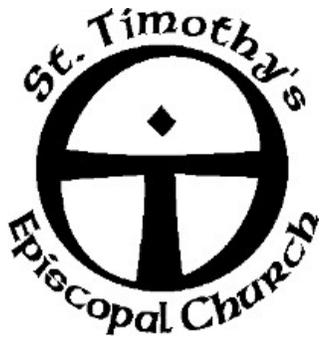


December 2016



Sticks and Stones

www.stimothy.org

Growing together in Christ transforms lives.

Our Mission:

As a family of God, we are called to invite and welcome all people to connect and grow in Christ's love while serving and sharing with our community.



St. Timothy's 60th Production of The Living Nativity Friday-Sunday, December 9, 10 and 11 Showings at 7:00 pm and 7:30 pm, on the Front Lawn

There are many many jobs for many many people!
Everyone is invited to participate! From set construction to animal wrangling, providing dinner for a hungry cast to making cookies for our guests, each of us can contribute in some way.

Sign up at The Living Nativity display under the Living Nativity banner in the gallery hallway. Come be a part of our annual gift to the Brazosport community.

Contact Lela Seay (979-549-1289,
ljseay1.9@gmail.com) for more information.

St. Timothy's 2016 Living Nativity

Why is this annual tradition important for our parish?

St. Timothy's has been putting this production on year after year for over 50 years. Why do we do it?

#1

A Christmas gift

The Living Nativity is our Christmas gift to the community. It's our chance to bless Lake Jackson with no thought of reward.

#2

Christian Formation

The Living Nativity helps with formation. The youth are being formed by the story of the incarnation of Christ year in and year out. The story is imprinted in their hearts for years to come from the time they are shepherds and angels until they are Joseph and Mary in high school. The miraculous story of Christ's birth is planted in the hearts of our children as they act out and live into the good news of the Christ child. Acting out the story night after night, the children learn the story of Christ's birth better than they would in a classroom setting. Acting the story out allows the youth to learn not just the facts of the story, but encourages them to feel and understand the story with their hearts.

#3

Spiritual Gifts

The Living Nativity uses diverse gifts from our church community. From hospitality to costuming to wrangling animals and creating the set, our entire church comes together to create this event.

#4

Invitation opportunity

The Living Nativity is a chance to invite people from outside our church. We get the opportunity to share the gospel and welcome the diverse community around us. Share the event on facebook and invite your friends and family to experience this event again this year!

Living Nativity Dates:
December 9, 10, 11 @ 7 & 7:30pm

Sign up sheets are in the hallway to help!



Dear Friends in Christ,

A video clip appeared on my weather channel app. (Yes, there's an app for the weather!) It was a photo of a six month little girl seeing her first snow fall. She was diagnosed with a congenital heart condition at birth and the doctors were not sure she would live very long. When she was six months old, her mother held her up to a window to look at the first snow fall of the year, the day after Thanksgiving.

Sometimes we forget the wonder and amazement that children have when they experience an event for the first time. In a few weeks we'll gather to celebrate the wonder of Jesus' birth. Not only was his birth truly miraculous, but Mary delivered her first born son in very unusual circumstances. She was far from home and had to lay her son in manger. We don't know about Joseph's feelings, but Luke tells us, "Mary treasured all these things in her heart."

Every Christmas we remember the unique gift of God coming to us as a child as his demonstration for the love of the world. Although some of us have experienced many celebrations of Christmas it would be wonderful if we could see this miracle as if it were the first time a child sees new fallen snow.

The poem of Christina Rossetti captures this truth in these verses:

*Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine;
love was born at Christmas: star and angels gave the sign.*

*Love shall be our token; love be yours and love divine,
love to God and neighbor, love for plea and gift and sign.*

I wish you all a holy Christmas filled with wonder and amazement.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Mark T. Crawford, Interim Rector

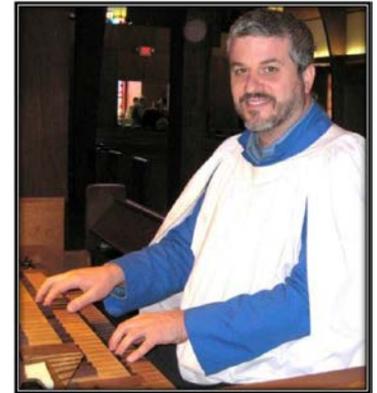


Notes from Paul Butt

Hello everyone! I hope all your Advent and Christmas preparations are going well for you and that you have a meaningful and joyous season!

Advent and Christmas music is being prepared for you by our choirs and we hope you will enjoy our offerings and maybe even join us!

The Handchime Choir will perform "Bring a Torch Jeanette Isabella" on the 11th and Children's Choir will sing "Away in a Manger" on the 18th. Many thanks to Lowrie for leading the children. The Senior Choir is preparing music for the 4th, the 18th and Christmas Eve and the Joiful Noyse is preparing music for the 11th and Christmas Eve. Our music includes lovely anthems by William Crotch, Brian Doerksen, Richard Shephard, John Rutter and arrangement of Christmas Carols by Audrey Snyder. Greg Essington of Blue Water Highway Band will be joining us at the Joiful Noyse Christmas Eve service to sing a solo, and a brass ensemble, led by Jonathan Gay, will provide prelude music at the 10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service. I hope you can join us for the festivities!



Thank you all for your support!



Senior Warden Notes: Advent and Annual Parish Meeting

A few days ago, I read a funny article about “the Advent Police” from essayist Sarah Condon

(*Reckoning With the Advent Police*; website: Mockingbird;
<http://www.mbird.com/2016/11/reckoning-with-the-advent-police/>

and it struck my funny bone—you know how you hit that arm and it’s funny but it hurts? I must admit that in these last years I have become more patient, more aware of this season during which we joyously await the birth of our Savior. With that said I do find at times it is very hard to hit a happy medium of waiting with wondrous anticipation of Christ’s birth and being unrealistic about the demands of the Holiday Season. There’s only so many days for so much, and I feel a STRONG need to use them efficiently!!

This year and in the past days of seasonal prep, my decorations have been more “Advent-ish” with a focus on the simple, a use of natural elements, and full of light. As Mark and I embark on a year of much reflection and discernment ourselves, I feel very much at home this 2016 Advent. I patiently wait for God’s guidance each day which I know to be cloaked in love.

Mark grew up with German grandparents, Oma and Opa, who kept the special order tree under wraps until Christmas Eve when all the grandchildren hovered around sliding doors to the formal living area, and only on Christmas Eve, were the doors opened revealing a fully decorated tree. His happy memories of Christmas provide a firm foundation for our family’s Advent and Christmas.



**Kim Lehnhoff,
Senior Warden**

So in the spirit of Advent, I want to wish all my love and merry wishes for a happy Advent and Christmas Season. There’s so much to love about St. Timothy’s during these seasons. We bring to our community our much loved Living Nativity. Our Altar Guild does a fantastic job embracing our beautiful worship spaces with the Hanging of the Greens. Outreach and Youth provide many in the community with sustenance for the meals during the Holiday Season. We as part of the

Episcopalian branch of the Jesus Movement in Brazosport “bring it” for our community. We continue to make strides with our Invite, Welcome, Connect mission. Thanks to everyone for all they do at St. Timothy’s.

As we move forward to Christmas and our annual parish meeting on January 15th, your vestry has been working to prepare for next year’s budget, considering many components of church leadership, and of course, ongoing work with our rector search process. There will be much to celebrate at our Annual meeting, and I hope you do plan on attending. It will be of a bit different meeting than in the past. Vestry elections will be held, we have wonderful financial news to report, and we will report on our rector search process. More information about that Sunday, Jan. 15th schedule will follow.

So, I’m listening to my Christmas music as I drive my commuter’s life road each day. 😊 I’ll have my tree up in the next few days because my son, Jacob, loves the Christmas tree more than most anything else. I’m ready to celebrate—so I’m starting a little bit early. Looking forward to celebrating St. Timothy’s with you at our January 15th meeting.

All-powerful God,
help us to look forward in hope
to the coming of our Savior.
May we live as he taught,
ready to welcome him with burning love and faith.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Yours in prayer, love and light,

Kim Lehnhoff, Sr. Warden



ST. TIMOTHY'S ANGEL TREE PROGRAM

The Angel Tree program is a national organization that allows parents in prison to strengthen their connection with their children by providing gifts with a personal message from the parent. Each child receives a toy gift, a clothing gift, and an age appropriate religious book. No gift should exceed \$20.00.

Each October the church receives a list of children who live in the Clute-Lake Jackson area codes. The caregivers are contacted for sizes and gift suggestions. These gift ideas are written on the paper angels placed on the Angel Tree. A donor selects an angel, purchases the gift, wraps it, attaches the top part of the angel to the package, and brings it to the church. The gifts are delivered the week before Christmas.

The wrapped gifts should be returned no later than **December 18**. Donations of money for books can be put in the stocking on the tree or given to Harriet Cutshall or Nancy Carter. Checks should be written to St. Timothy's with a notation of "for Angel Tree".

THANK YOU

from the Youth and
Outreach committees

The 2016 Thanksgiving Basket Outreach was a record-breaking success!



By the Numbers:

4	0	0	+	lbs of food donated
2	2	5	+	# of people served
		2	6	# of volunteers
		4	5	# of turkeys given

***YOU make this possible year
after year!***

THANK YOU for helping families in our neighborhoods
break bread together this Thanksgiving!

"I do not cease to give thanks for you" -Ephesians 1:16

EYC DECEMBER 2016

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

DEC. 4: LUNCH AND A MOVIE

The Muppets: A Christmas Carol (No EYC)

DEC. 9-11: THE LIVING NATIVITY

Sign up for a role & help with hospitality (No EYC)

DEC. 18: NO EYC

DEC. 21: EYC CHRISTMAS PARTY

7pm - White Elephant - Details to Come!

DEC. 25: NO EYC

Enjoy Christmas!



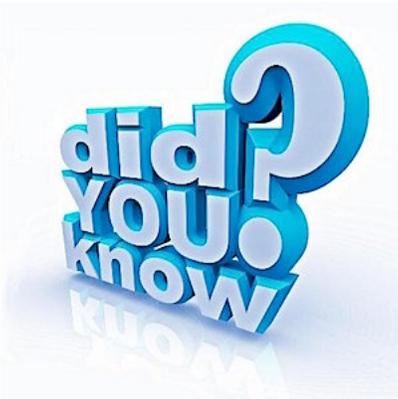
The Food Basket is reorganizing the way it gathers donations for Christmas this year. Rather than soliciting everything from everyone, they asked their congregational partners to pick one of the two holidays and volunteer to provide specific items. Chair Angela McCabe selected the following for St. Timothy's parishioners:

- 14-16 oz fruit cocktail
- 3 pack of microwave popcorn
- Box of instant potatoes

NOTE: We have volunteered to bring 150 of each of these items. They are due to church by December 9th so they can be packaged and distributed by December 13th.

Finally, there are a ton of volunteer opportunities available at the Food Basket. It is easy to see when they need help and sign up to do so. Here's how it works in three easy steps:

- 1) Visit <http://signup.com/go/vhHd4D>
- 2) Review the options listed and chose the spot(s) you like.
- 3) Sign up! It's easy and you will not need to register and account or keep a password on signup.com.



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

If you haven't noticed all of the pews in the sanctuary have been refinished. We owe Bob and Terri Zeigler a heart-felt thank you for this endeavor. They have been methodically working on the pews since my arrival nine months ago. Their goal was to have the project completed before Christmas. The pews look like new! If you see Bob and Terri express your appreciation for their labor of love.

YOUR TIME AND TALENTS COULD BE SUCH A BLESSING TO ST. TIMOTHY'S

The ARM does a Fabulous job keeping the building and the grounds in tip top shape (not to mention the McKneely's who are incredible), but they can always use your help. Contact John Pitts and find out where and when you can jump in there with them.

A new editor (and or co-editors) is needed for the Sticks and Stones. Contact Mary at the Church office if you can help out with that.

AND... The rotation list for Readers, Ushers, Greeters, etc. could sure use some new faces. We'd hate to wear out our current volunteers.

HERE'S A WAY TO BENEFIT ST. TIMOTHY'S.....

If you have a Kroger card you can sign up for Community Rewards that benefit St. Timothy's. However, you have to sign up on an annual basis. To sign up for the first time or to renew your community rewards, just go to the website: <https://www.kroger.com/> and follow directions!





Did you know??

That if you take your bulletin to El Chico on Sunday or Wednesday, they will give you 10% off your bill, AND donate that same 10% to St. Timothy's!! Last quarter we received over \$180.00 from El Chico!

And....

For many years, Jerry at Food King made it easy to help others. He would contribute 1% of the total amount of cash register receipts to local non-profits. We are so happy to hear that Arlan's is continuing this outreach, but is limiting it to charities that Food King recognized. Over the years Carol Bohley has collected these receipts from anyone who would save them for her and the cash benefitted Live Oak Clinic. In this way the clinic has enabled many folks to get chest X-rays and blood tests that they couldn't otherwise afford. It is our hope that the St. Timothy's family would help by saving your Arlan's receipts and get them to Carol. You may put them in her box in the workroom, hand them to Carol or Bob, or mail them to her home address. Such an easy way to do the work He has given us to do.





CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve 5:30 p.m. Family Eucharist,
Saturday with the Joiful Noyse

10:00 p.m. The Christ Mass
 with the Senior Choir

Christmas Day 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite Two
Sunday with no music

January 1 **The First Sunday after Christmas**
Sunday 10:30 a.m. Christmas Lessons & Carols

January 8 **The Second Sunday after Christmas**
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite 1
 10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite 2

There will be no Christian Formation classes on December 25th or January 1st. They will resume on January 8th.



Master Schedule December, 2016 and January 1, 2017

	<i>Dec. 4, 2016 The Second Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>Dec. 11, 2016 The Third Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>Dec. 18, 2016 The Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>JANUARY 1, 2017 The First Sunday after Christmas Day</i>
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8:00 AM

Chalice	Gary Jones	Kay Aplin	Ken Box	
Reader	Margaret Jones	Harriet Cutshall	Ken Box	
Usher	Ken Box	Michael Gay	Bob Zeigler	
Announcer	Fran Hammond	Joyce Gay	Kim Lehnhoff	

10:30 AM

Lectors	Bill Hutchison Christopher Eddy	Adrian Zabala Greg David	Denis James Stephanie Townes	Kim Lehnhoff Keith Frank Karen Hadley Dave Mayberry
Prayers	Hannah Eddy	Raina Cline	Josh Laurel	Ben Laurel
Chalicers	Tony Janeshek GiGi Janeshek	Chris Weis Joy Zabala	Bunny Schockmel Sondra Griner	Gigi Janeshek Tony Janeshek
Acolyte Master				
Acolytes	Raina Cline Josh Laurel Emma Laurel	Ben Laurel Sarah Laurel Reece Cline	Hanna Eddy Cameron Eddy Carter Potts	Grace Symington Avery Weis Divine Obasi
Greeter	Marianne Essington Mary Claire Becker	Mandy Neal Marie Alvarez- Calderon	Marianne Essington Mandy Neal	Marianne Essington Sheila Conner
Ushers	Lee Massoletti Sondra Griner	Angela McCabe Sondra Griner	Lee Massoletti Jon Cox	Sondra Griner Angela McCabe
Healing Prayers	Gayle Pitts Char Aslakson	Bunny Schockmel Sherry White	Bunny Schockmel Gayle Pitts	Gayle Pitts Sherry White
Announcer	Sara Eddy	Clyde Neal	Sharon McKey	Clyde Neal
Sound Technician	Jay Richardson	Jon Cox	Alan Essington	Brent Symington

MINISTRIES

Altar Guild	Bunny Schockmel John & Gayle Pitts Angela McCabe Matthew McCabe Bo Smith	Ken Box Elaine Lillian Elizabeth Hargrove Donna Box Sheila Conner	Sondra Griner Kim Lehnhoff Kay Aplin Sam David Mary Stark	Bunny Schockmel John & Gayle Pitts Angela McCabe Matthew McCabe Bo Smith
Vestry	Rick Griner	Elizabeth Hargrove	Michael Gay	Kim Lehnhoff
Eucharistic Visitors				

Welcome Center	Marianne Essington	Dena Cline	Clyde and Mandy Neal	
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Master Schedule Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, 2016

	<i>Dec. 24, 2016 - 5:30 PM</i>	<i>Dec. 24, 2016 - 10:00 PM</i>	<i>Dec. 25, 2016 - 10:00 AM</i>
Lessons	Kay Aplin Christopher Eddy	Keith Frank Bill Hutchison	Fran Hammond
Intercessor	Ben Laurel	Hugh Frank	
Chalicers	Tony Janeshek GiGi Janeshek	stephanie Townes Jeff Laver	Ken Box
Acolyte Master			
Acolytes	Zach Shoemaker Ethan Shoemaker Hanna Bartlett	Hugh Frank Matthew McCabe	
Ushers	Bob Zeigler Lee Massoletti	Ken Box Fran Hammond	Michael Gay
Greeters	Elizabeth Hargrove Judi James	Sheila Conner Marianne Essington	
Sound Tech	Jon Cox	Jake Hadley	
Announcer	Sara Eddy	Carol Bohley	Joyce Gay

Vestry Michael Gay Michael Gay Rudy Laurel

Altar Guild

Susan Laver
Jeff Laver
Jeanne Manry
Gricelda Kichefski
Carol Bohley

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
200 Oyster Creek Drive
Lake Jackson, TX 77566

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Service Schedule

Sundays

8:00 AM – Holy Eucharist, Rite 1
9:00 AM – Fellowship
9:15 AM – Children's Christian Formation
9:15 AM – Christian Formation for Adult
10:30 AM – Holy Eucharist, Rite 2
5:00 – 7:00 PM – EYC

Wednesdays

8:30 AM - Army of Retired Men
(ARM) all are welcome)
4:00 PM – Junior High Bible Study
4:30 PM - Children's Choir
6:00 PM - Gentle yoga (Blue Room)
6:00 PM – Joiful Noyse Rehearsal
Or
7:00 PM – Senior Choir