

THE SAINT TIM'S TIMES

Our St. Tim's Story: the Buenaños

by *Andrea Buenaño*

Finding Our Church Home at St. Tim's

As an educator, research is in my blood. So, when I was preparing to move to Greenville almost three years ago, finding a church was high on my list. I was delighted to discover two churches practically right around the corner from my new place. Both had great websites, and from what I could tell, were doing great things in the surrounding community.

Even with the excitement of a new job and a new town, I still had those "new kid" jitters about finding a church home. Being the methodical type, "try before you buy," I visited each church a few times, trying out different services, and making sure what I saw on the website was not just face value. I had a few non-negotiables: a church that is diverse, gave back to the community, and welcoming to all individuals. Even though St. Tim's was a tad closer, those non-negotiables just clicked for me after attending several services.

Most who know me, understand that I'm the type who likes to slip in and out quietly, head down. But at St. Tim's, that wasn't an option. The community here, has this amazing way of making sure you know you're noticed and welcomed. They lifted my head up, so to speak. Even sticking with the 8:00 a.m. service (my usual "head down" time), I couldn't escape the warmth, and I started connecting with other young families, and my love for St. Tim's and what it means to me, and to our community, just grew.

Fast forward almost three years, and I've been blessed to have my daughter, Daniela, baptized right here – yes, at the 8:00 a.m. service! It felt so right, so special to have Daniela welcomed into our church family by the very people who first welcomed me.

We are truly blessed to have this community at St. Tim's. It's made Greenville feel like home.

see photos next page!



“St. Tim’s Stories” is an ongoing series for articles in our newsletter. We are glad to have heard from several folks now to tell their history. Who’s next!? Contact Martha if you’re interested formation@st-tim.org.

Sharing With Love

by Venus Curry, foreword by Erin Roberts

From Erin:

BRACE (Building Resilience and the Courage to Excel) is a community collaborative focused on preventing trauma and connecting resources across Pitt County and surrounding areas. The group began in 2018, is open to anyone wanting to help build a more resilient and resourceful community and meets monthly for breakfast, good conversation, learning and collaboration at St. Timothy's. St. Timothy's has been a great support to this group, hosting us each month and providing this wonderful warm and welcoming space.

The focus this year has been on increasing resources for teens and youth, and each month focuses on a theme with a panel of experts in that field. Each meeting there is also invaluable collaboration between attendees, providing information about services that directly impacts families and individuals throughout the area. This group also has become a support to community members working, and volunteering in these areas. In addition, BRACE partners every year with Martin-Pitt Partnership for Children in putting on Wellness at Wildwood (April 12th this year!), a community event at Wildwood Park with fun resilience-building activities for everyone at every age and stage of life.

Each month we grow and would love to have you join us, each 4th Tuesday of the month from 8:30-10am. While there is no sign-up required to attend the meetings, if you have any questions about the group feel free to ask St. Tim's members and staff who are regular attendees: Erin Roberts, Martha Whitesides, Mary Vincent and John Porter-Acee or check out our website at braceinpitt.com. We are so grateful for the support of St. Timothy's!

One of our most active members from the beginning, Venus Curry (pictured to the right), wrote this beautiful poem recently about BRACE and what it means to her:



Next Meeting

*Of all the monthly meetings I attend,
Not one of them is quite like BRACE.
You all contribute to creating an atmosphere
Where we each can belong and find our safe space.*

*Everyone enters the room with a smile,
And hugs aren't strange or too far away
For someone needing that warm connection,
To lighten a load, or to bring sunshine one's way.*

*I am a simple woman of few words,
But I am sure you will agree
That all attendees feel welcome to share
What's on their minds and hearts, confidently and carefree.*

*Each of you brings something unique to the table,
And we look around and wonder if you're not there.
We know that things come up and plans can change –
But just know that your BRACE family truly cares.*

*Gladie, I'm praying for your total healing and recovery!
And for anyone facing hardships, I wish better days...
And more laughter (less tears), more peace (less stress),
And to enjoy each moment and bask in the sun's rays.*

*My 10 AM meeting ended early a little today,
So I took quiet time to write this greeting.
May your day be most joyful and fulfilling,
And hope to see you again at our next meeting!*

*Dedicated to my BRACE family
Written by Ms. Venus Roshone Curry
February 6, 2025*