

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church



**Annual Report
November 12, 2017**

**ST. TIMOTHY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
2017
PARISH DIRECTORY**

Bishop.....The Rt. Rev. George Young, III
Bishop-Elect.....The Rev. Brian Cole
Rector.....The Rev. Derrick C. Hill
Associate Rector.....The Rev. Taylor W. Dinsmore
Seminarian..... Gina Brewster Jenkins
Director of Music Ministries..... Philip Newton
Plant Manager/Sexton..... Jabus Braxton
Assistant Sexton.....John Payne
Youth Director.....Elizabeth Burns
Director of Communications..... Jenna Haines
Bookkeeper.....Cary Haney
Children's Christian Formation Director..... Jessie Pogue
Thrift Shop Manager.....Joselyn Willis

VESTRY OFFICERS

Senior Warden..... John MacCoon
Junior Warden..... Bill Chimley
Treasurer..... Nancy Ruby
Clerk.....Cathy Pyron

MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY

Term Ending 2017.....John MacCoon
Cathy Pyron
Tonda Rawls
Rick Sommer

Term Ending 2018.....Cathy Robbins
Judith Miller
Chip Langley
Bill Chimley

Term Ending 2019.....Beth Hackett
Buffie Harper
Kathryn Kay
John Leavens

VISIONING TEAMS

COMMUNITY FOCUS:

PARISH LIFEKathryn Kay, Vestry Liaison

Parish Life Fellowship – Ann Pinion, Betty Ewing, Kittie Williams
Easter Egg Hunt – Mitzi Ruth
Wedding Coordinators – Keith Barry and Betty Jones
Funeral Coordinators – Jody Randolph, Donna Collier
Supper Club – Judith Miller, Kathryn Kay, Betty Ewing

OUTREACHJudith Miller, Vestry Liaison

Metropolitan Ministries – Rick Sommer
Thrift Shop – Annie Hall
Hosanna Community – Joe Galbraith
Neema Resettlement Ministry – Susannah Murdock
Community Kitchen – John Leavens
Children's Nutrition Program (Haiti) – Kemmer Anderson
Signal Mountain Social Services – Diane Welsh
St. Isidore's Hands – Laura Witherspoon
Community Garden – Lolly Durant
Salvation Army Angel Tree – Diane Welsh
Honduras Mission Trip – Jeanne Teter
Family Promise – Leigh Althaus, Susan Gruber

PASTORAL CARECathy Robbins, Vestry Liaison

Eucharistic Visitors – Katie Piper
Meal Ministry – Darrington Crane
Prayer Shawl Ministry – Evie Durant
Card Ministry – Barbara Warner, Carol Llewelyn
Birthday Caller – Betty Ewing
Flower Delivery – Margaret Smith
Prayer List – Cathy Robbins, Jenna Haines
New Baby Ministry – Samantha Ward
Yoga – Sandi Pierce, Anne Johnson

FORMATION FOCUS:

WORSHIPJohn Leavens, Vestry Liaison

Verger – Katie Piper
Eucharistic Ministers – Bill Chapman
Lectors/Intercessors – Gail Chapman
Acolytes – Julie Novak
Ushers – Chip Langley
Music – Philip Newton
 Adult Choir – Philip Newton
 Children's Choirs – Philip Newton
 Handbells – Kathy Tugman
 Zammarin – Tarbell Patten, Kathy Tugman

Scheduler – Renee Leavens
Children's Chapel – Jessie Pogue
Altar Guild – Wendy Roth, Cathy Robbins
Liturgical Arts Guild – Sarah McKenzie
Greeters – Betty Ewing
Nursery – Mitzi Ruth

EDUCATION/FORMATION Rick Sommer, Vestry Liaison

Children's Sunday School – Jessie Pogue
Youth Sunday School – Elizabeth Burns
Young at Heart Christian Formation – Phil Monday
Adult Christian Formation – Woody Piper,
Rector's Forum – Woody Piper, Rick Sommer, Clergy
Adult Christian Education Series – Jim Dunbar
Education for Ministry (EfM) – Bess /Bill Steverson
EYC – Elizabeth Burns
Nursery – Linda Gehron, Mitzi Ruth
Women's Book Study – Betty Ewing
Women's Bible Study – Donna Collier
Men's Book Study – Joe Johnson
Confirmation/Inquirer's Class – Clergy, Elizabeth Burns
Cursillo – Paul Miller

STEWARDSHIP FOCUS:

STEWARDSHIP Buffie Harper, Vestry Liaison

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS Chip Langley, Vestry Liaison

Design Review Committee – Daniel Durant, Tony Hullender, Judith Miller,
Dominique Gable, John MacCoon, Bob McKenzie, Jim Hall, Jim Dunbar

ORGANIZATION FOCUS:

ADMINISTRATION Tonda Rawls, Vestry Liaison

Finance Committee – Nancy Ruby, Gary Critser, Suzy Deierhoi, David Head,
Dave Maley, Cathy Robbins

EVANGELISM Beth Hackett, Vestry Liaison

Welcoming Church – Betty Ewing
Bread Ministry
Greeters and Oblations
Mentor Program
Newcomer Activities
Community & Support Groups (Boy Scouts, AA)
Preschool – Susan Laseter, Director
Mountain Arts Community Center

AGENDA FOR THE 2017 ANNUAL PARISH FORUM

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Introductions
4. Treasurer's Report and Budget Discussion
5. Senior Warden Introduces Vestry and Visioning Teams
6. Rector's Report
7. Associate Rector's Report
8. Wardens' Report
9. Other Business/Open Forum
10. Concluding Prayer
11. Adjournment

The By-Laws of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church provide for an Annual Parish Meeting for the election of the Vestry and for the purpose of presenting annual reports of parish organizations. All confirmed Communicants of the parish in good standing who are at least sixteen (16) years of age are eligible to vote at the meeting. Fifty (50) such Communicants must be present to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Voting by proxy is not permitted.

CANDIDATES FOR THE VESTRY 2018-2020

Gary Critser

I have been a member of St. Timothy's since 1982. I deem it an honor and a duty to run for a position on the vestry. I believe St. Timothy's is in a transition point in the church's life, and I would very much like to be involved during these exciting times. I am recently retired after a 40-year career in Executive Management, and Charlotte and I have just celebrated our 41st anniversary. We have three adult children all raised in the church, three grandchildren, and another due in March.

During my career, I was actively involved in several organizations such as Family Promise (Board Chairman), The Raymond B Preston Family Foundation (Board President), and various business associations. At St. Timothy's, I have served on three capital campaigns, taught high school Sunday School for five years, volunteered many years for EYC, served on the Vestry, served as Treasurer for five years, and volunteered at MOST during the Bar-B-Que years.

Rick Sommer

I have been a member of the Episcopal Church for 10 years and served as treasurer in Otey Parish Sewanee. Willie and I moved to Alexian in 2014 and joined St. Timothy's, worshipping at the 8:00 a.m. service and serving as an usher. Since 2015, I have volunteered at MetMin and become a member of the Outreach community. Last year, an opportunity to fill an unexpired term on the vestry allowed me to become the Vestry Liaison for Christian Education, and I also began participating in the EfM program.

Bill Steverson

I have been an active member of St. Timothy's for about 20 years. Over that time, I have been involved in several ministries, including as a Eucharistic Minister, an usher, a member of the Vestry, leading the adult Sunday School class, serving as a delegate to Diocesan convention, and other activities. More recently, I led the effort to re-start EfM (Education for Ministry) classes at St. Timothy's and, over the past five years, have served as the leader of those classes.

Ginger Williams

Our family moved to Signal Mountain on December 20, 2013. The first time we attended St. Timothy's was four days later at the 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service. I was overwhelmed by the beautiful service, and knew I had found my new church home. I am a cradle Episcopalian and have attended many Episcopal Churches around the country with moves related to my husband's service in the Navy, as well as civilian moves.

My husband, Gordon, works for TVA and I am a school counselor at Brainerd High School. We have three children who all attend SMMHS. They are Grant (12th grade), Gabe (10th grade), and Grace (8th grade). We are so grateful for the fantastic youth group that welcomed our children four years ago and continues to support them through their teenage years. I have also enjoyed participating in Young at Heart and Bread for the Journey.

I am so happy to be a part of St. Timothy's and would be honored to give back by serving as a member of the Vestry.

Treasurer's Report

2017 Budget: Ministry-Focused Report

St. Timothy's is experiencing "growing pains" as we transition to a program-sized/resource parish. Expenses for the year are higher, due to staff additions to enhance ministries, while the anticipated revenue has not tracked as close. With effective stewardship and collective visioning, the budgetary commitment for operating can become an exciting process towards achieving abundance, with thoughtful use of income sources!

2017 INCOME BUDGET

Pledge Income	\$ 801,200
Plate offering	70,000
Rental Income	21,000
Unreserved Funds for Operating	4,745
	<u>\$ 896,945</u>

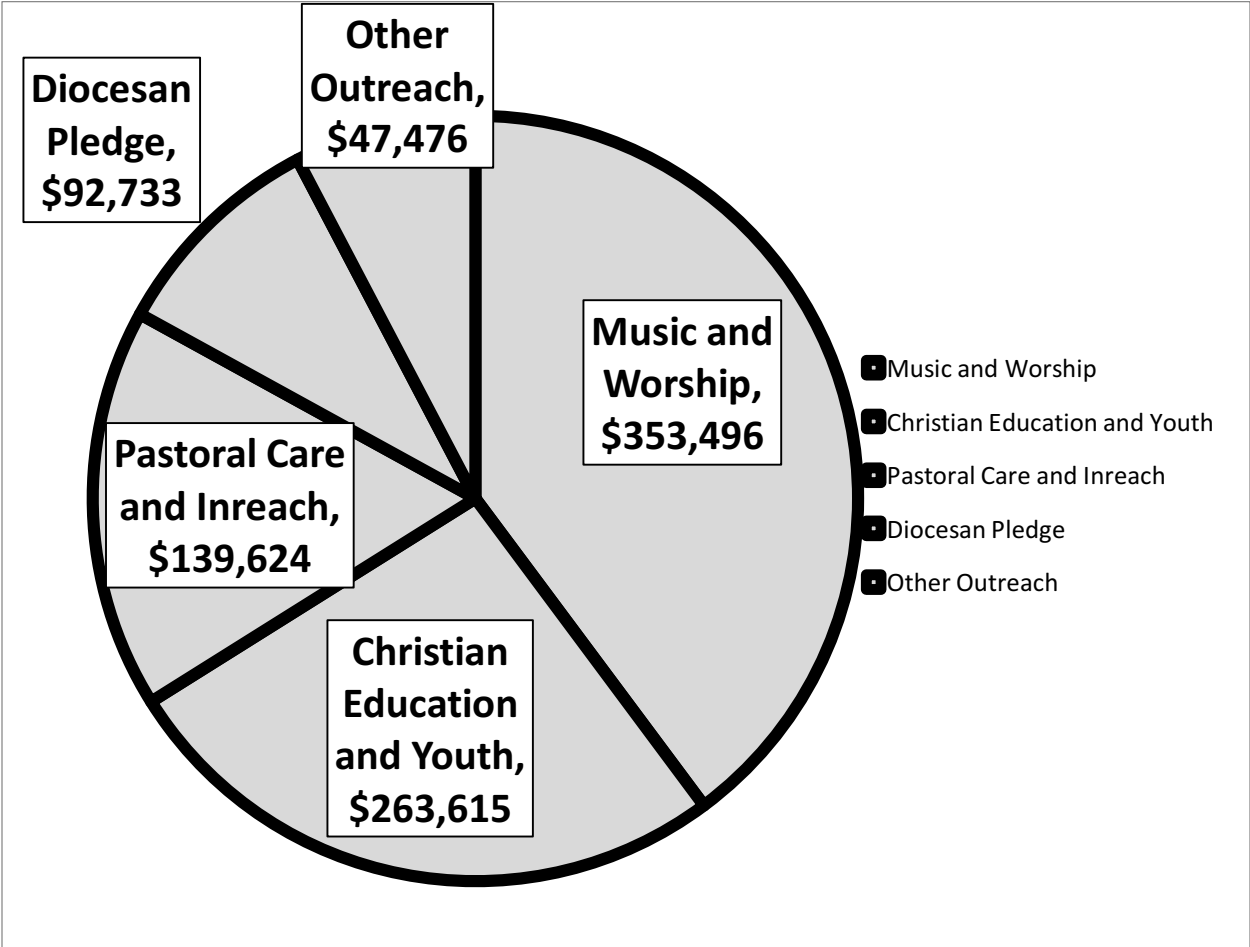
2017 BUDGET BY SWEEPSA AREA

Administrative and support	\$ 494,932
Buildings and grounds	63,442
Christian education commission	73,150
Evangelism/newcomer ministry	1,000
Diocesan pledge	92,733
Other local outreach	30,000
Parish life commission	5,750
Pastoral care	500
Stewardship commission	1,200
Worship/music ministry	134,238
	<u>\$ 896,945</u>

2017 BUDGET BY MINISTRY-FOCUSED AREA

Music and Worship	\$ 353,496
Christian Education and Youth	\$ 263,615
Pastoral Care and Inreach	\$ 139,624
Diocesan Pledge	\$ 92,733
Other Outreach	\$ 47,476
	<u>\$ 896,945</u>

2017 Budget Graph



VISIONING TEAM REPORTS

Parish Life

Ministries, social activities, fellowship within the Parish.

Kathryn Kay, Vestry Liaison

Fellowship and the ‘breaking of the bread’ are the icing on the cake of being a part of a worshipping community. From cake, cookies, potluck suppers, barbecue, to early Sunday morning breakfasts, it is easy to believe that ‘celebrating’ only happens in the church and that getting together to have fun and enjoy each other is not an essential part of Christian formation. But, actually, it is just the opposite. Jesus broke bread with his disciples. He bid the people sit down and share all that they had at the Feeding of the Five Thousand. Jesus grilled and ate fish on the beach with his disciples following the Resurrection and even ate with tax collectors and sinners. Fellowship is how we get to know each other and how lives are changed in the knowing.

Fellowship is the easy part of being the body of Christ and it can lead to greater understanding, greater compassion and even better pastoral care within a parish. We are to love one another as God loves us and that only happens when we truly begin to know each other.

Fellowship is a way of celebrating who we are as members of God’s family and learning to embrace each other in the same way that God loves us. So, join in whenever you can and get to know the members of this parish family and enjoy the wonderful food that is always in great supply!

Overall, 2017 has been a busy year for Parish life. Our budget was \$5750, and we spent it on the functions below:

- Bishop's reception
- Supper Club (Daniel Durant)
- Home Coming in Fall (Snowe Green and Committee)
- Breakfast (Gentry Johnson and volunteers)
- Foyer Groups (Beth Hackett and Chris Goya)
- Holy Ghost Weenie Roast (Elizabeth Burns and volunteers from MOST)
- The Bringing Us All Together Gala at Alexian Inn (Buffie Harper, Beth Hackett, Kitty Kay, and committee; came from a special fund)

Many persons have volunteered for various functions. So far, each time a need arrives, so do the volunteers. Keep this going by saying YES when asked for help!

Outreach

Ministries to people outside the Parish

Judith Miller, Vestry Liaison

In our church profile, we proclaim that we are a congregation “driven by its passion for doing good works in the world.” One of our top priorities is “expanding outreach ministries that provide direct services to those living on the margins of society.”

We are the church that “feeds people,” and we did just that in 2017.

We now serve eleven principal ministries*:

- Metropolitan Ministries
- St. Isidore’s Hands
- Family Promise (IHN)
- NEEMA Resettlement Ministry
- The Community Kitchen
- Signal Mountain Social Services
- Children’s Nutrition Program of Haiti
- Honduras Medical Mission
- St. Timothy’s Thrift Shop
- Hosanna Community
- Salvation Army – Angel Tree

Donation outcome of additional request to congregation for special needs and events:

- Community Kitchen- Fast Day – collected over \$1000.00
- Empty Bowl – collected over \$400.00 to help fund initiative
- Southside Abbey – Provided the meal first Friday of each month during transition this Spring.

We serve these and other ministries through our time, talents, and financial support.

We thank all of you who have worked so diligently in 2017 on behalf of our outreach ministries.

**Reports provided by each ministry in separate handout.*

Pastoral Care

Ministries to people within the Parish

Cathy Robbins, Vestry Liaison

Pastoral Care is an integral part of any parish family. It is the model of how we are to live out our lives as followers of Christ. It is how we “seek to love Christ in all persons loving our neighbors as ourselves.”

St. Timothy’s is blessed to be a congregation with parishioners of all ages. We thankfully have children everywhere to bring us joy, imagination, and just enough chaos. We also have more than 50 members of our congregation who are residents of Alexian Village. In the ‘in-between,’ we have working parents, single moms, and lonely elders. We have the “sandwich generation,” who are taking care of both children and aging relatives. We have grandparents raising grandchildren and those who are full-time caregivers to family and friends. We are thankful for all of our parishioners, and the diversity of ages presents many opportunities for pastoral care.

The vision of St. Timothy’s is to be the church that feeds people—body, mind and spirit. The Pastoral Care ministry sees its part of this vision as attending to the physical and spiritual needs of our congregation. It does this through several programs designed to touch the lives of those members of our congregation who experience stressful situations. This ministry is composed of many parishioners who give of their time, talent, and treasure to fulfill the parish vision.

Some highlights are,

- We have a New Baby ministry which connects with families with newborns.
- We have a Flower Ministry which takes flowers from the Sunday services and delivers them to sick and shut-in parishioners.
- We have a Greeting Card Ministry that sends cards to people who are sick, shut-in, or grieving a loss.
- We now have Circle of Support, a support group ministry started by the Associate Rector, The Rev. Taylor Dinsmore, that seeks to provide a time for spiritual refreshment for those who are caregiving a family member or spouse. The group meets twice each month and is open to members of St. Timothy’s and beyond and has proven to fulfill a true need in the parish and greater Signal Mountain community.
- A new initiative has come out of this group. Philip Newton brought the DVD “Alive Inside” to our group which has inspired us to provide old iPods loaded with music to some of our parishioners in Memory Care and Healthcare at Alexian. We are actively looking for donations of old iPods and earphones. You can find information on this initiative by looking up the DVD on Netflix or into the organization called “Music and Memory.”
- We have a meal ministry that provides meals for those who need help following a hospitalization or illness.
- We have Eucharistic Visitors who regularly and compassionately take communion to those of our body who are unable for any reason not to come to church.
- We have people who coordinate to bring some of our Alexian parishioners to church on a regular basis.

- We have several opportunities to celebrate Feast Days at the Alexian Chapel for those who are unable to make the trip to church; especially All Saints' Day, Christmas Morning, and Candlemas. We are open to ministering to our congregations there whenever we can do so.
- Each week, Cathy Robbins, the vestry liaison for Pastoral Care meets with the clergy to update the prayer list and plan visits and contacts with those who are ill.
- The clergy make weekly rounds to Alexian Village and area hospitals as needed.
- We are also blessed to have a congregation filled with people who love their neighbors and provide, love, care, and support to others without being part of a designated church group.

As the needs of the pastoral care program increase, there is ongoing conversation and discernment about how to better meet the changes and challenges of pastoral issues within our parish family.

That being said, the Pastoral Care ministry has a very small budget but accomplishes so much due to the generous contribution of time, talent, and treasure by those who serve within it. Thanks to all of you. You are angels, and I am inspired by your generous spirits!

Worship

**Ministers to the Parish and Parishioners during services of St Timothy's
John Leavens, Vestry Liaison**

Worship is central to who we are as Episcopalians. The sacredness and symbolism of our tradition form the basis for how we experience God. At St. Timothy's, we are blessed to have a variety of adaptive worship spaces that enable us to experience opportunities for worship that meet different needs. We have traditional, contemplative worship at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings, casual outdoor worship at 9:15 a.m. during the summer, a joyous mix of traditional and Zammarin at 10:30 a.m., and an indoor contemplative Eucharist at 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall in the winter months. Advent and Lent provide the opportunity to for Morning Prayer to be offered at 8:00 a.m. each morning, as well as contemplative evening worship and fellowship on Wednesday evenings. At least three times a year (Christmas, All Saints' Day, and Candlemas), St. Timothy's is celebrating Eucharist in the chapel at Alexian Village, and we provide Sunday worship services in the Healthcare Chapel during the month of July. All we do and all that we are is a gift from God and worship is how we can acknowledge that in a very concrete way.

The Worship Committee includes:

- Choirs, Philip Newton
 - Adult Choirs
 - Children's Choirs
 - Handbell Choirs, including adult and children's
 - Zammarin
- Acolytes, Julie Novak
- Altar Guild, Wendy Roth and Cathy Robbins (8:00)
- Liturgical Arts Guild, Sarah McKenzie
- Scheduling, Renee Leavens
- Children's Chapel, Jessie Pogue
- Eucharistic Ministers, Bill Chapman
- Lectors/Intercessors, Gail Chapman
- Greeters, Betty Ewing
- Nursery, Mitzi Ruth
- Ushers, Chip Langley
- Verger, Katie Piper

Music Department Annual Report 2017

Here are the highlights of the 2016-2017 season for the Music Department at St. Timothy's:

- St. Timothy's hosted Fran McKendree in a concert on the Commons lawn on September 10, 2016, kicking off Homecoming Weekend.
- St. Timothy's Choir and Choristers participated in the third annual Harvest Hymn Festival on November 13, hosted by Signal Mountain Baptist Church at 4:00 p.m. The festival is sponsored by the Signal Mountain Ministerial Association, and the offering benefits Signal Mountain Social Services.
- The Music Department was contacted late in November that the Matsiko World Orphan Choir, consisting of about 25 children and 9 adults, had lost its lodging accommodations

at a church in Chattanooga and needed housing for three nights during the December 4 weekend. A plea for help was made to the Signal Mountain Ministerial Association, and the choir was housed by families from the Signal Mountain Church of Christ and St. Timothy's. The choir held its school classes at St. Timothy's on Monday, December 5, and performed for our pre-school on Tuesday, December 6.

- St. Timothy's hosted the Tennessee Chamber Chorus in concert on Saturday, December 17, at 3:00 p.m.
- Jazz Vespers was held at 5:00 p.m. on January 29, 2017. Lead musicians were Kathy Tugman and the David Walters Trio.
- St. Timothy's Choir participated in adult Evensong with area Episcopal choirs on Sunday, February 26, 2017, at 4:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Church, Chattanooga. The offering benefitted Metropolitan Ministries.
- St. Timothy's Choristers participated in the Nashville Chorister Festival the weekend of March 11-12, 2017 at Christ Church Cathedral. Frank Boles, from St. Paul's Church, Indianapolis, was the guest director.
- The Choristers presented a musical, "In the Image," and a dinner theatre on Sunday, April 23, 2017.
- St. Timothy's hosted the annual Chorister Evensong involving area children's choirs on Sunday, April 30, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. St. Timothy's Choristers and Ringers participated
- A Jazz Mass was held at 10:30 a.m. on May 7, 2017. Lead musicians were Kathy Tugman and the David Walters Trio.
- St. Timothy's had two choristers participate in the summer course of the Royal School of Church Music in America (RSCM) held in Charlotte, NC, June 26-July 2, 2017. Julian Wachner of Trinity Church Wall Street, in New York City, was the guest director. Both choristers, Sierra and Javier Maldonado, sat with a national examiner and were awarded the Bronze Standard medal of the RSCM.
- The young children's choir program has moved to Monday afternoons with two classes at 3:30 p.m. for ages 2-5 and 4:15 for ages 6-7.
- The Matsiko World Orphan Choir returned to Signal Mountain October 20-23 and was again housed by families from the Church of Christ and St. Timothy's. They performed at Alexian Village's Town Hall on Saturday afternoon and at Signal Mountain Middle/High School on Monday morning.
- Zammarin was engaged to provide music for Bishop George Young's farewell celebration and service at Grace Point on Saturday, October 28. They were quite a hit among those in attendance.
- Members of the adult choir participated in the Chattanooga Boys Choir Community Hymn Festival, held on Sunday, October 29, at the First Baptist Church of Chattanooga.

Upcoming highlights of the 2017-2018 season for the Music Department at St. Timothy's:

- St. Timothy's Choir and Choristers will participate in the fourth annual Harvest Hymn Festival on November 12, hosted by Signal Crest United Methodist Church at 4:00 p.m. The festival is sponsored by the Signal Mountain Ministerial Association, and the offering benefits Signal Mountain Social Services.

- Jazz Vespers with Kathy Tugman and the David Walters Trio will be held on January 28, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in the nave. A Jazz Mass will be held on Sunday, April 22, at 10:30 a.m.
- St. Timothy's Choir will participate in adult Evensong with area Episcopal choirs on Sunday, February 25, 2018, at 4:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Church, Chattanooga. The offering will benefit Metropolitan Ministries.
- St. Timothy's Choristers will participate in the Nashville Chorister Festival February 24-25, 2018, at Christ Church Cathedral. Michael Kleinschmidt of St. Mark's Cathedral, Seattle, will be the guest director.
- St. Timothy's Choristers will participate in the annual Chorister Evensong involving area children's choirs on Sunday, March 18, 2018, at 4:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Church, Chattanooga.
- St. Timothy's Choristers will participate in the summer course of the Royal School of Church Music in America held in Charlotte, NC, July 9-15, 2018. Robert McCormick of St. Mark's Church, Philadelphia, will be the guest director.

Report on Children's Chapel, by Jessie Pogue

This year, the Children's Program has begun offering two separate chapel programs during the main 10:30 service from September through May—Children's Chapel and Wiggle Worship service for children that are potty-trained through fifth grade.

Children's Chapel is for children in grades 1-5 and takes place in St. Timothy's Chapel. They also utilize the outdoor patio and grass area when the weather permits. Attendance has ranged from 10-25 children, and the curriculum this year is based on the "wonderings" of the children. Jessie Pogue, the Children's Director, along with input from the two main teachers/leaders, has arranged the questions into topics then provided the leaders with content and activity ideas. The clergy and Children's Director lead this group every first Sunday of the month, then there are two leaders plus at least one helper during the other Sundays.

Each week, a child carries a banner and brings the children to the chapel area. A small change offering continues to be offered during this service, and then 1-2 child(ren) are able to be a child usher. The child(ren) line up with the adult ushers in the Nave to present the coin collect along with the rest of the church's offertory each week. At the end of the year, the children's chapel group chooses a charity to donate their offertory to during one of their services.

The other chapel program that is new this year is called Wiggle Worship. It is for children who are potty-trained through kindergarten. It is intended to provide a consistent and safe space to worship God in a place that allows for movement and use of voices! Attendance has ranged from 7-18 children, and the curriculum is based off the seasons, feasts, and holidays of the church calendar. The children are dropped off downstairs in a classroom prior to the start of the 10:30 service and are brought back to the Nave at the Peace with Children's Chapel. This group has a rotation of three leaders, although 1-2 more would ideally be added, along with an assigned helper from the parish. A typical Wiggle Worship begins with a snack then leads into a consistent gathering song. A topic is then introduced through the use of picture books, songs, or puppets, then a corresponding craft, game, or activity is completed together. Each time the children close their worship time with a constant prayer to God.

Christian Education

The Church that Feeds People

Rick Sommer, Vestry Liaison

To equip God's people, we must first equip ourselves. St. Timothy's 2017 Christian Education offerings are both healthy and filling. We continue to focus on strengthening our youth Christian Formation offerings, as the children are our future. With strong and robust programs for our youth, their parents and grandparents can also find formation offerings for themselves. St. Timothy's has historically been strong in Adult Formation with Sunday offerings like:

- The Video Series exploring the origins of Christianity and other religions, immediately after the 8:00 a.m. service;
- Intergenerational Rector's Forum featuring speakers, videos and group discussions;
- Young at Heart (Coffee and Conversation) smaller meetings with Parents discerning what it is to be members of Christ and this Community;
- Seasonal offerings, including Morning prayer during Advent and Lent;
- Intergenerational Sunday school events like meeting St. Nicholas or making Advent wreaths.

St. Timothy's has the wonderful blessing of having a preschool on campus, so our building is filled with their voices almost every day of the week. However, our children (ages all the way through high school) also have a home on Sundays through our Christian Formation offerings:

- Young Disciples
- Vacation Bible School
- Chapel
- Middle/High School Sunday School
- EYC

The Children's Program at St. Timothy's has something to offer families throughout the year, and the offerings have expanded from last year due to growth and the need to better meet the developmental needs of varying age groups. From September through May, weekly Sunday School offerings include a class for 3rd-5th graders using the curriculum "Weaving God's Promises" and two classes of preschool through 2nd graders who rotate between a Godly Play story and art/activities after participating in music with Phillip Newton. Children who attend 10:30 service can attend one of two chapel programs: Wiggle Worship (kindergarten and younger) and Children's Chapel (1st-5th). A monthly club just for 4th and 5th graders, Club 45, is also offered during the school year in which they have social gatherings and complete service projects. There are also intergenerational events and special days scattered throughout the year, including Advent wreaths, Alleluia banner, STEPS Sunday, a Christmas play, and others.

During the summer, a week-long Vacation Bible School (VBS) is available to kids from throughout the parish and surrounding community. Youth counselors, children, and adult volunteers come together to learn about God and grow together using stations with varying themes depending on the year. A variety of summer events are also available, like attending a Chattanooga

Lookouts game, a Chattanooga Football Club (FCS Soccer) game, marching in the 4th of July parade, and watching an outdoor movie on the front church lawn.

There are now carts available throughout the year that house information and activities for children during worship services, including children's bulletins (The Sunday Paper Junior) and Busy Bags. Parents can stay informed of events and weekly happenings through the monthly Children's Program email newsletters, weekly program updates in the church e-blast, the weekly bulletins, the St. Timothy's website, Facebook, and The Pointe.

Youth Programs:

During the past year, the youth group has met regularly on Sunday evenings for EYC and Sunday School. In addition, St. Timothy's youth have become more involved in city and diocesan youth programming. On the second Sunday of the month during the school year, they have traveled to different churches for a **Chattanooga-area Episcopal Youth** event, known as ChattEY. St. Timothy's youth join a larger body of about 75 youth from around the area for worship, service, food, fun, and fellowship. We hosted the event in May 2017 and will host it again in November 2017, where they will have the honor of hosting both Bishop George and Elect Brian Cole, prior to his consecration on December 2. At the Diocesan level, the youth participated in the Happening and New Beginnings retreat at Grace Point. They also took a summer trip to Gatlinburg to help with fire relief efforts. Stronger community bonds were forged through various events, including the annual Thanksgiving Pantry Raid for Signal Mountain Social Services, caroling at Alexian, the Holly Jolly Advent Lock-In Ice Skating at the Choo-Choo, Super Bowling, hosting a parish Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, having a Youth Sunday, and annual Fall Retreat.

Beyond this exciting news, we continue to feed our adults by supporting Cursillo, and discernment and education for Confirmation and Baptism. Our hallways are filled with Christian Formation in many ways throughout the week, as well with Men/Women's Book Clubs and Yoga.

St. Timothy's continues to participate in one of the most robust Christian Education programs in our diocese and in the national Episcopal Church—**Education for Ministry (EfM)**. This program, sponsored by the School of Theology at the University of the South, provides participants the opportunity to explore and grow in their faith and their ministry by studying biblical history, church history, and theology. This year St. Timothy's has 19 participants, including four who have joined the group from other parishes. The classes meet Tuesday evenings in the Parish Hall.

Stewardship

The pledge campaign and year-round stewardship awareness.

Buffie Harper, Vestry Liaison

The stewardship campaign this year has focused on “Bringing Us All Together: Unity, Focus, and Mission.” Stewardship is how we take care of the gifts and resources God provides for us; it is everything we do after we say, “I believe,” and its focus should be the achievement of the church’s mission— “to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.”

St. Timothy’s is a Church in which stewardship is part of everything that goes on in our daily ministries and mission—all that we do with all that we have all of the time. It is neither separate nor apart from those ministries, and, in a sense, those ministries are manifestations of our stewardship of God’s beneficence to our Church, our community, and the world of which we are part.

During 2017, our average attendance has been up with an average Sunday attendance of 314, and our number of newcomers continues to grow each month. Our pledging units and total pledges for 2017 were up, as well, with 201 pledging units and pledges totaling \$781,969.

All of this is good news, but we are a parish transitioning into a programmatic church and we are experiencing some economic growing pains. Our growth in participation and programs offered has outpaced the growth in income. We know that this can and will change. This is a vibrant and growing community of faith.

As we approach 2018, with each one of us prayerfully considering all that God has given us and then generously giving back through our Annual Pledge we can continue to do God’s work inside and outside the walls of our church as we grow in Unity, Focus, and Mission.

Buildings and Grounds

Chip Langley, Vestry Liaison

Project Completions:

- Rental Property has been vacated by our renters. Maintenance and repairs have been made, and it has been listed for rent with a Realtor. Water issues are still present when we get a large rainfall (2" to 3").
- Most of the Fire Marshall's issues have been resolved. Regarding S.T.E.P.S. the storage room doors have been replaced and sprinklers have been installed. The Fire Watch is continuing every hour, if we have classes in session.
- As you all are aware, the building suffered a lightning strike that took out most of the older electronics, the fire alarm system, the audio system in the Nave and the lighting in the Nave. We made repairs to the lighting and have temporary audio system in place now. We are gathering estimates for the permanent repairs to file a claim with our insurance company. We are awaiting the insurance adjuster's approval of the claims.

Future Priorities:

- We continue to have problems with water in the Southwest area of or lawn. We have water flowing underground there. To date, we have been unable to discover the source of the moisture. It will require a major expense to determine and correct this problem.

St. Timothy's is embarking on a Capital Campaign to make major changes in the facilities. All the priorities we have had in the past that have been delayed for financial reasons are included in this plan. So rather than list each item, I suggest everyone take a look at what is presented there.

Evangelism

Beth Hackett, Vestry Liaison

The primary focus of Evangelism at St. Timothy's is the welcoming of visitors and new members into the parish. These individuals are made to feel at home, not only through the continuing Bread Ministry of Betty Ewing, but through the many members of our church community who go out of their way to greet unfamiliar faces each Sunday. Providing information about St. Timothy's and its ministries through a new member packet is one way we are helping new members find their ideal ministry within the church community. We also hosted a newcomers' brunch back in the spring and will be welcoming more new members with a special dinner at Father Derrick's later this month.

Foyer Groups are being revitalized from a suggestion that was given at our Spring Newcomers Brunch. These small groups provide a means to develop new friendships and deepen old ones. They are also a way to make a what-sometimes-feels-overwhelmingly-large-parish, feel smaller and warmer. We have 5 Foyer Groups meeting at this time with 8-10 adults in each group. Look for new groups to be formed next summer!

St. Timothy's Episcopal Preschool, or S.T.E.P.S., is a ministry for not only our church members but many throughout the Signal Mountain community. The past year has seen another successful school year of fun and education for our community's children. St. Timothy's hosted our second annual S.T.E.P.S. Sunday. The children performed during the service. Susan Laseter, the director, gave an informational lecture during the Sunday School hour. And an Open House of the preschool was attended by many of our church members. Lastly, in order to comply with the Fire Marshal and enhanced fire safety, the preschool also experienced some renovations this past summer.

Rector's Report

November 12, 2017

The Rev. Derrick C. Hill

I bid you greetings with this my third annual report as your rector. This past year has been a time of settling in to the rhythm of a vibrant and growing parish community. The staff changes that occurred in 2016, including the addition of an Associate Rector, a Director of Children's Christian Formation, and a Youth Director, have begun to bear some incredible fruit. Our average Sunday attendance has increased, our program offerings have expanded towards meeting the needs of the community, and our involvement in the wider community of Signal Mountain and Chattanooga continues to be a centerpiece of our ministry together.

From the Book of Common Prayer, "the mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ" (BCP, p.855). We try to fulfill this mission by focusing all of our efforts around building **community**, **formation** as disciples of Christ, and good **stewardship**. The remainder of this report focuses on these three areas and what we have done this past year to fulfill the mission of the Church.

Community is at the heart of who we are at St. Timothy's. We strive to form relationships and build community within and outside our parish. Inside our parish walls, we have hosted numerous groups and events that help build community and they are listed throughout this report. Our outreach efforts have been focused on building relationships, thus forming community. The following are three of the initiatives that exemplify our effort at building community. This afternoon following our Annual Meeting and Commitment Sunday, there will be a Fall Hymn Fest at Signal Crest at 4:00 p.m. This endeavor is a coming together of churches on the mountain to provide wonderful music, but it was expertly organized and championed by our own Philip Newton.

In the fall of 2016, a few of the youth leaders in the Chattanooga area began meeting together, including our Youth Director, Elizabeth Burns. During the course of their conversations, they came up with an idea—**ChattEY**, i.e. Chattanooga Episcopal Youth. ChattEY now meets once per month during the school year, and they focus on fun, fellowship, service, and worship.

At clergy conference this fall, a rector from one of the smaller churches in Chattanooga approached me and began praising ChattEY. His church only has three youth, and the youth were rarely involved in the parish, they were reserved, and it appeared church participation was forced by parents. Since ChattEY formed, they have become engaged and excited to be a part of the church. ChattEY is exactly what it means to build community.

Southside Abbey is a worshipping community that meets on the Southside in an art gallery and serves a number of the homeless in Chattanooga. At the end of 2016, Southside Abbey found itself without a priest. Working with other parishes in Chattanooga, St. Timothy's committed to providing a meal and celebrating Eucharist with Southside Abbey one Friday each month. The five Fridays we participated were life giving for us individually and as a parish. Our St. Timothy's family showed up and, did not just serve the Southside community, but celebrated and ate with them. Relationships were formed, and community was created.

Finally, for the past year, we have been participating in the *Living Local: Joining God* initiative along with four other worshipping communities in the diocese. Our diocese is also working with four other dioceses in the Episcopal Church. *Living Local* is all about learning to listen and see God at work in our neighborhoods and in the world around us joining in God's efforts. We are learning to tell our stories and to listen to each other. This will be foundational as we continue to build and grow community.

Formation is an aspect of church that is grounded in community, but it is distinct in that it includes education and worship. Since the last annual meeting, we have provided instruction for 15 people who were confirmed at the annual visit of Bishop George Young, and we have baptized nine people into the Body of Christ. Formation includes our wonderful music program that provides opportunities for all ages. Our Adult Christian Formation opportunities include EFM, book study groups, a Thursday Bible Class taught by The Rev. Dr. Rebecca Wright from Sewanee, the Rector's Forum, Coffee and Conversation, and a video class taught on Sunday mornings. Our Children's Formation has also grown under the leadership of Jessie Pogue. Opportunities in this group include Sunday school offerings, Children's Chapel (at which the clergy provide instruction on the first Sunday of every month), Wiggle Worship, Vacation Bible School, and Club 45—a community of our fourth and fifth grade students that meet once a month. Our youth program participation has increased in all ages, guided by the leadership of Elizabeth Burns.

Stewardship is about everything we have been blessed with—our financial resources, our talents, the facilities, and everything we do. Financially, thanks to the generosity of the parish, our operating budget for 2017 exceeded the 2016-operating budget by nearly six percent. In addition to our financial resources, our facilities are being used every day of the week. The addition to the Parish Hall completed in 2016 has provided us numerous opportunities to host the wider community in our church. Our parishioners are our most valuable resource. Many have found their area of ministry and plugged into the life of the parish by participating in outreach, worship, Christian formation, and/or providing hospitality. St. Timothy's Episcopal Church is truly a church that values shared ministry.

In addition to our ministries, we are offering opportunities to help parishioners identify their gifts and find out where they are called to serve. Three programs that are specific to this formation of gifts include Education for Ministry (EfM), Cursillo, and the diocesan Licensed Lay Ministry program. We currently have two studying to become licensed lay catechists and one studying to become a licensed lay preacher. I hope this program will expand in the future as we grow in our parish capacity as well as being a resource for the Diocese.

Thank you for all that you do to make this parish family become a Body of Christ that is open to all. I look forward to the upcoming year as your rector.

Grace and peace,
The Rev. Derrick Hill

Associate Rector's Report

November 12, 2017

The Rev. Taylor W. Dinsmore

What a difference a year makes! This time last year, Ervin was ill and I was struggling with all of the worry and emotions of being a caretaker, working a new job, tending to the dogs, and carrying out the garbage. It has taken almost a year, but he is doing well and now is up to being a part-time babysitter, chauffeur, and playmate for a 4-year-old.

For all who know how sick he was, there is no doubt that his recovery was truly a miracle. This is the second time he has recovered from serious illness, and I am very grateful. Through it all, and as difficult as it was, I am thankful to have had the support of a great rector and staff and the love and care of the people of St. Timothy's.

From the moment I arrived here 1.5 years ago, I could tell this was an exceptional place with good people, but time has only heightened my love and respect for the friends I have made in this parish. I am proud of all that you have accomplished these last few years and grateful to be part of it.

Many, many churches of all denominations are struggling to stay afloat, and St. Timothy's continues to thrive with parishioners of all ages, young families, and lots of children. Certainly, we are blessed, but part of our strength comes from committed people who want to follow Jesus—people who preach the Gospel to all people in their lives and in their words.

We have had a great year at St. Timothy's! And now, we can look forward to an exciting new year with the enthusiasm and support of the 'Bringing Us All Together' campaign. Building repairs and updates, coupled with the ongoing business of the church and preschool, promise lots of fun and chaos in the year ahead! St. Timothy's certainly does make being 65 look good! Great things are happening, and it is exciting to be and help plan for about our future knowing we are planting seeds that will provide a spiritual foundation for those who come after us.

It is funny what things are important to us and how we mark time. Births, deaths, marriages, and world events provide their own kind of timetable, while illnesses, accomplishments, mountain top experiences, and our times in the valley make a place of their own in our souls. They are part and parcel of our time together in this journey of life and in this body of Christ. Christ is found in the midst of us in the messiness of ordinary life.

We are blessed with a perfect intersection of time, mission, and leadership. Our history as a parish, our clergy, staff, and leadership all seem to have come together at this time and place to make a difference in this world and the lives of the people who choose to worship here on the mountain.

We are blessed with an amazingly gifted staff at St. Timothy's to do the work God has given us to do. I can't imagine trying to accomplish the work we do without these great people. As members of the Body of Christ with differing gifts and abilities, we work together to proclaim the Gospel of Christ in our own individual ways, and sometimes it really is magical. Being part of a team that

works is priceless, but we could do nothing without sharing ministry with the people of St. Timothy's and beyond.

As in past years, I have been involved in all aspects parish life. Derrick and I share preaching responsibilities, which means each of us preaches about every other week. Occasionally, our seminarian is part of the rotation. According to who is preaching, we rotate celebrating Eucharist on Sunday mornings.

I also work closely with Derrick in the planning and implementation of our Adult Christian Education Program. We are committed to having a variety of quality programming in our Adult Ed program as we strive to meet the varied spiritual needs of our community. We have the ongoing Rector's Forum, as well as our young families class called Coffee and Conversation.

Soon after coming to St. Timothy's, I was asked to start a support group for caregivers. It is for anyone who is in that critical relationship of taking care of someone who is declining in health or mental ability. It is open to anyone who is interested. This has become a is a time to laugh, learn, talk, and share information about the serious issues of caregiving.

I am a member of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of East Tennessee, and this upcoming year should rotate in as President of the Standing Committee. And for the 6th year, I have been asked to teach/mentor the Homiletics Class for the diocese. This class consists of 20 contact hours working with lay preaching candidates for the diocese. This year, I have four students—two of them from our own parish. Lastly, I also serve at Bishop Young's request on the Music and Liturgy Committee for the diocese.

As in any parish family, tending to pastoral concerns takes up an incredible amount of time. As our parish has reached its 65th birthday, many members of our body are facing ongoing health problems. As our long-term list gets longer, we strive to track their progress, and we are working on ways to keep them connected and help them feel spiritually supported. It really does take a village to do this, thankfully this is a very caring and loving community.

Despite all of our joys and accomplishments during this past year, we have also experienced our share of loss. We experienced the death of 12 members associated with our congregation this year and officiated at funerals for several others. This was a difficult year pastorally, as we have lost people who in the course of their lives were central to this community: Ted Gugler, Billie Hamilton, Peggy Lane, Dorothy Leader, Anne Maley, Marion Nentwig, Vern Renniger, Fran Schroff, and Dick Yankee.

I continue to feel blessed to be part of the Body of Christ at St. Timothy's. It is great to be here and great to be back in Chattanooga. We are doing great things, and we strive to provide a spiritual foundation for our parishioners. We are blessed and we work hard to be a blessing to others. I value my relationships in this place, and I am humbled and grateful for the opportunity to serve as a priest in God's church, especially at St. Timothy's.

Blessed,

The Rev. Taylor W. Dinsmore, Associate Rector

Wardens' Report

John MacCoon and Bill Chimley

This has been a year of coming together. We came together for a series of gatherings in which we looked back at where we have come from and envisioned where we would like to go as a church. It was clear from those meetings that we want St. Timothy's to be a church that brings its members together in fellowship and formation. It was equally clear that we want a church that brings us together with the community in which we live by serving its needs, both temporal and spiritual. Based on that collective vision, we fashioned a plan to improve our physical plant to facilitate our achieving those goals. Now we have launched a Capital Campaign in an effort to make our shared vision a reality.

We have seen our new staff—our Youth Director, Elizabeth Burns, and our Children's Christian Formation Director, Jesse Pogue—bring our young people together in growing numbers. We have also seen creative and dynamic strides in bringing our youth together with the youth of other churches through the ChattEY program.

Phase I of our capital improvements program has borne fruit in the transformation of our Parish Hall into a bright, welcoming, safe environment where we can have fellowship with our church family and host events involving the larger community, e.g. the interfaith symposium hosted here, scouting events, and other celebrations. And we accomplished this dramatic conversion of the Parish Hall without incurring any debt.

As we have continued to grow into a programmatic church, we experienced some economic growing pains. This year, expenses were up due to our switch from a Parish Administrator to two youth program staff. Revenue was down because of slower growth than anticipated and the death of some parishioners. The plate offerings were down substantially, as well. The increased costs and lower than expected revenues will create a substantial shortfall this year. While we can accommodate the deficit from various reserves this year, going forward, we must budget cautiously to avoid future repetition of such a deficit.

As you have seen from the specific ministry reports, St. Timothy's is a dynamic and growing community with substantial momentum. We are embracing our vision of bringing us all together as we live local and join God in God's work inside and outside the walls of our church. With God's help and good stewardship, we will continue to grow into the future.