbor said 16 years ago, if I can do it, I bet you can too. ♦

# St. Timothy's Women's Retreat

*The Spiritual Journey: Living in the Spiral*

Friday, April 29, 5:00 p.m. – Sunday, May 1, 11:00 a.m.

When people talk about spirituality. . . they know there is more to life than what meets the eye. Even religious people are vulnerable to this longing. No one longs for what he or she already has, and yet the accumulated insight of those wise about the spiritual life suggests that the reason so many of us cannot see the red X that marks the spot is because we are standing on it. The treasure we seek requires no lengthy expedition, no expensive equipment, no superior aptitude or special company. All we lack is the willingness to imagine that we already have everything we need. The only thing missing is our consent to be where we are. We invite you to discover, with us, that if we really pay attention to what immediately surrounds us, it may well provide an encounter with God, an altar in the world, far different from the world that we thought was there.

Leaders: Ann Nofziger and Mooydeen Frees. Place: Community of the Transfiguration, Glendale. Cost: \$150 (seniors \$136) and includes the book "An Altar in the World" by Barbara Brown Taylor. Please sign-up on the bulletin board and bring a \$25 deposit to the office. A place will not be held until your deposit is received. ♦



## Share the Love

Family Sunday

Family fun included making valentines, bookmarks, magnets, treats and learning a Love Song! Some

of the goodies were then delivered to a homebound church member ~ sharing the love!



To see more photos from Family Sunday and other events at St. Timothy's, visit our website at [www.sainttimothys.com](http://www.sainttimothys.com)



# Where Do I See God?

*The following reflections were offered by St. Timothy's 6th graders at the 9:00 a.m. service in recent months. The kids were asked to share "Where I See God."*

**H**i, I'm Kendra Owens and I just turned 12 and have gone to St. Timothy's my whole life. A couple weeks ago Judy asked me if I could talk about the Atrium. I have been in the Atrium since 2nd grade and in my 5 years in the Atrium I have found God in many ways:

In Drawings — When kids like me express our feelings without direction we usually like to draw and what we draw is about God and what we learned in the lesson that was taught by our catechists. Two weeks ago we talked about "What God is." I made a picture frame with stripes that said God is Everything . I could have drawn a Cross or animals that God created. But I was able to draw what I wanted. In old fashioned, regular Sunday School classes, the kids all do the same craft or activity, but in the Atrium, I can choose to express my feelings about God however I want.

One of the neat things you can do in the Atrium is to lead the Communal Prayer. This is the way we end each class — everyone gathers together to sing and pray

about God. There are usually two leaders, who are kids. I see God especially when we do the Prayers for the People during Communal Prayer. Kids can say thank you to God for something or ask God to be with and help the special people or pets in their lives. Everyone shares and prays together.

Last year when our catechist, Fab, read us a letter about a friend who was in Haiti and suffered through the Earthquake, our class was determined to help. My classmates and I found God when we came up with a great idea — to challenge the older kids to raise money for the people of Haiti by having a bake sale. We together raised several hundred dollars that went to do God's work in helping the people of Haiti.

As a 6th grader, I will enjoy participating in my final year of the Atrium and I look forward to all the good works that I will do with my peers and in finding God in the youth program at St. Timothy's.

Thank you. ♦

**H**ello, my name is Houston Russell, I am twelve years old, and I attend St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, and I have for about three years. It was right after my Mom got remarried to my stepdad when we started looking for a church. I really don't remember who came up with an idea of attending a church right after the marriage. I know we used to go to a church, and Mom has pictures of me being baptized and stuff like that, but I don't remember it. Then again, I never remember anything.

We found Saint Tim's a few years later, and decided that we would try it out. Well, like I said, I never remember anything, so entering this church was almost a new experience to me. And when it comes to experiences, it was a pretty good one. After the service, Mom asked whether we liked St. Tim's or not. Of course, we said yes. And so, we started attending St. Tim's regularly.

It took me a little bit to find God. After the morning service, Grace and I went straight to the Atrium. We really liked it, especially the lessons, where we got to remember what we had forgotten about God over the years. I thought it was especially cool talking about the creation, I mean, one Almighty being creating the Earth and everything on it is pretty cool, right?

When I really saw God and Jesus was about when I read about Jesus being sacrificed on the cross for our sins. For Jesus to be hung and humiliated, yet have the ... greatness to ask God to forgive them, not consume, or destroy, or curse, or even harm, but forgive, is to me, true greatness. And yet for God to be able to send his true son down for US is just amazing. Some people have LeBron James or some singer or someone as their idol; I say God should be our idol. Thank you. ♦

**H**i, I'm Kristin Amrine. I wasn't baptized at St. Tim's but I felt like I was. So many loving caring faces that greet me on Sunday, the high five from Roger after my Psalm or Reading. The people that weren't baptized and the ones that were are treated like family. This makes me excited to come to church every Sunday morning. One day when God really showed up in my life was when we had done the Bake Sale for Haiti. I had walked in my classroom, feeling excited for another day of Church School. Fab, our teacher, read us a letter her friend had written when she was at Haiti. It was then that

my excitement was replaced with sadness. All of the kids, including me, suddenly wanted to help Haiti. That goal was accomplished. I could see God in all those shining faces lined up to buy their baked goods and God was with us. Fab had read the letter her friend wrote. It's times like this when God shines brightly. God appears in my everyday life, too. I have to pray before I go to bed. I can feel God watching and listening to my prayers. God is always there for us like a best friend. God is our best friend. ♦

**H**i my name is Emily Favorito. I am twelve years old and I have been a member at St. Tim's for about seven years. Many of you may already know, I love taking part in helping to support my church because I think it is a special place. When I was younger I loved to usher, and now I enjoy acolyting and reading the lessons.

Almost every Sunday I come to church. For most of us kids it is still probably hard to understand everything they say and do during the church service. Although I do find God here in the sanctuary, I more likely find him in my atrium. I have attended church school in the atrium since I was 5, and I have been fortunate to have experienced all three atrium levels. In the Level 3 atrium, where I am now in my third and last year, we normally begin by reading a psalm or Bible verse together. We discuss the reading and then have the opportunity to paint, draw, or just be creative about the psalm or Bible verse. I think working with the words in a hands-on way helps to make them more clear and understandable. That is where I see

God, when I am able to really paint the words on paper. I also see God very clearly in the atrium when I feel how much the teachers love and care for all of us children. Their smiling faces, their patience, and the fact that they care enough to volunteer their time with us lets me know how much they love us.

Another place I see God is when I pray. My years in the atrium have shown me the importance of praying and reading the Bible. My sister and I have a book of devotions, and every night we try to read one. Every devotion contains a verse from the Bible and a prayer. They really help us to see that God is with us every day and night, and is always there and listening to you.

I am grateful to have caring church school teachers who remind me that God loves me and have shown me the importance of reading the Bible and praying. I am also very grateful to be a part of this special church community where I feel God's love and support every Sunday. ♦

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## *Catechesis Training*

*Judy Gardner, St. Timothy's Director of Children's Spiritual Formation,  
received the following letter from a former parishioner*

**I**wanted to let you know that after all those years of helping in an atrium I am finally going to catechesis training. I just finished the third of five weekends for Level 1 and I love it! The training is so great, not just from a teacher perspective but also a personal perspective. Our new church implemented a level 1 atrium this year and has extended the age up to 1st or 2nd grade. Then I have the older grade schoolers. We have not implemented the catechesis program for them yet but I'm having fun incorporating some of the concepts from my training and my experience at the St. Tim's level 2. I just wanted to share with you how much I am enjoying the training. I have such a better understanding and appreciation for the atrium now and why things are done certain ways. Thanks for introducing me to this program! ~Lynn Schoel

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>From left to right<br/><i>Front row:</i><br/>Jake Remlinger<br/>Ben Remlinger<br/>R.J. Corbitt<br/>Jeffrey<br/>Vonderschmidt<br/><br/><i>Back row:</i><br/>Zoa Strobel<br/>Claire Hampton<br/>Ella Varley<br/><br/><i>Catechists:</i><br/>Fran Malone<br/>Judy Gardner<br/><br/><i>Not pictured:</i><br/>Abby Remlinger</p> |  <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;"><i>Communion Course</i><br/><i>January 2011</i></p> | <p><b>S</b>t. Timothy's provides Communion Instruction for children whose parents want them to begin taking Communion or who have already been taking Communion. A Holy Eucharist Preparation Course is offered for 2nd and 3rd Graders in January.</p> |
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# Lent at St. Timothy's

## Ash Wednesday: March 9



7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (with hymns)  
7:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist (with choir)  
(Child care available during the  
10:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. services.)

## Wednesday Mornings in Lent

7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Sermon  
*followed by breakfast*  
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Sermon

## Lent Book Table

Books appropriate for Lent will be available for purchase in the Gathering Space. Free Lenten materials will also be available. Books from the Church Library will be on display and can be signed out for use.

## Youth Fundraising

Please support our children and youth fundraising efforts throughout Lent. Watch the announcements for more details. Proceeds to benefit El Hogar.

## Wednesday Evening Lent Program: March 16-April 13

6:00 pm Supper; 7:00 pm Program; 8:15 pm Closing Prayers  
**Sign up on the bulletin board! Childcare available**

### Adult Programs:

#### Last Things – *Preparing for Death and Burial from the Episcopal Church*

Death is one of the few things of which we can be certain. In spite of its inevitability, the time of death — our own or a loved one — is nearly always experienced as a time of crisis. The information we will share in this course is offered to help you reflect on and prepare for your own death and burial from the Episcopal Church. In addition you will be offering those who love you a guide for planning the service as you would want it to be. We will look at topics such as: Grief, A Christian Perspective on Death, Burial Practices and Options, and Stewardship. We will provide you with forms to use for your personal instructions, general information, burial information, funeral information. It is our hope that you will find this helpful as you come to grips with your “last things.”

#### Bible Study: Amos – *A shepherd called to prophesy*

**No prior experience needed!** Using Walter Brueggemann's method, we will look at the overall context of the text first before moving to the specific text selected. We will then follow the three step method by:

1. Charting the way the rhetoric moves.
2. Finding the words that carry the greatest weight and connecting them to other places they occur in the Bible.
3. Ask what advocacy is being voiced in the text.

This is a great opportunity to practice the method as we dig into the book of the prophet, Amos. We will gather as a whole to hear the background before dividing into smaller groups.

#### Via Media

This video series (*via media*) with discussion is for those preparing to be **confirmed** and **received** into the Episcopal Church May 22, 2011. It is also appropriate for anyone who wants to explore what it means to be an Episcopalian in the 21st century.

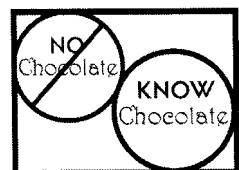
Topics include:

- God and Creation: The Abundance of God's Goodness
- God in Jesus: An Incarnational Faith
- God the Holy Spirit: Breath of New Life
- Sin: The Roadblocks to Abundant Life
- What Does it Mean to Participate in the Eucharist?

### Children's Program: Know Chocolate for Lent

7:00-8:30 p.m. For ages 5-12

Children will experience the connections between the growing process of chocolate and the growing process of being a Christian. They will connect God's gift of the rainforest and God's gift of the Church. In addition, they will understand that what they often take for granted — whether it is chocolate or faith — is much more satisfying when they know the story behind the traditions they celebrate.



## Parish News & Announcements

### The Crossbeam Goes Online Only Next Month

In keeping with St. Timothy's ongoing commitment to conserving our natural and financial resources, next month's issue of *The Crossbeam* will be disseminated online. If you are not currently receiving the semi-weekly parish e-mails, we probably do not have a correct e-mail address on file for you. Please contact the church office so that we can add you to the mailing list! **If you prefer to receive a paper copy of *The Crossbeam*, please contact the church office and we will be happy to continue to mail you a paper copy of St. Timothy's newsletter.** Don't miss the latest news! ♦

#### *In Memorium*

On February 4, longtime parishioner **Ruth Bay** died. A celebration of her life and witness was held at St. Timothy's on February 10. On February 13, **Mary Milby**, mother of parishioner, Judy Willoughby, died. A celebration of her life and witness was held at St. Timothy's on February 26. ♦

#### *New Life*

Congratulations to **Jad and Jamie Buckman** on the February 17 birth of **Eva Emma**. ♦

#### *Thank You*

Thank you for all your prayers, cards and acts of kindness. They always brighten my day! *Zelma Wittmeyer* ♦

#### *One Voice for El Hogar*

Join us for an informational and inspirational fundraiser for El Hogar held at St. Timothy's on Sunday evening, May 1. Claudia Castro, the director of El Hogar Projects, will be speaking and a variety of music will be provided by St. Timothy's youth, St. Barnabas jazz band, Indian Hill High School and more. ♦

#### *2010 Mission Trip Dates*

Participate in any of these mission trips and prepare for a life changing experience!

**Appalachia Service Project (ASP) Trip:** June 12-18. *\$160 deposit due*  
Contact: Christopher Richardson (474-4445, ext. 33; youth@sainttimothys.com).

**El Hogar Youth Mission Trip:** June 4-11. Contact: Christopher Richardson (474-4445, ext. 33; youth@sainttimothys.com).

**El Hogar Adult Mission Trip:** September 10-17.

Contact: Jane Kammer Habig.  
*If you want to go to El Hogar and these dates don't work for you, contact Paul Rank; there may be opportunities to go with another parish.* ♦

#### *'Like' St. Timothy's Facebook Page*

If you have a Facebook account, just search "Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church" — be sure to *spell out* "Saint" — (or go to St. Timothy's website: [www.sainttimothys.com](http://www.sainttimothys.com) and click on the Facebook link at the bottom of the Home page) then click

"Like" at the top of the Facebook page. You can now write something on our wall to share with others; plus all news feeds from this page will show up on your wall. Help us stay connected as a church community by visiting the page, clicking "Like" AND posting comments often! ♦

#### *Get on the Bin Wagon!*

Over 42% of our landfill is paper. We can collect this paper and make money, too. We are placing a Recycling Bin from Abitibi Recycling, the largest full circle recycler in North America, at the corner of the rear parking lot near the entrance. The bin is called the Paper Retriever. The bin will take newspapers, magazines, mail, school and office paper, and catalogs - no cardboard, plastic or garbage, please. The paper is recycled into next week's newspaper and other recycled paper goods. We have been paying Rumpke for our paper pick up. If we can fill the bin, Abitibi will pay us! **Look for the green and yellow Abitibi bin in the east parking lot** and bring in all of your paper for recycling and help up raise cash, too. ♦



# SAINT TIMOTHY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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### **Parish Staff**

The Rev. Roger S. Greene *Rector*  
The Rev. Heather B. Wiseman *Associate*  
The Rev. Christopher C. Richardson  
*Associate for Youth Spiritual Formation*  
The Rev. Ellen P. Cook *Deacon*  
The Rev. Mooydeen Frees  
*Deacon, Pastoral Care Coordinator*  
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**

|                             |                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Susan Cranley               | Donna Passick   |
| Ellen Guerrettaz-<br>Buelow | Debbie Rathsack |
| Tracy Hickenlooper          | Rick Rothhaas   |
| Alicia Kimball              | Andy Ruttle     |
| Brandi Nierling             | Barbara Ryan    |
| Don Nofziger                | 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

## **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.

**Health and Wellness Coordinator:** ELLEN COOK 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.