

Rector's Report

Beginning again with updates for the congregation

In case any have missed the announcements that have gone out, Peter Woodruff has been called to become the next Director of Music for Zion Lutheran Church in Wooster OH. His last Sunday with St. Timothy's will be June 30th and we will have a reception following the 10:15 service to thank him and wish him well. Conversations are already underway with potential interim musicians who will likely serve us through the summer and into the fall. During that time a search committee will be formed to discern who our next director of music ministry will be. Sunday June 2nd we look forward to our 3rd annual Senior Vestry Dinner where present and past vestry members will have an opportunity to hear assessments of our current health and discuss plans for our future. This year will include a focus on parish discernment and who we are called to be for each other and the world moving forward.

Preparations are underway to kickoff an additional weekly service beginning the Sunday after Labor Day. This service will be held at 4:00pm each Sunday and will need volunteers to help make it a sustainable ministry. If you believe you may be interested in attending this service, please contact John Porter-Acee so that he may be able to discuss the possibility of serving as an usher, reader, or other essential volunteer.

The consecration of our Pet Memorial Garden was held on Sunday May 12th with 35 people and one dog in attendance. There was a great deal of positivity and excitement around the opening of this new and important ministry to our congregation and beyond. If you or someone you know has a pet that they would like to include in our Pet Memorial Garden, please contact the church office for instructions on how to proceed.

For the Vestry

On May 9th the Executive Committee had a zoom conversation with Sara Baily of Ministry Architects. The purpose of the conversation was to explore the services that Ministry Architects could offer to help guide St. Timothy's in a strategic planning process that would lead to a unified understanding of our mission and ministry over the next 3-5 years. 3 different levels of engagement were discussed that ranged in services over a four to thirteen month period with costs ranging from \$15,750 to \$31,160. A copy of all three proposals are included in this packet for your review before our May 20th Vestry meeting. As you read through the proposal pay close attention to the places where you feel we could benefit and from the places that you feel we do not need support to achieve our goals. A good portion of our meeting time on May 20th will be given to hearing from each other our initial reactions to the proposal. No decisions about whether to engage with Ministry Architects or any other consulting group will be made at our May meeting. Other proposals from other companies, such as Auxano, Barna, Unstuck Group, Artistry Labs and Malphurs Group are being collected for consideration and comparison. During our May meeting we do not plan to take time to discuss our three goals for the year. Instead, I would like to ask each of the groups to prepare for the June meeting by reexamining what you hope to achieve this year.

By our June meeting we will be halfway done with the year. I think that it is important for the whole vestry to have realistic expectations for what we want to try to accomplish by December. The goal charts that came out of our vestry retreat are not realistic, nor do they represent what I have understood our groups to focused on and working toward. Please bring a new version of your goal to the June meeting so that we can finish out the year with real focus on what we hope to accomplish. Consider whether you believe it would be helpful to make a list of the items that you have not chosen to pursue. Future vestries may want to include those items in future years or they may want to avoid them if you found the item to be something that is not really an appropriate goal for volunteers to accomplish.

It is unclear as to whether Jon Sargeant will remain with us as had once been our understanding. The diocese is discussing the possibility of sending him to Goldsboro from July to December. Once we have a better understanding as to when he may be leaving us we will make that information known to the congregation. At this point I am just making you aware of the possibility.

Finally, we will close our meeting on May 20th with an executive session of the Vestry to discuss personal matters not included in this report.

LEM's and LEV's

After a long break due to COVID the Lay Eucharist Visitor ministry should be starting back up soon. Dani Redd has been identified as someone that would benefit from a visit any time we are able to get to her.

As age continues to be less and less of a qualifier for participation in ministry, we are excited to find select teens who may be willing to serve as a LEM. The same would be true for recruiting some adults to serve as acolytes.

Worship Committee

At our last meeting we discussed a change that we would like to try for the summer. Beginning Memorial Day weekend. We will try have all worship volunteers make their way to their seats during the prelude. Our service will then begin with Announcements, Thanks Jar and our Opening Hymn sung in place with no procession. Acolytes will still process the Gospel and we will end with a "Procession into the world" instead of a recession. The change of name is meant to underline our need to take our worship with us.

Preschool News

The preschool has registered about 50% of the students needed for the fall semester. We are still getting the occasional call for tours and have retained most of our current students in the 2 & 3 YO classes.

We have 13 of 25 spots filled in our new extended day class (12PM-1PM Lunch Bunch) and have the staff necessary to cover that class.

Please help spread the news of our preschool program as we get most of our children through word of mouth.

We will hold a summer camp with an Olympics theme toward the end of August. It will operate from 9AM-1PM and will be for rising Pre-K and Kindergarten children.

The preschool will operate at a significant loss this year due to low enrollment. We have enough money in reserves to cover the shortfall. In speaking with other area directors, we aren't the only school whose numbers are down. We are hoping our extended day will help bring in more revenue.

Formation

CHIPS, nursery, EYC, and Families First formation continued well in the past month. One highlight was the "Pickle and Play" event we did with St. Paul's youth ministry. On April 14 we had around 15-18 youth and 8 adults at Elm St Park to play pickleball, hang out, have pizza, and be together. It was fun to see some faces we don't always see, alongside our regulars. We also had a lovely end of year youth ministry dinner where we invited parents and siblings to a cookout after the last EYC of the year. We look forward to a Popcorn Theology for younger families, senior recognition, the Pentecost potluck, and more in May!

Community Garden May 2024 Report

The garden is now completely planted with vegetables in varying stages of development.

Garden members have been able to enjoy ripening vegetables including asparagus, radishes, carrots, lettuce spinach and sugar snap peas. Our first shared produce of the season included 78 bags of lettuce and 34 bags of spinach, delivered to the St. Paul's pantry May 9. The fresh salad greens helped to balance out other food items provided for distribution.

Attendance has slipped slightly as many competing activities have emerged the past month with the warming weather. The "summer" meeting time of 8:30 on Saturdays started at the beginning of May and will last through September. Ad hoc work sessions continued to provide timely completion of garden tasks.

The swing bench provided by Karen Zimmerman contains some rotten wood, repair options vs. purchasing new are being considered.

Weeding, planting and soil leveling conducted on May 11 in the pollinator garden provided finishing touches ahead of the Sunday consecration. The site enlargement made room for additional pollinator plants to further enhance the appearance and benefits of the garden.

Submitted by Chuck Widney

Pet Memorial Garden

After much hard work, the Pet Memorial Garden is finished and has been concrete with the first interment of ashes on May 12. The core committee existing of Chuck Widney, Kathryn Lennox Loyd, Kristine Kelley-Salamon, and Whitney Porter-Acee provided the inspiration and drive to make the space a reality. Thanks also to Father John who provided guidance throughout the process. We must also thank all who helped with monetary contributions and with the tasks of seeing that this garden is officially sanctioned as a part of St. Timothy's ministry to the parish and community.

Junior Warden Report

Most of the month's activities of Building and Grounds were items of concern or activity, please refer to that committee's report for details of activities.

Orlando Cruz has taken ownership of replacing broken emergency lights and for safety inspections.

Chuck Widney

Buildings and Grounds Meeting

May 1, 2024
Meeting Room 5:30

Members Present: Ray Franks, Brent Foster, Chip Williams, Scott Crippen, Chuck Widney, Riley Roberts, Malcolm Williams

1. Opening Prayer

2. We just had biannual HVAC maintenance inspection and servicing. We had one system that was low in gas. We decided to repair the unit instead of replacing it because the bill to repair was only \$240.00. All other units were functioning okay. We were lucky this time.

3. Tommy Tucker has painted the office door red and now we are in the process of deciding what signs and color to replace the old signs.

4. Eddie Vincent was nice enough to donate 15 bales of pine straw for the church. The brotherhood just finished putting it out in the most needed places. We should be good until the next Parish Workday.

5. We are in the process of doing some painting in the Education Building. We have areas that need touching up. We have two classrooms that need painting and we need to seal around some of the windows on the exterior. This will be a work in progress.

6. The three benches in front of the sanctuary need replacing. The committee decided that the best option would be to purchase three Pawley's Island benches at cost for \$500 each. They have a lifetime warranty, will never need painting, and are very comfortable. They come in colors to match the exterior of the sanctuary. Chuck will take this proposal to the executive committee.

7. Leslie has requested that we look into replacing the old canvas tops for the 2 sandboxes on the playground. We are looking for the best option.

8. The front doors to the church are not sealing and closing properly. We are looking into having a door company to come look at them.

9.Chuck has noticed while scouting around our building on campus that we have a lot of old paint cans that have been put in different places. That is not good as we are going to dispose of most of them. A total of 11 gallons and 3 quarts most dated prior 2010 were removed.

10.We have dripping faucets in the women's restroom, parish hall sink, and the meeting room sink. We are going to call Hardee's Plumbing to repair.

11.Chuck brought us up to date on the Pet Memorial Garden.

12.Closing Prayer

Next meeting is June 5th.

Respectfully submitted,

Malcolm Williams

Committee Chair

Lobster Fair Planning Meeting

May 7, 2024

5:30 Meeting Room

In attendance: Angela Mallette, Chip Williams, Leigh Bell, and Chuck Widney

Update on organizations committed to October 11 delivery.

St Francis by the Sea, Salter Path, NC

LaGrange Rotary

St. James the Fisherman, Shallotte, NC-*considering date*

Logo and business card design selection, Use of QR code

Chip has confirmed with Megan that the Church QR code may be used

Chuck to check with Julia about post cards.

Chip to get quote from Morgan Printers

Potential of billing system and adding products

Discuss at next meeting with larger group

Status of Functional committee chair positions

Progress on schedule, Angela will contact last year's chairs

Set up of Google Drive? Chuck will explore benefits vs. maintenance

Obtaining refrigerators. Chip will check with Malcolm Williams

Advertising. Leigh will inquire.

Next meeting June 4 with all committee chairs.

We may use the potluck as an opportunity to promote the Lobster Fair.

Chuck Widney

Parish Life Ministry – April Report for May Meeting

Areas/committees included and person leading:

- Fellowship/Dinner Groups – temporarily parish life ministry vestry liaisons
- Hospitality/ECW – Valerie Foster
- Newcomers – Leigh Bell
- Brotherhood – Scott Crippen
- Daughters of the King – Connie Widney
- Cursillo – Diane Hatfield
- Cards/Games – Norma Henderson
- Knitting – Bitsie Harwell
- Yoga – Alyssa Sugar

Parish Life

- Attended calendar meeting
- Congratulations to all the leaders and supporters of the yard sale. It was definitely a success! What a success in getting to know each other as well, in providing items for the community, and in cleaning out our own homes. Win-win! It was well organized and well supported by the Brotherhood as well.

Fellowship:

- Old business:
 - Evaluating possibility of attending baseball games (Yard Gnomes) and/or soccer games (Greenville United FC) as a group during the summer.
- New Business:
 - Evaluate possible kayaking summer event.
- Action Items:
 - None

Hospitality/ECW:

- Old business:
 - ECW yard sale was a success. Congratulations to the leaders and the many people supporting this. The Brotherhood were also big supporters and staged a “tool man” booth outside. The yard sale profits were @ \$4000! (Congratulations!)
- New business:
 - Pentecost potluck on May 19th will be a true potluck provided by Parishioners.
 - Ladies annual dinner 🍷 May 14. Discuss the yard sale and plans for use of these profits.
- Action Items:
 - None

Newcomers:

- Old business:
 - Newcomers met on April 8. We have a new member, Gabby Decker.
 - We want to focus on making sure newcomers are getting information about the church.
 - The welcoming email from our committee includes upcoming events happening at the church.
 - We are now using the rolling cart for the bags that the greeter of the day
- New business:
 - Newcomers committee will sign up for coffee hour/lemonade on the lawn periodically throughout the year.
- Action Items:
 - None

Brotherhood:

- Old business:
 - Weekly meeting continues.
 - We will be putting the finishing touches on the parish hall kitchen
 - Brotherhood set up booth at the yard sale for sale of outside items and tools. Also they helped before yard sale with moving and setup of large items.
- New business:
 - The Brotherhood has its Social on Thursday of May 16. Our guest speaker is John Sergeant, and he will be speaking on some of his judicial stories as a Judge.
 - We are in the planning stages of an upcoming fund raiser.
 - We are also in the planning stage for a Brotherhood retreat.
- Action Items:
 - None.

Daughters of the King (Magdalene Chapter):

- Old business:
 - Daughters will provide coffee hour delicacies for Father’s Day.
 - Daughters will continue to meet, generally at 9am on the 4th Sunday of the month.

- New business:
 - A new member study will begin after Easter. Any woman communicant at St. Timothy's is invited to attend.
- Action Items:
 - None

Cursillo:

- Old Business:
 - Cursillo leaders meeting was held on April 26-28 to plan strategy for going forward.
 - Sarah Swindell, the next Cursillo's Lay Rector on November 7-10, greeted the leaders for EC #104 on April 28. Hope that St. Timothy's members will support her and be encouraged to attend.
- New Business:
 - None.
- Action Items:
 - None

Cards/Games:

- Old/New Business:
 - Our delightful church games continue the 1st & 3rd Wed of each month, from 1:00-3:00 pm! Our only need is more players! You're all welcome & bring a friend!
- Action Items:
 - Want to continue reminders on the refrigerator page about "Church Games" with times and dates. That has been very helpful.

Knitting (and talking):

- Old/NewBusiness:
 - Knitter's will continue to meet throughout the summer. We "knit and talk" from 10:30 - 12:00 on Wednesdays. All are welcome. Please join us
- Action Items:
 - None

Yoga:

- Old/ New business:
 - No changes for yoga except no class May 14th.
- Action Items:
 - None

Stewardship Ministry Reports for May 2024

PLANNED GIVING

The Endowment Committee met on May 8.

Minutes of the quarterly January and May Committee meetings were sent on May 12 to each Vestry member via email from Debbie Strickland.

So far \$17,135 has been raised for the Faith Fund, \$10,000 for the General Endowment Fund and \$7,135 for the Permanent Endowment Fund.

The General Endowment, which began with \$10,000, was invested with State Street Global Advisors in January, and with income and capital appreciation has grown to \$10,502.31 as of March 31.

Megan Roberts has deposited the \$7,135 for the Permanent Endowment Fund in an account and once it reaches \$10,000 an account will be opened with State Street Global Advisors through the Episcopal Church Foundation.

There are currently 25 members of The Red Door Society. This includes individuals, families and 2023 Vestry members.

On Wednesday, May 29 the Committee has planned an educational event titled ***Planting Seeds for the Future: An Introduction to Planned Giving*** for members of St. Timothy's to be presented by Rob Powell*, Bert Powell's father. This event will be held at St. Timothy's and will begin at 7:00pm.

The Committee's goal with this event is to educate members on planned giving, which will hopefully result in legacy gifts to the Faith Fund. Rob will not charge for his time for this seminar. The Committee hopes all Vestry members will attend this event. The event will enable you to become more knowledgeable about planned giving and not only how that might be appropriate in your financial/estate planning situation, but it will also enable you to talk to other church members about the importance of planned giving and its benefits to St. Timothy's.

* Rob is with Sound Partners and has been in the life insurance and financial services industry for over 45 years. His articles about financial planning and insurance have been published in multiple publications. Rob is a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Greenville, where he has served as Junior Warden and Senior Warden. He has served as a member of the Executive Council of the Diocese of East Carolina and as a Trustee of the Diocese. He also served for several years as the President of the Foundation for the Diocese.

Submitted by Barbour Strickland, chair of the Endowment Committee

LONG RANGE PLANNING

No report

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

No report

GRANTS COMMITTEE

No report

ANNUAL GIVING

No report

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church Administrative (Admin) Committee Summary Wednesday, May 8, 2024, Meeting Room

Meeting opened with prayer.

Members Present: John Porter-Acee, Debbie Strickland, Chuck Widney, Ray Franks, Valerie Foster, and Judy Franks

Members Not Present: Tommy Tucker

Administrative Committee Checklist: There are no items on the Checklist for May.

Document Storage/Access Update: At our last meeting, John offered to discuss with Megan her recommendations on the best way to implement a master plan for all documents to be in a location that can be easily shared, but also stored securely for safekeeping. Judy shared Megan's 5/8/24 update on this project. Megan reported having done a lot of work with CPU and that she has now figured out the Drive situation. John offered insight regarding this work with CPU. Our computer network was a bit challenging; access to backups and isolating accounts required a great deal of time and research. Megan also shared that all her documents are now on the Drive, and John has given her the flash drive on which he stores officially current

documents. Megan's next plan is to go through these documents, comparing files, and try to establish order.

Once our document files are officially stored in designated location(s), Admin committee acknowledged the need to confirm that the most recent version of any document, whether in storage or in print, is the actual one in use.

Document Proofreading/Editing: Judy asked for specific direction from the committee regarding formatting any edited documents. It was agreed that the file name for each document would be reflected in the footer, and the footer would appear on each page, such as "File Name 2024-0508". If a file is being reviewed, the saved version with any edits under consideration would be titled "File Name 2024-0508 DRAFT". Once a file is officially revised by committee, the date within the file name/footer would change to the date of the revision, and the word DRAFT would be dropped. It was agreed that Page Numbers should be used in all documents, in the "1 of X" pages format. Also, it was discussed and agreed that any "Revision Logs" contained within document files should be deleted from the file.

While the chair has been empowered to work a little more independently on basic proofreading, it is important to note that any documents, whether edited by the chair, with or without assistance, or reviewed/discussed by full committee in a meeting, will be shared with all committee members for review/discussion/approval prior to any official change in date.

Counting Procedure for Vestry: This document was reviewed by committee, as the result of a single question about one of our current practices. After thorough discussion and many other questions, it was recognized that more in-depth editing is needed. Judy agreed to make any edits discussed and to share the DRAFT version by email with the committee. As this document is still under discussion, the DRAFT will not be submitted to Vestry at this time.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, June 12, 5:30 in the Meeting Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Franks

Worship Reports for May 2024

Music

The program year is drawing to a close, and with it, the music ministry will soon pause for the summer as usual. Volunteering in music, particularly in the choir, is a commitment that requires a very hefty time commitment. Singers rehearse every Wednesday night for an hour and a half, and arrive 45 minutes before the 10:15 service for a 30-minute warm-up and rehearsal session, before serving as musical worship leaders throughout each service. Their generous dedication of their time and their eagerness to learn, improve, and always do their best work are admirable qualities that I appreciate. The "summer break" gives them a chance to rest, enjoy another free evening during the week, and attend church with family and friends without having to be "on duty." The choir's last Sunday will be May 19.

The worship ensemble has already completed their tour of duty for the program year as well. We are excited to have Josie Motsinger participating, bringing her skills as a guitar and mandolin player to the group. Susan Goodman has joined in the past with her ukelele, and we look forward to utilizing that skill more in the future as well. Last month, St. Timothy's hosted the North Carolina Choral Artists, a professional ensemble based in eastern North Carolina. NCCA's mission is to promote high-quality choral music of living composers throughout the eastern NC region. The concert was well-attended and very well appreciated by all in attendance.

In a typical year, the choir would resume participation in Sunday services on the Sunday immediately following Labor Day, which tends to also be our “kick-off Sunday” for seasonal ministry work overall. I like to feature both the choir and the worship ensemble on this Sunday. Rehearsals begin four weeks prior to the first Sunday for the choir, and the worship ensemble rehearsal schedule begins roughly around that time.

This year, I am of course moving on to a new position back in my home state of Ohio. I will be working with the rest of the staff and with some key volunteers to help prepare for the transition period. An interim music director will likely be hired while the search and discernment process for a permanent music director. With proper preparation and transition assistance, I believe both the choir and the worship ensemble will be able to continue operating on their usual schedule.

It has been my honor to serve here these past four years. I will miss the people of St. Timothy’s and our wonderful choir and worship ensemble dearly. Thanks to the staff and vestry for all of your support and encouragement. I will remain here until at least the end of June; please reach out to me if there is any way that I can be of assistance during that time to ensure a smooth and productive period of transition.

Sincerely,
Peter Woodruff

A/V Program

An A/V Ministry is a program considered to be ‘dynamic’, which I have learned is an adjective often used in the technical world to mean that a system is in constant change. This definitely describes St. Timothy’s A/V system. This doesn’t always indicate a negative change but changes in operation are to be expected from week to week. This ever-changing posture can cause some anxiety for an operator unless they understand and expect to address these changes. Therefore, part of our training to become an A/V operator includes this sort of information.

Our, soon to be completed Operation Manual, will contain both a Pre-Service Check List to attempt to discover any kinks or malfunctions of the system before going live. Some checks are currently done by the Music Director while others are completed by the operator. Also, the manual contains a Trouble-Shooting Guide to help address any issues not observed during the pre-check or did not manifest until the system went live.

The bulk of the manual will describe the various pieces of equipment, how to operate them from ‘turn on’ to ‘turn off’ in as much detail as possible, without being confusing. It will also contain photos of the equipment which is discussed in the text along with the location of the most used controls notated by numbers, which are also referenced in the text. The manual has been a long awaited addition to this ministry and is very close to being proofed and printed for anyone’s review.

Peter Woodruff and Marie Cooper

Ask Me

No updates this month

Greeters

Greeters now have a rolling cart that holds visitor bags and information. It can be moved closer to the door on Sunday mornings to be more visible and easily accessed.

Submitted by Leigh Bell

No Reports for the following:

Acolytes

Readers

Altar Guild

Ushers

Servant Ministries Report

Birthday Cards

Suzanne Shelton

- No report

Community Crossroads

Phyllis Dombos

- No report

JOY Soup Kitchen

Nancy Williams

- 587 served in April

Operation Sunshine

Sharyn Lennox

- The tutors purchased a \$50.00 gift card for Veronica Stokes for her graduating with a Master's Degree. Also provided fruit for a surprise party for her.
- Veronica has been assigned a church in Washington so not sure who will be the director next year.
- Tutors are throwing an ice cream party for the girls the last Tuesday of the school year.
- Outreach is looking for someone to paint a hallway and an office this summer. Also looking for someone to work on a light fixture for them.

Inreach

Mary Vincent

No report

Unseen Guest

Ashton Johnson

No report