

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
Greenville, N.C.
Vestry Minutes
November 18, 2024

The Vestry of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church held a meeting on Monday, November 18, 2024, at 5:30 pm in the Multi-purpose Building.

Members Present: Bill Biddlecome, Steve Callender, Ashton Johnson, Angela Mallette, Marty Michaels, Barbara Shreve, Debbie Strickland, Leslie Veach, Mary Vincent, Chuck Widney

Member(s) Absent: Sharyn Lennox, Chip Williams

Others Present: The Rev. John Porter-Acee, Tommy Tucker

The rector opened the meeting at 5:30 pm. A quorum was present.

Opening Prayer: Ms. Strickland read the prayer sent by Ms. Lennox who was scheduled.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the October 24, 2024, vestry meeting *were presented and approved by acclamation.*

2024 Vestry Goals: The junior warden brought up the matter of identified vestry goals for 2024. He suggested that the leader(s) of each of the three (3) goal groups develop a year-end summary of the progress toward meeting these goals including any recommendation to continue work on the goal(s) and to make a presentation at the annual meeting. There was discussion about consensus and who would be responsible to assemble the summaries.

Action Item: Fiscal Responsibility – Ms. Mallette, Community Connections – TBD, Growing Together – TBD.

Fundraiser Applications: The senior warden presented two (2) fund raiser requests for consideration:

- **Brotherhood of St. Andrew Request:** February 9, 2025, at 5:00 pm for a meal to raise funds for the scout program re-charter and church projects. The target amount is \$800. *Ms. Michaels moved to approve the request that was seconded by Mr. Callender and passed unanimously.*
- **ECW Request:** February 22, 2025, yard sale. The target is to raise \$3,000 with 10% contributed to the church. *Mr. Callender moved to approve the request. Seconded by Mr. Widney, the motion passed unanimously.*

Warden's Reports:

- **Senior Warden:** See submitted report.
- **Junior Warden:** Mr. Widney presented the following items:

- **Parish Hall Roofing Update:** Walker Roofing has addressed problems to the parish hall.
- **Pest Problem:** There are cockroach issues in the parish hall. Terminix has been called.
- **Raised Bed:** This Saturday at 9:30 am will be the first planting in the new raised beds with children and parents.

See submitted report.

Treasurer's Report: The senior warden and rector reported for the treasurer.

- **Treasurer's Report:** The rector addressed the most recent treasurer's report and said that he was not positive that there was a negative cash flow. He thinks that the church is even or slightly positive.

Action Item: The Rev. Porter-Acee will send to the vestry updated financial information this week.

- **Rector's Salary and Benefits:** The rector distributed information about his 2024 salary and benefits and led the vestry through a detailed review and explanation. Now that only one (1) staff member is full time, adjustments to the 2025 budget for rector benefits are needed. He said that there will be an overall net savings to the church. The Diocese has announced and recommended at 2.5% Cost of Living Adjustment for next year.
- **2025 Budget:** The rector said that development of a 2025 budget has begun. He distributed and discussed a sample Revenue and Expense estimate prepared by the rector and Megan Roberts, Director of Operations and Finance, that will be used as a rough draft for next year's budget. Revenue from non-pledged income and miscellaneous income will be below budget this year and will be adjusted for 2025. The Rev. Porter-Acee told the vestry that Martha Whitesides, Director of Formation, has been working more hours than contracted and he hopes to increase her official number of work hours and comparable salary for next year. It is anticipated that the 2025 operating budget will be adopted in January or February of next year. Budget projections for next year will be discussed at the annual meeting.

Action Item: The matter will be referred to the Executive Committee.

- **Annual Pledge Drive:** The rector reported that 89 pledges have been received totaling \$319,000. Additional pledges may come in.

See submitted report.

- **Clergy Report:** The Rev. Porter-Acee spoke on the following:

- **Outreach Committee Organization:** The rector distributed a copy of an email that was sent to the Outreach committee members outlining his plans to re-structure, reorganize, and expand the duties and responsibilities of the committee including adding some new leadership positions. He and the senior warden met with the committee on November 4, 2024, to discuss the changes. Since the meeting, he said that all but 2-3 of the current members decided to leave the committee that now is essentially dissolved. He said he feels that the committee has done a lot of good for the community and beyond, but organizational changes need to be made.

He announced that the vestry will make all decisions regarding expenditure of outreach funds for the remainder of the year. There are no outstanding requests presently. Ms. Vincent commented about the original decision of the vestry that charged this committee and whether the vestry should approve the reorganization. In response, the rector said that this will be an organizational change that does not remove or create any power, and he doesn't think the vestry needs to approve. The rector further said that he has thought about making changes to the committee for about two (2) years. He accepts the responsibility to make the changes to the committee saying that the charge does not change but the organization does need to change.

- **Mutual Ministry Review:** The Rev. Porter-Acee led a discussion about the results of the mutual ministry review between the rector and vestry. Conversation followed. There were no specific recommendations for the rector. There was a suggestion to offer only the ministry review questions at the vestry retreat next year. The senior warden commented that the results of the mutual ministry review could be helpful for next year to grow together.
- **Senior Warden Elect:** The rector announced that Mr. Widney has agreed to serve as senior warden next year. The vestry applauded.
- **Diocesan Convention Delegates:** St. Timothy's may elect three (3) delegates and two (2) alternates to the convention to be held in November 2025. He led a conversation about the method to select the delegates.
- **Vestry Nominations:** The senior warden announced that three (3) parishioners have agreed to stand for election. Two (2) more nominees are still needed.
- **Education Building Repairs:** Ms. Strickland told the vestry that the original figure for drainage work around the building was only an estimate rather than a firm quote. The contractor has informed the church that the cost will be around \$30,000, which is about double. The latest estimate does include shrubbery around the building. The project is delayed pending receipt of further information.

Action Item: Malcolm Williams will contact C.A. Lewis for more information. The matter will be further discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting. The vestry agreed to decide about the project via email.

Closing prayer: Mr. Biddlecome

The meeting ended at 7:28 pm. The next scheduled vestry meeting is Monday, December 16, 2024, at 5:30 pm at the home of Debbie and Barbour Strickland.

Respectfully submitted:

Tommy Tucker

Clerk to the Vestry

See Attached Reports Below:

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR RECTOR

In the third chapter of the Gospel of John, John the Baptist is addressing his disciples about the arrival of Jesus. He reminds them that he is not the Messiah but was only sent ahead of the Messiah to prepare the way. John goes on to say that now that Jesus has come, “[Jesus] must increase, but [John] must decrease.” (John 3:30) I hope that we, at St. Timothy’s, will follow John’s lead and find ways to fade into the background as Jesus and the work of God in the world today are more and more the focus of our community. This may sound like easy work, or perhaps even like the absence of work if we think of decreasing as a way of doing less, but my experience is that making the mission of God the center of all things is quite a challenge.

During our celebration of All Saints on November 3rd of this year, I tried to describe some of the most holy work I believe we can do as Christians: the work of being the healthiest version of who we are and offering that to the world. This work has to be done at an individual level so that we are able to offer the true gift of who we are on a congregational level. As individuals, this may mean taking the time to focus on our physical or emotional health, or it may mean focusing on our worship, prayer, and opportunities to be shaped into the gifts God intends us to be. This work allows us to be able to show up with our passions and values, without demanding that everyone sees our way as the one right way. It is much easier for a community of like-minded people to discern how they believe God may be calling their community to work together for the future, because everyone supports the vision of their neighbor. We are not like minded in most ways which makes our work much harder and much more important. St. Timothy’s, because of our diversity of thought, can be what the world needs most.

The world is likely to see continued strain in relationships and continued divergence in the strategies that different groups believe will move them in the right direction. Our congregation represents a myriad of those strategies, and yet is committed to maintaining our relationships. We seek to move forward together with a shared vision and strategy for a shared future. We can clearly give witness to the option of allowing our personal actions and perceptions to decrease so that God’s mission and values can increase. If we have learned anything over the past generations, I would hope it is that there is not one human perspective that can provide the answers to the world’s most important questions. It is only God’s perspective that can point us toward truth and healing.

At St. Timothy’s, we cannot speak for the whole world any more than we can speak for God, but we do have great power and potential to point toward God, and to neighbors around the world, when we take the time to speak as one voice comprised of many perspectives. In our work to find one voice of consensus, our individual voices will have to decrease. As we strive to love God by serving our neighbors, together, God increases as we become centered through our identity as God’s people on God’s mission.

John+

SENIOR WARDEN’S ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Vestry members: Debbie Strickland, Senior Warden; Chuck Widney, Junior Warden; Chip Williams, Treasurer; Marty Michaels, Barbara Shreve, Ashton Johnson, Mary Vincent, Steve Callender, Sharyn Lennox, Angela Mallette, Bill Biddlecome, Leslie Veach, Tommy Tucker, Clerk; John Porter-Acee, Rector.

Those completing their tenure this year: Debbie Strickland, Marty Michaels, Mary Vincent, Ashton Johnson, and Barbara Shreve.

As a member of the Vestry of St. Timothy’s, I made a promise to faithfully execute the office according to the best of my ability, and as Senior Warden, I have worked hard to uphold that promise. We began the year with a retreat at the home of Bitsie Harwell and quickly bonded and grew closer as a team. The 2023 Vestry chose 3 goals for the 2024 Vestry based on areas needing

growth or attention, and we had small group discussions as well as whole group discussions about each of these. The 3 goals were: 1. Fiscal Responsibility (grants, fundraising, chapel, and asset allocation), 2. Community Connection (education, partnerships that include deepening our relationships with those we serve, meeting our neighbors, and deepening our commitment to the ministries we serve), 3. Growing Together (communication with all ministry groups, communication with the parish about opportunities, expand opportunities, increase intentionality of all activities, and updating St. Tim's on-line directory). Much has gone on this year as we have considered the viability of the pre-school program, the planned expansion of Firetower Road and hiring an attorney to represent us, the possibility of hiring a consultant to help us decide our needs and provide a master plan to move forward with grant possibilities for projects for our campus in relation to the planned expansion. We were so fortunate to have Jon Sargeant with us throughout the months of January-May. Liz Lane, Marty Michaels, and Donna Callender attended the Diocesan Convention held in February, I served as a co-chair for the welcoming committee, and a number of our St. Tim's parishioners volunteered to welcome and help attendees sign in when they arrived. We continued recognition and blessing of our many ministries, the Faith Fund continues to grow, and approval was granted to use monies from our Special Gifts and Memorials fund to pay for the new irrigation system and new plantings in the Memorial Garden, as well as the new benches outside the church. The 3rd Annual Vestry dinner was held in June and attended by 50 of our parishioners. John Porter-Acee shared information about our financial health and challenged those in attendance to "grow" our Faith Fund's Permanent Endowment to \$10,000.00 so that it could be invested, and it happened. We became aware of moisture issues in the Education Building and are in the process of getting specific recommendations for solving the problems. The Vestry reports and Vestry Summary for Revenues and Expenses are being posted on the website as part of better communication and transparency, and each Sunday a Vestry member announces 3 things of importance going on at St. Tim's. What would we do without our staff? John, Megan, Martha, Leslie, and Tyler do an awesome job and are a great team. Many thanks to them! I hope you will take a look around and notice ALL that we are doing not only on our campus but in so many other places throughout our community. We at St. Timothy's make a difference by choosing to Love God, by Serving our Neighbors, Together!

Faithfully submitted by Debbie Strickland

JUNIOR WARDEN REPORT

Connie and I joined St. Timothy's upon moving to Greenville in 1995. Connie has served as Organist and Choir Director, and I have been on the vestry three times before. St. Timothy's has evolved along with our changing world. We have built a sanctuary in which our whole church family can worship together, and we have seen a pandemic close us down, but come back more determined than ever to make a difference in this world. The one constant that we have observed is a caring church family. I serve on the Vestry to support everyone who makes St. Timothy's thrive. Serving on the Vestry is a labor of love and has the ability to strengthen one's faith and deepen relationships within this church family. The Junior Warden has assignments closely related to the upkeep of our building and grounds, but also helps set priorities related to our mission. This year was full of projects that worked both to maintain our property, but also to enhance our ability to care for the creation God has so abundantly blessed on our campus. The Pet Memorial Garden was created from an idea put into action in the fall of 2023. Most of the planning and work was done in the Winter and Spring of this year by a creative committee consisting of Kathryn Lennox Lloyd, Kristine Kelly-Salomon, Whitney Porter-Acee, and with my technical support. From what was originally thought of as a simple project, we realized that it deserved wider input and planning in order to establish this ministry into St. Timothy's core structure. With much discussion and review, a policy and garden were completed prior to the start of Summer.

Continued growth of vegetation and much loving care has produced a beautiful garden for the internment of animal ashes that have enriched the lives and touched the hearts of many souls. Another creation care project had been in the making since the beginning of last year, an Eagle Scout project made it reality, installing raised beds surrounded by pavers adjacent to our fire pit. This increases accessibility overall to the area and provides easy access to growing beds for mobility challenged individuals.

A third project handled by a group led by Jamie Kirby was dedicated to assuring a respectful appearance for St Timothy’s memorial garden. This project corrected some drainage issues and installed an irrigation system, decreasing maintenance and water usage.

Another significant action for our creation care is in enlisting the services of Henson Fuerst, PA, to represent our interest in the condemnation of property involved in the expansion of Fire Tower Road. Condemnation is inevitable, enlisting the services of an experienced attorney will help us claim and be fairly compensated for the loss of land and effect on the remaining property.

The aging buildings with lighting, plumbing and HVAC systems require both scheduled and as needed maintenance, a great system of volunteers and knowledgeable professionals kept buildings comfortable and functional throughout the year. Moisture and drainage issues with the Education Building have been identified and are being addressed. I must thank all the Building and Grounds committee members consisting of Malcolm Williams(Chair,) Brent Foster, Chip Williams, Dianne Hatfield, Ray Franks, Riely Roberts and Scott Crippen. A special thanks to Megan Roberts who routinely addresses many of the church physical needs and handles requests for historical information for investigations.

Respectfully Submitted:
 Chuck Widney

St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church
 Treasurer’s Report
 November 8, 2024

CHURCH:

Current Assets: Through October 2024, there is \$87,142 in the Southern Bank checking account. There is \$105,222 in a Certificate of Deposit in Southern Bank. There is \$46,564 in the Schwab Brokerage account*. There is a \$359 Sales Tax Refundable. There is \$11,825 in the General Faith Fund. There is \$10,677 in the Permanent Faith Fund, this totals \$262,092 in assets compared to \$244,967 the prior month.

2024 Total Annual Budget: Revenue - \$372,350 Expenses - \$414,804 Transfer - \$42,500

Revenues Thru	2024	2024	2024
September	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Plate Offerings	\$5,408	\$5,000	\$6,000
Operating Pledge	\$273,888	\$260,000	\$312,000
Payments			
Non-Pledge Contributions	\$16,300	\$19,166	\$23,000
Other Operating Revenue	\$11,144	\$26,125	\$31,350
Transfer from designated fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$306,712	\$310,291	\$372,350
Expenses Thru			
October	\$321,540		

Cash Flow (\$14,828)

PRE-SCHOOL:

Current Assets: Through October 2024 there is \$34,060 in the Southern Bank checking account and \$51 sales tax totaling \$34,111 total assets, compared to \$39,577 the prior month.

2024/25 Total Annual Budget (Through October.): Revenue - \$83,272 Expenses - \$95,941

Revenues Thru October	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	2024 Annual Budget
Tuition	\$29,498	\$25,544	\$75,932
Material Fees	\$2,700	\$2,480	\$2,480
Fundraising & Misc. Income	\$1,718	\$1,000	\$3,000
Delinquency Fees	\$15	\$35	\$100
Registration Fees	\$1,965	\$1,760	\$1,760
Total	\$35,895	\$30,817	\$83,272
Expenses Thru September	\$26,085	\$26,344	\$95,941
Cash Flow	\$16,930*		

Respectfully submitted:

Chip Williams, Treasurer

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Chuck Widney, Chair; Brent Foster, Co-chair
2024 report

The St. Timothy’s Community Garden welcomes all individuals who wish to work in community to produce fruits and vegetables enriching our lives and others through the JOY soup kitchen and local pantries. Garden members faithfully tended to the garden needs, welcoming new participants and strengthening bonds. We gave thanks in community for the blessings bestowed upon us as the year started; to kick off the garden in March; for our summer harvest with corn, shrimp and potatoes; and an Oktoberfest. The 2024 season was challenging, with our contributions to pantries reduced from last year as the “flash drought” in May and June damaged many of the high-volume vegetables usually available for early summer sharing. Excessive rain following this period damaged later season crops. The winter crop looks good, and we are anticipating sharing collards with a local pantry and other fresh winter vegetables that enrich our lives.

Joy Soup Kitchen: Nancy Williams

St. Timothy’s served 7,783 lunchtime meals on Thursdays at the JOY Soup Kitchen this year. Thirty-two parishioners participated in this ministry by serving, preparing soup, transporting soup and making sandwiches. This is a vital ministry for those being served and those serving.

Sunday Ministry

Sunday Ministry participants serve as lectors, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, acolytes, and ushers. Currently, there are 21 lectors and LEMs who serve either at 8:00 or 10:15, 13 serve as ushers, and 21 serve as Crucifers or torch bearers.

An acolyte training was offered on two different Sundays for those interested, with two new torch bearers coming on board. Also, one current torch bearer was trained to be a Crucifer. It is difficult to get folks to stay after the 10:15 service for training.

In the next couple of months, I hope to recruit some more folks to serve as Lay Eucharist Ministers. There is always a need and opportunity for more folks to be involved in this very special ministry of the Church.

Susan Holmes

Sunday Ministry Coordinator

ANNUAL VESTRY REPORT for 2024

A/V MINISTRY

The beginning of 2024 started with the exciting news of being able to live-stream our weekly 10:15am service to anyone, anywhere, wishing to take part. Until then we relied on recording the service onto a flash drive, which then needed to be uploaded to the website, relying on someone who had free time and the expertise to process that transfer following the service.

When St. Timothy's obtained a more reliable internet connection, we needed to 'grow into' this new format of sharing our service. We quickly became aware of steps that needed to be taken to accomplish this. Recruiting team members was, and still is, a challenge. Knowledge and willingness isn't all that enters into a decision of joining an A/V team. Being at the controls during a service means you can't always have strict attention to what is being said/done/performed. Instead, the operator is focused on where the activity is taking place, is the right camera catching the activity, are the microphones providing adequate sound and, very importantly, what and where is the next piece of the service taking place to allow time to 'set' cameras in advance to move smoothly from one part of the service to the next with no hesitations. We have had very few parishioners who had knowledge of or were willing to donate their time to learn to operate this system, but we always welcome anyone who is interested.

We needed a "how to" manual that could be a learning and training tool plus a place to gather information of the system for referencing. It immediately became apparent that equipment such as this was temperamental and had many idiosyncrasies which presented challenges from Sunday to Sunday. We began to discover things such as adjusting one control could cause a negative effect on another area of the video. Mysteries like these were baffling and created a need for a solution! Documenting all these characteristics was a must! It took nearly a year to complete the A/V manual which is kept at the recording station and on the church's' electronic files. The manual had to include equipment descriptions, control locations and functions, training information, a troubleshooting guide, quirks & solutions as they were found, and much more. These changes also dictated that the manual needed constant updating.

Near the end of summer, our Music Director, Peter Woodruff, was called to a church in Ohio. His departure left some of us on the A/V team feeling anxious because Peter oversaw the "audio" function of the system. However, the position was quickly filled when Tyler Schodt came onboard as our Interim Director. Tyler brought with him lots of enthusiasm and energy, which quickly spread among all of us. Our new Director brought great music and vocals to St. Timothy's as well as a willingness to learn the audio function that Peter had managed.

The A/V team is always open to any parishioners who would like to learn live-streaming and become a member of our team. Currently, we have two operators – Chuck Widney and Marie Cooper.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Cooper, A/V Team Member
November 8, 2024

BIRTHDAY CARDS MINISTRY

Suzanne Shelton

Ministry continues to send handcrafted cards to parish families.

COMMUNITY CROSSROADS CENTER

Phyllis Dombos, Coordinator

St. Timothy's has five teams, totaling 44 parishioners, who prepare meals for the Community Crossroads Center (Homeless Shelter) every 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursdays throughout the year. The meals are purchased and prepared by each team member with no reimbursement from the church. The number of residents were low as the pandemic ended to around 35 but has grown In 2024 to 80 residents to feed. CCC has a capacity of 100 residents.

Team Changes this year:

(Team 3) Gretchen Baugh and Gloria Bailey left, and they were replaced by Dave and Jocelyn Nelson and Susan Hall (neighbor of Mary Ava Johnson).

(Team 4) Dennie Walker and Becky Suggs joined this team.

(Team 5) Susan Holmes no longer serving. Kristen Atchison has joined this team.

The volunteers are as follows:

TEAM 1 Linda Lane, Jamie Kirby, Karen and David Carr, Sharon Paoloni, Liz and Richard Thiele, Eric Hedburg, Heather Tepper, and Eddie Vincent,

TEAM 2 Valerie Foster, Bitsie Harwell, Wendy Proctor, Nancy Leamy, Leslie Bowman, and Kathy Seibel.

TEAM 3 Phyllis Dombos, Dave and Jocelyn Nelson, Sharyn and John Lennox, Malcolm and Nancy Williams, Mary Ava Johnson, Norma Henderson and Susan Hall.

TEAM 4 Marty Michaels and Mark Tull, Frank and Ellen Crawley, Pam Johnson, Barbara Bowser, Becky Suggs and Jody Biddlecome.

TEAM 5 Susan Chatham, Leigh Bell, Jim and Pat Mitchell, Barbour and Debbie Strickland, Bev and Scott Davis, Ashton Johnson and Kristen Atchison.

Submitted by

Phyllis Dombos

Coordinator

INREACH ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Inreach as we know it today began the later part of 2013. Mary Vincent organized us with 4 coordinators who rotated weekly. It was not long before we realized we needed more assistance, so we asked 4 more to join the Ministry. In 2023, we expanded from 8 to 12 and have been blessed with a wonderful group of ladies who are very passionate about this ministry.

In June of 2023 Mary asked to step down as leader while continuing to serve on a team. We realized it would take 2 of us to do what Mary has done so well for over 9 years. Currently Linda Lane and Bitsie Harwell are serving as co- chairs for a 6-month term. 2 other members will be co- chairs beginning in January 2025.

The current teams are as follows:

Linda Lane, Debbie Strickland, Kim Ness
Marty Michaels, Bitsie Harwell, Wanda Williams
Kathy Seibel, Angela Mallette, Jamie Kirby
Sharon Paoloni, Barbara Williams, Mary Vincent

Each week we all receive an email report from the Ministry team of the week, that outlines who was contacted, sent a card and parishioner(s) who needed some kind of assistance. That allows for continued care into the next week, if needed. John Porter-Acee and Megan Roberts are also copied.

Additionally, we communicate with the Unseen Guest Team Captain of the week, if we discover that one of our parishioners may need a meal. Communication is the key to our success, and we handle that very well, even if it is needed before the end of the week. Linda Lane is gracious enough to send out our schedule after we let her know when we are available. This is different than Unseen Guest which has a preset yearly schedule that Megan Roberts has been gracious enough to compile for all.

The schedule for Inreach and Unseen Guest is published weekly in the refrigerator page and online with contact information. If you know of someone in need, please reach out to either group.

Submitted by

Bitsie Harwell and Linda Lane

Inreach Chairs

OUTREACH

Rise Against Hunger was very popular and well attended. Plan to offer that again on Saturday, January 25, 2025.

JOY Soup Kitchen John Porter-Acee, Nancy Williams, Sharyn Lennox, and Debbie Strickland met with Tom Quigley regarding our Thursday lunches. Nabs and fruit cups now come from the soup kitchen pantry although St. Timothy's continues for bring items donated by the parish or purchased by Nancy Williams. A food drive will be held on November 24 to collect Nabs and fruit cups.

OPERATION SUNSHINE

Continues with 10 faithful tutors on Tuesday afternoons.

In July three parishioners painted some of the spaces at the Center, repaired a broken light fixture. Cost was \$200.00

A fund-raising event will be held at the Greenville Convention Center on New Year's Eve to raise funds for the center. Two other non-profits will also be benefiting from this evening. Aces for Autism and Boys and Girls Club are also attending. Each group will be receiving \$20,000. Sponsored by Chris Godley State Farm Agency. The committee is sponsoring a table for \$500.00. Tickets for the event are \$50.00 a person. Info to parish will begin in December.

COMMUNITY CROSSROADS CENTER

had a groundbreaking in June for the new office/storage space they are building. When offices are moved from the current space it will free up rooms for families. A donation of \$500.00 was given to their building fund.

Other donations

\$250.00 was donated to our preschool to replace some worn out items in the spring.

\$750.00 was donated to the preschool to help with playground mulch.

\$250.00 to a family in need.

\$1000.00 to Hurricane Helene relief (western NC)

FOSTER KIDS

Christmas gifts began the first Sunday of November and gifts will be picked up by Social Services the week of December 9.

Nancy Leamy took over as Chair of the committee in August.

Submitted by

Nancy Leamy and Sharyn Lennox

Chair and Past Chair

RENTALS

We have rented out the parish Hall a great deal this year due to word of mouth, advertisement, and repeat customers. We have raised over \$10,000 for the church's operating budget this year. Most of our renters are excellent and we continue to learn from those that go awry.

Megan Roberts

UNSEEN GUEST

Teams offer and serve meals to those who are sick, injured, have had surgery, have had a new baby, or anyone who would appreciate a meal for other reasons.

Most weeks, 2-5 people are served.

We work closely with inreach.

Team 1: Kristine Kelly-Salamon(captain), Phyllis Dombos, Liz Thiele, Marty Michaels

Team 2: Ray Franks(captain), Karen Carr, Bev Davis, Bitsie Harwell

Team 3: Judy Tucker(captain) Debbie Strickland, Leigh Bell, Judy Tucker, Ashton Johnson

Team 4: Megan Roberts(captain), Norma Henderson, Paula Bowen, Tom Swindell, Pat Mitchell
(in the winter)

Team 5: Linda Mandell(captain), Leslie Bowman, Sharon Paoloni, Diane Gregg

Team 6: Barbara Bowser(captain), Sandra Karns, Mary Moore, Becky Suggs, Mary Ava Johnson

Ashton Johnson is currently the "chair" of this committee. If anyone would like an opportunity to serve, we would love to have you talk to any of the team captains or call/text/email Ashton! If anyone wants to be the chair, contact Ashton:)

Submitted by

Ashton Johnson

MEMORIAL GARDEN

In addition to seasonal plantings and occasional weeding and neatening, the Memorial Garden had significant improvements in June of 2024. The vestry approved the installation of an underground sprinkler system made up of two pop-up sprinklers and drip lines installed for many of the plants, including those in containers. Fidel Battista and his team, who did the original work on the garden redesign in 2018, installed the system along with making improvements in the soil and mulch. They also cleaned out the underground drainage system. Additional plantings included liriopie along the walkway and blooming bushes in the area closest to the office building.

Thanks go to Tommy Tucker who maintained the above ground watering system before the underground system was installed, and Debbie Strickland who helped with maintenance.
Jamie Kirby

USHER REPORT

The ushers have been very faithful at St. Timothy's this year. We have two ushers on duty each Sunday at the 10:15 service. They welcome our parishioners, visitors, and guests each Sunday. They hand-out bulletins and try to answer any questions. During the service, they help with the offering, carrying up the elements, and help with communion. The ushers also help when needed at all church functions. We would love to have more parishioners volunteer to help us with this ministry. We try to have training every year on our procedures and for emergencies. We are now serving each Sunday with the "Ask Me" volunteers to make Sunday services at St. Timothy's a warm and pleasant experience. I would like to thank Susan Holmes for doing all the scheduling for us.

Malcolm Williams

2024 LOBSTER FAIR REPORT

Lobster Fair 2024 was a great day with perfect weather, enthused parishioners and wonderful community participation!

The Parish Hall was full of good food and happy customers. Daughters of the King made pimento cheese; the Silent Auction & Retail Sales offered previously loved treasures a second life; parish bakers contributed to the Bake Sale & Cookies by the Pound; the Garden Group provided jams, jellies, and pickles; and the Quilt Raffle gave folks a chance to go home with a work of art.

The Education Building housed the East Carolina Railroaders model train exhibit, where both little kids and big kids could watch and dream.

On the church grounds, the Brotherhood's hot dogs and Shrimp on the Barbie were in high demand. The sound of area musicians and excited children filled the air, while a robot was on the prowl.

Lobsters and shrimp were prepped, cooked (or not), wrapped and presented to folks who often said they look forward to this event every year. Some chose to eat under the tents, while others waited to enjoy with friends at home.

Bookmarks publicized our worship times, and posters informed Fairgoers that the Parish Hall and Chapel are available for rent.

Volunteers from Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, DH Conley Honors Society and ECU assisted before, during and after the Fair.

While the overall Fair was huge success, we have identified areas that could be improved. More and earlier advertising is needed. Signage at lobster check-in and distribution should be clearer. More information about worship and service opportunities may increase community interest and involvement. We will continue to encourage newer church members to participate.

We were pleased that the on-line sales prices could be adjusted to absorb fees, however there were some computer glitches. We will investigate the possibility of alternate computer systems that might provide a smoother experience without excessive cost.

The Lobster Fair is a huge undertaking, and its success is dependent on the efforts of the entire church. Thank you to Lobster Fair committees, church groups, individual members and church staff for support and participation.

Parishioners were also generous in donating materials, food ingredients, and the use of personal equipment. Coordinating Lobster delivery with other churches moderated transportation costs. These cost-saving efforts contributed to our overall profit of \$18,300.

Fair-goers also donated \$255 for Western North Carolina hurricane relief, and this amount was matched from the Rector's Discretionary Fund.

Other benefits, as the commercial says, are priceless. As Lobster Fair committees planned and prepared, we were mindful that our activities should further St Timothy's mission. We believe that working with each other towards this common goal strengthens our connections within the church, and that welcoming our neighbors onto our church grounds gives us the opportunity to show who we are and how we love.

2024 Lobster Fair Steering Committee
Chuck Widney, Leigh Bell, Angela Mallette

PARISH LIFE MINISTRY AREA

As the church evolved during this year, the Parish Life Ministry Area was defined as including the following committees and groups. Beside each group is the leader for this area:

- Fellowship – Vestry Parish Life Liaisons
- Hospitality/ECW – Valerie Foster
- Newcomers – Leigh Bell
- Brotherhood – Scott Crippen
- Cursillo – Diane Hatfield
- Daughters of the King – Connie Widney
- Knitting – Bitsie Harwell
- Cards/Games – Norma Henderson
- Yoga – Alyssa Sugar

The excitement and commitment these leaders have for doing all they can to provide engagement activities and spiritual renourishment for St. Timothy's parishioners, the community and visitors is inspiring and a true gift.

Below is a brief overview of each ministry with the help of the leaders for each area.

FELLOWSHIP:

The goal of the Fellowship events is to connect people outside of the Sunday church services. Events are a way for church members and their neighbors to make deeper connections with one another through various activities.

Activities:

- We kicked off the year with the Dinner Group appetizer social and Trivia Night. This was well attended and lots of fun. The supper clubs were set that night and have been gathering throughout the year.
- Organized and hosted summer fun at Greenville United FC soccer game and Greenville Yard Gnomes baseball game.
- Planning the Christmas Sing-along around the campfire in December
- Megan Roberts arranged a celebration of new confirmands.

HOSPITALITY/ECW:

Meeting 2nd Tuesday of the month. All women of the church are welcome.

Events:

- Hosted several receptions after Celebration of Life services.
- Potluck honoring the Boy Scouts in February along with Brotherhood
- Coordinated soup and salad meals for Lenten Sunday evening suppers
- Helped with lunch for Diocesan Spring Assembly of Daughter's of the King
- Game nights
- Hosted a tea in the spring
- Very very successful Yard Sale. Made around \$4000. Lots of donations and lots of volunteers. Brotherhood were also big supporters and staged a "tool man" booth.
- Assist with potlucks during the year
- Setup Parish Hall for Lobster Fair
- Will host the White Elephant in December

This year ECW funds have helped with mission trip for youth, donation to the Brotherhood, donation to the church's general fund, and purchased 2 round tables for the Parish Hall.

Hospitality continues to monitor and stock coffee supplies. Welcome notices of inventory shortages. Seeking more volunteers for the Coffee Hour.

BROTHERHOOD:

All Men of the church are welcome to become a part of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.

The Brotherhood has been active this year in supporting many church events:

- Cooked hotdogs and hamburgers in support of the Scout celebration hosted by ECW
- Held Brotherhood socials with various programs including two officers from Southern Bank discussing how to avoid scams, John Sargent shared some of his experiences as a judge, and a refresher on CPR by Diane Hatfield and Kristine Kelley-Salamon
- Painted the kitchen supplying the labor and materials
- Cooked pancakes and sausages for the pancake supper
- Set up a booth selling tools at the ECW yard sale and helped ECW with moving and setting up large items
- Held a Brotherhood retreat
- Have been selling 911 green reflective signs as a fundraiser. Purchase of these is still open. They will also install it for a small fee.
- Ordered and paid for 3 Bunn coffee pots for the Parish Hall
- Helped with maintenance and improvements at Operation Sunshine
- Served meals at Lobster Fair

CURSILLO:

St Timothy's -LaPaz Ultreya

We started the year off with our annual Fund Raiser with a Pancake Supper for Shrove Tuesday. We served lots of yummy pancakes and money to send pilgrims and team members to Cursillo. We also donated 10% of our proceeds to St Timothy's operating fund.

Provided representation of Cursillo at East Carolina Diocese convention.

Spring Cursillo Weekend was converted into a strategic planning session. A Cursillo leaders' conference was held reviewing and laying out strategy going forward. Financial planning and Cursillo weekend content and flow were analyzed for improvement of weekend format and to strengthen finances for the future.

Fall Cursillo Weekend EC 104 was held in November. The following members attended their first Cursillo: Dennie Walker, Debra Mascarenhas, and Cecelia Scott. The following 11 members of St. Timothy's served on Team: Sarah Swindell (lay rector for the weekend event), Mark Tull, Marty Michaels, Leslie Bowman, Tom Czaplinski, Wanda Williams, Wendy Proctor, Sharyn Lennox, Karen Carr, Kathleen Yabsley, and Nancy Leamy. A Welcome back LaPaz Ultreya meeting is planned for Dec 8, 2024, at St. Timothy's.

Currently we have 4 reunion groups:

Lunch bunch – contact Suzie Shelton or Sharyn Lennox

Evening Group – contact Diane Hatfield

Coffee Group – Contact Marty Michaels

Online Zoom group – Contact Diane Hatfield

DeColores!

Make a Friend, Be a Friend, Bring a Friend to Christ

THE ORDER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Magdalene Chapter #3085

The Order of the Daughters of the King (DOK) is a worldwide spiritual sisterhood of women dedicated to a life of prayer, service, and evangelism. We are Christian women, both lay and ordained, who are strengthened through the discipline of a Rule of Life, based on the promises of our Baptismal Covenant and are supported through the companionship of our sisters. We are all at different stages in our Christian journey. Our primary goal is to know Jesus Christ, and to make Him known to others. No special spiritual attributes are needed to become a Daughter of the King, only a sincere desire to draw nearer to God, to help others do the same, and continue in the Apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread and in the prayers. Meetings are held monthly on Sunday morning between services.

The chapter continues to offer prayers for the needs of members of the parish as well as many others. Blue cards are available in the pews and a prayer box is available in the narthex for those desiring more privacy. All requests are confidential. Anyone can request prayers, and individuals are included in the prayers for 30 days. Prayers can be extended when requested. The chapter also sends cards to parishioners letting them know that we are praying for them during sickness, bereavement or other need.

During Lent the chapter collected donations of cleaning supplies from the parish for the Community Crossroads Center. Parishioners responded generously, and the chapter thanks all who contributed.

On April 13, 2024, our chapter hosted the Spring Diocesan Assembly. Province IV President, Kathy House, was our guest speaker, sharing stories of her faith journey. Over 40 Daughters

from the Diocese of East Carolina attended. Bishop Robert Skirving and our rector, John Porter-Acee were the preacher and celebrant for Eucharist, and Peter Woodruff was the musician. We are grateful that St. Timothy's provides a wonderful space for these activities. We also thank our ECW for serving lunch.

Connie Widney served as the diocesan delegate to the Triennial Convention of the National Order of the DOK in July in Louisville. The convention was a joyful experience, filled with worship, teachings, elections and many reunions among the Daughters. On the last evening Presiding Bishop-Elect Sean Rowe visited the daughters' banquet to greet all in attendance. Connie was even able to get a picture with him!

Connie and Phyllis had planned to travel to the Province IV Assembly and Retreat at Kanuga Conference Center in October, but the retreat was cancelled due to Hurricane Helene.

The chapter met to make 54 pints of pimento cheese to donate to this year's Lobster Fair. The Order has a strict no-fundraising rule, so we can accept donations but are not allowed to raise funds for our chapter.

Please contact a chapter leader for more information on the Daughters of the King. We welcome interested women to attend a meeting to learn more.

Members: Phyllis Dombos, Diane Gregg, Diane Hatfield, Jocelyn Nelson, Joanne Payne, Wendy Proctor, Hunter Summerlin, Marilyn Steel, Heather Tepper, Liz Thiele, Sylvia Whitfield, Connie Widney, and Wanda Williams.

Officers: President: Connie Widney
Vice-President: Heather Tepper
Secretary/Treasurer: Phyllis Dombos

Please contact a chapter leader for more information on the Daughters of the King. We welcome interested women to attend a meeting to learn more.

Knitting:

The Knitting Group continues to meet every Wednesday from 10:30 to 12:00 in the Meeting Room. Everyone is welcome!

We have about 10 ladies who come regularly and bring any hand work project they are currently working on. We talk and fold the bulletins for the next Sunday services as well as knit and talk some more.

This year some of us have made hats for the patients at the cancer centers at the hospital and Physician's East and for residents at Community Crossroads Shelter.

Carol Taylor, one of our members, supplies the hospital, Physicians East and those who need them with Knitted Knockers we have knitted in the past.

We have no agenda or plans other than to enjoy working together in Christ's name.

Cards/Games:

Church games met the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, in the church meeting room from 1:00-3:00 pm. Games were furnished by individuals, sharing a favorite game. Open to playing new games and having anyone join us. Thanks to all. Come and join us. Everyone is welcome.

Yoga:

Yoga continued throughout 2024, changing from Tuesday evening sessions to Wednesday evening sessions at 5:30pm. We usually had 2-10 people in class depending on the night. We welcome those interested to come and try this out.

Newcomers Committee

The committee members are Leigh Bell, Judy Tucker, Wendy Proctor, Erin Roberts and Gabby Decker.

This past year we evaluated how well we thought we were contacting newcomers and how accessible the Visitor bags are on Sunday morning. We implemented using a rolling cart for the Visitor bags that we pull right out to the door so as not to be missed. This is working well. No changes were made to the contents of the Visitor bag.

The “Ask Me” group remains in place, this group of parishioners is an extension of the Newcomer Committee, welcoming visitors and making themselves available to answer questions and give information to newcomers on Sunday mornings. This group, with a few others, also continues to serve as greeters at the door at the 10:15 service. Many thanks to these parishioners who help strengthen our efforts to provide a warm welcome to visitors of St Timothy’s.

Ongoing projects include creating ways to enhance our welcoming of newcomers and engaging them in fellowship with other parishioners.

St. Timothy’s Preschool Report, 2024

The school year is progressing smoothly for St. Timothy’s Preschool, thanks to our excellent & experienced staff. The preschool is currently about 70 % full, which is not ideal. We have four classes and 33 students. This year we extended our day by one hour for our older students, with the children bringing a bag lunch. The 12-1 PM class is called “Food, Fitness & Fun” and currently has 17 participants. We’re hoping that the extra revenue provided by this class will help offset some of our predicted deficit.

At a past Preschool Committee meeting a discussion centered on ways to involve St. Timothy’s congregation in the Preschool Ministry. We would welcome anyone in the parish who has an interest in caring for and educating young children to find ways to assist this important ministry. We can always use volunteers to read to children, assist with early drop-off, or substitute in the classroom as an assistant to the lead teacher. If you feel called to this ministry, please contact me by leaving a message at 252-355-2125, ext. 202.

The preschool staff would also like to enlist the congregation’s help in spreading the word about our outstanding preschool program. “Like” St. Timothy’s Preschool and share the preschool’s Facebook and Instagram posts. Distribute my business cards or post a flier at your place of business. Tell family, friends, and neighbors with young children about our program and invite them to come tour our campus. There is a lot more competition these days, and we’d like folks to know about our outstanding program. We are thankful for all that St. Timothy’s does to help us provide this important ministry to our parish and community!

The Preschool Committee needs a few additional members. If you would be willing to attend quarterly meetings and assist in guiding this ministry, please contact me at

Labowman317@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted by Leslie Bowman, Preschool Director

Preschool Committee Members: Rev. John Porter-Acee, Leslie Bowman, Kristine Kelly-Salamon, Barbara Shreve, Steve Callender and Joyce Whitman.

PLANNED GIVING

The Faith Fund is a little more than a year old. The Faith Fund Committee members are Barbour Strickland, Ed Kirby and Bert Powell. During 2024 the Faith Fund Committee met quarterly - to review the performance of the invested funds, to plan educational programs, to discuss ways to recognize and thank members of the Red Door Society, and ways to increase the number of donors to the Faith Fund.

There are currently 21 members of the Red Door Society in addition to the 2023 Vestry members' contributions.

The Faith Fund has two endowment components, the General Fund and the Permanent Fund. The current market values, as of October 31, 2024, are - General Fund \$11,588.90 and Permanent Fund \$10,463.54.

On Wednesday, May 29, 2024, the Committee held an educational event titled *Planting Seeds for the Future: An Introduction to Planned Giving* for members of St. Timothy's, which was presented by Rob Powell, Bert Powell's father. Approximately 12 people attended the event. The event was videotaped, and the video is available on the church's website.

The next educational program will be held on Thursday, January 23, 2025 at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. The subject will be Wills, Estates and Legal Planning, and will be conducted by Amy Wells, an attorney with Gaylord, McNally, Strickland, Snyder and Wells. All parishioners and guests are invited.

The next Committee meeting will be held on February 4, 2025.

LONG RANGE PLANNING

No report

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

No report

FORMATION

2024 has been full in so many ways, and yet there is so much more to do! It is hard to capture in one space, but I will do my best.

Acolytes Our acolyte ministry remains strong under the leadership of Susan Holmes, even as scheduling continues to be a challenge for busy families. Three additional acolytes were trained/or are set to be trained this fall. More are welcome!

CHIPS Sunday mornings are busy with connection and learning during the sermon+ for children from 2yo through 5th grade. We range from 2-11 participants as we read a story about a scripture reading from the day, learn more about the prayer book, and complete our own prayers of the people. We are grateful for our three volunteers.

Confirmation A 4-session series was completed in the fall of 2023, and 11 individuals were confirmed in February by Bishop Skirving.

Diocesan Events Several opportunities are afforded to middle and high school students throughout the year. In January 4 went to Winter Retreat. In April we had 1 participant, 2 team members, and 1 adult head to New Beginnings. In November we will have 3 participants, 3 team members, and 1 adult at Middle School Fall Conference.

Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) This group meets the 2nd and 4th Sundays and is open to 6th-12th graders. In the spring we averaged 7 in attendance, and this fall we are up to 8.4. We range anywhere from 5-10 on a given night. We are also very grateful for the five committed volunteers! We have also enjoyed fun partnership events with St Paul's: ice skating (10 youth), pickleball (18

youth and 8 adults), pumpkin patch (14 youth and 5 adults), and upcoming (as of writing) our popular dinner and shopping for foster children outing.

Families First Families First Formation continues 9:30-10am with variable attendance (ranging from 8-17 over the course of the year). We continue to have interest in all roles for Families First worship.

Formation Committee In our second year, we have increased from 6 members to 9, including 2 high school representatives.

JJs rug This space is popular to many ages who need a renewed focus during worship services. We are working on a rotation schedule for materials and books that will align with church seasons as well as keep the space fresh and exciting.

Nursery We continue to support 6+ families with our Sunday morning nursery. Some have “aged” or “opted” out, and some new babies aren’t even in there yet! We also welcomed a new nursery worker this fall, bringing us to 3 paid providers and 6 volunteers.

Outreach The formation department organizes the monthly lunch packing parties for Community Crossroads Center as a hands-on way to participate in outreach for all ages, many of which are limited in outreach opportunities due to age limitations set by organizations.

Pew bags These continue to be popular across many ages as well and are particularly welcoming to guests.

Popcorn Theology These continue to be a gathering filled with fun, fellowship, and faith. This fall we have watched Shrek and Moana, and in the spring we saw Inside Out and Cool Runnings. We tend to see between 4-7 families at these events which usually equals about 10-25 people.

Special Events

Lenten parent group: during Lent, six households totaling 9 parents participated in our 6-session Zoom offering “Practical Tools for Raising Faithful Kids”. The age range spanned kids from infant to 6th grade. It was a wonderful community building experience, as well as working with a different spiritual practice each week in our own lives and discussing how that might translate in our family lives.

Here is a quote (I asked for feedback through a brief survey) that I think really sums up how we met our (my) goal of supporting parents well: “Many of the practices really resonated with me ...

While not everything is something that can be fully implemented with our family yet due to age- they are good practices for us as parents to get into the habit of doing and can implement down the road and/or realizing children pick up on more than we likely realize.”

VBS: we again partnered with St Paul’s and Our Redeemer this summer on VBS, hosted in the evenings by St. Paul’s. We had a total of 35 participants, 12 youth volunteers, and 24 adult volunteers, plus dinner contributors.

Spark’Dwell: We returned to Winston-Salem this summer with 5 students and 2 adults to participate in the Spark’Dwell spirit and service-learning opportunity. If you haven’t heard reflections from the participants yet, I encourage you to check out the newsletters to read more! I could go on, but this is plenty... we continue to grow and learn what formation means for us today, and I look forward to seeing where we go next.

Respectfully submitted, Martha Whitesides

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS ANNUAL REPORT

2024 was another busy year for the Buildings and Grounds Committee. The committee members this year were Malcolm William (chair), Chuck Widney (Jr. Warden), Chip Williams (chair elect), Ray Franks. Scott Crippen, Brent Foster, Diane Hatfield, Riley Roberts, and Orlando Cruz.

We had our normal problems of leaks and replacing light bulbs. We thank Brent and Riley for handling most of these problems. We also discovered that Orlando is a handyman and was a big help this year.

We touched up the parish hall kitchen by repairing cracks and painting. We also fixed the drain for the two icemakers. The kitchen looks a lot better. Scott was our ramrod. The costs for the materials and labor to do the work was furnished by the Brotherhood. We changed most of our thermostats for the heat pumps on our campus to heat pumps on our campus to heat with gas instead of electricity. The heat seems to be “hotter” so we can turn our thermostats down. We hope to also save on our utility bill.

Riley put reflectors on the edges of the driveway to the first parking lot so nobody would miss the driveway and run into the ditch. They look good and are very effective.

Tommy Tucker painted the office door red and installed new lettering for office hours on the door. He also repainted all the red doors on campus. We also replaced the three worn-out benches in front of the church.

A Pet Memorial Garden was installed next to our firepit this year. A lot of thought and work was put into this project. This area is beautiful and a great addition for St. Timothy’s.

We also re-worked our Memorial Garden this year. We put in an irrigation system and leveled the markers. The Memorial Garden already looked good but now It is something we should really be proud of at St. Timothy’s. We spruced up some rooms in the Education building. We touched up cracks and painted the wall in the rooms.

The Education building has a moisture and drainage problem, which we have had for years. We decided to hire C. A. Lewis as our contractor/consultant on the project. We have met with them and an engineer to try to decide what course of action we need to take to correct these problems. We have decided that our first step is to install a french drain around the building and to get the engineer to do an analysis of our building. We will see what the next step is after we do these two things.

We are replacing the worn-out rails on the steps of the Multi-Purpose building with the same railing that we put on the church choir loft. Those should last a lot longer and look a lot better.

A boy scout in our church troop just completed an Eagle Scout project to build raised beds. It is in the same area as our firepit and Pet Memorial Garden. It looks very good in that area, and we hope to get children involved in painting different items on the walls of the raised beds.

This year our expenses for Buildings and Grounds are running right in line with our budget, which is good. Chip Williams is on deck to be chair of this committee next year.

Malcolm Williams