

ST. TIMOTHY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# THE TIDINGS

*St. Timothy's Mission: To celebrate Christ's healing love through worship, fellowship, and outreach.*



DECEMBER, 2011

## RECTOR'S RAMBLINGS

We are busy with many programs and activities. We are preparing for more. This fits perfectly with the upcoming change of liturgical seasons to Advent. Advent is traditionally the season of preparation – for Christmas, for forgiveness, for God's action in our lives. May we utilize the time given us fruitfully, so that we may rejoice in the reality of God within us. God is always seeking to be involved with us and through us; may we cooperate.

*Albert*

## FROM THE VESTRY

1. We began planning the 2012 budget.
2. We heard that the foyer group program will begin in the spring of 2012.
3. We awarded the parking lot snow plow contract.
4. We are receiving bids for several small projects in the worship area and stairway.
5. We designated the Christmas Offering; see details under "Christmas Offering".

## UNITED THANK OFFERING

If you were away or forgot, you can still make your offering. Our Fall Ingathering to date is **\$260.46** from **seven** participants. As you know UTO is close to my heart and I thank you and drop in a coin for next time. The figures for the Grants made the summer of 2011 from collections of 2010 are as follows: There were 114 requests for over \$4million. With only \$1,634,526.19 to grant, only 59 requests were filled. 39 to United States 8 to companion dioceses 12 internationally. There is a facebook page now - United Thank Offering. If you're moved to join the group with a coin and prayer of thanks each day, Pick up a Blue Box Sunday.



With thanks to you all, Mary Ann P

*Advent is traditionally the season of preparation – for Christmas, for forgiveness, for God's action in our lives.*



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The deadline for January *Tidings* is Tuesday, December 20, 9 am.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



- Saturday, **December 3**, 9 am-1 pm, Advent Quiet Day
- Sunday, **December 4**, 9:30 am, Parish Breakfast
- Saturday, **December 10**, 9am –Noon, ECW Cookie & Nut Sale

### Christmas Schedule

**Saturday, December 10, 9am to Noon, ECW Cookie & Nut Sale**

**Sunday, December 18, 8:30 am, Holy Eucharist**

**10:30 am, Holy Eucharist, Christmas Program**

**Thursday, December 22, 9 am, Altar Guild, set up for Christmas services**

**Saturday, December 24, 4:45 pm, Choral Program**

**5:00 pm, Family Style Eucharist \***

**10:30 pm, Cantata, “A Thrill of Hope”**

**11:00 pm, Traditional Eucharist \***

**Sunday, December 25, 8:30 am, Holy Eucharist \***

**10:30 am, Holy Eucharist \***

**Sunday, January 1, 8:30 am, Holy Eucharist**

**10:30 am, Holy Eucharist**

**Friday, January 6, 6:00 pm, Twelfth Night, Fun, Food, & Worship**

**\*The designated Christmas Offering will be split evenly among:**

§ Haven of Rest, Akron

§ Adopt a School in Cleveland: Joseph M. Gallagher Elementary School (new)

§ Twinsburg/Nordonia Hills Food Outreach Ministry (new)

## CHURCH HAPPENINGS, *continued*

- ◆ Don't forget to sign up for the All Church Breakfast on December 4th at 9:30 am.
- ◆ Note to all Altar Guild members: the main setup for the Christmas Services s Thursday, December 22, at 9 am.
- ◆ Our **Annual Meeting is Sunday, January 15**, after the 10:30 am service. An important item of business will be to elect three persons to serve three year terms on Vestry. If you are interested in being nominated, please give your name to Albert or a current Vestry member as soon as possible, as we would like to publish names and information in our next *Tidings*.
- ◆ All committee/program **reports for the Annual Report are due in the church office by December 31, 2011**. They need to be compiled and printed for the Annual Meeting on January 15.
- ◆ Calling all rum ball makers! One of the ways that men of the parish support the ECW in the Christmas Cookie Sale is by making dozens of rum balls. We will be gathering at the home of Allen Wargo on Tuesday, November 29 at 7 pm to make these rum balls. If you plan on helping, or would like more information, contact Allen Wargo or Bill Palmer.
- ◆ Because of the nursing home's schedule, we will not be having a worship service there on December 18. Our next visit is January 15.
- ◆ We are having the Twelfth Night, Fun Night on Friday, January 6, at 6 pm, beginning with chili and Bunko, followed by Compline. Plan to attend. There will be a sign up sheet closer to this date.

### Christmas Offering

As in past years, we will be giving away our Christmas offering. This year, it will be split three ways.

One third will be given to Haven of Rest in Akron. This organization provides short and long term aid, including food and shelter to individuals and families.

One third will be used to support a Cleveland city school, Joseph M. Gallagher Elementary, by purchasing basic classroom supplies and materials. The current fiscal situation has not allowed for the purchase of items like workbooks, copy paper, and bookcases. We would like to join churches like Trinity Cathedral, St. Luke's in Cleveland and Nehemian Mission who have adopted Cleveland schools as part of their outreach ministry. Several of our parishioners are teachers in the Cleveland Schools; they attest to the need in their classrooms. We would be helping a class of children with special educational needs.



After Hurricane Katrina struck, we helped by donating money to an Episcopal church in Mississippi that had been destroyed. This kind of specific giving helped us feel personally involved in coping with the disaster. We believe that by engaging in helping one school that we will sense the same sort of connection.

With the last third of the offering, we will utilize funds to begin a new outreach ministry in our area. We are still researching this, but the money will either support a food ministry in a senior housing facility or one that we would begin here at St. Timothy's by purchasing food gift cards from local supermarkets.

## CHURCH HAPPENINGS, *continued*

### RONALD McDONALD HOUSE - Pull Those Tabs

Well, we're coming up on the holiday season and children are still ill and under treatment in hospitals in area hospitals. Ronald McDonald House' 37 rooms are available for \$20 a night to families in those circumstances and some are unable to pay. However, it costs \$80 a night to provide the services. That usually leaves about \$100,000 a year to be made up. Your tabs are part of the equation. You'll have parties, you'll attend parties -- Set out a glass or bowl with a couple tabs as a hint. It takes so little effort and really does make a difference. I'll be bringing some back from our visit to Florida as usual.

Thanks, Mary Ann P.

## DEACON'S REFLECTIONS

At the recent Diocesan Convention I found myself thinking about relationships. Bishop Jean-Zache Duracin of Haiti, spoke about the hope we give to the Diocese of Haiti through our financial and prayerful support, almost two years after the earthquake. It's a hope that spreads throughout the church and around the country. Through our relationship with our Haitian church members, we stand with them in solidarity. The Bishop said it best, "We feel we are not by ourselves, that you are with us."

A few teens also shared their experiences of a Diocesan Youth Event. One young woman captured my interest, saying that at church she's the only teen. I can't even imagine how hard that must be. No peers. No one who shares her thoughts. But at the Event she met teens just like her and together they formed new relationships. "I'm not alone anymore," she told us.

Relationships are one way we experience God with us. During Advent we're waiting for the coming of Jesus; we also know that Jesus is with us in our relationships. The Bishop and teenager reminded me that when we make room for new relationships – across the diocese and around the world – we make room for God's coming anew in our lives.

*Anne*

## SPECIAL NOTES



Directory corrections, for anyone who picked up his/her directory before 9/7/11, are in a box on the entry table, or email the office. Linda S now resides with Edie & Peter D; keep the cell number the same and you will be able to find Linda.

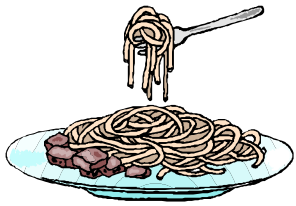


Due to universal rising costs, **Altar Flower arrangements will cost \$20, as of 1/1/2012.** This is still a bargain, but please make note when you donate for Altar Flowers in the new year.

## FUND RAISING



There was a great turnout for the return of our Chili Dinner. Thanks to Gayle and Nancy for handling the raffle and everyone who helped make the dinner a success. After expenses (because, as all of you are aware, prices continue to increase) we were able to raise \$650 for the church. We had some great donations for the raffle and the winners were very happy. Many thanks to those who donated.



Save the date of **Friday, May 18th...for the Spring Spaghetti Dinner.**

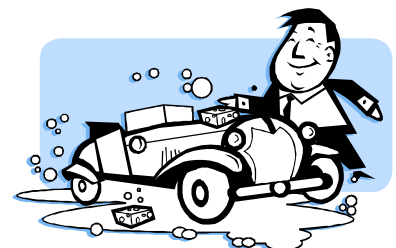
Remember that our St. Tim's clothing is always available in limited styles and sizes: sweatshirts, T-shirts, denim shirts and hats are available in adult sizes, sweatshirts and T-shirts also available for kids.

Thanks again to all who attended and assisted.

Jean and Judy

### And the winner is...

Penn Station Subs donated all the gift cards by that name. The Winking Lizard gift certificate donated by Jean & Bob B, along with Penn Station Subs gift cards were won by Sandy D. The cross-stitched tray, donated by Jean and Bob B & Judy and Mike H was won by Phil & Darlene W. The Speedway gas cards, donated by Albert & Gay were won by Marjorie M and Jean B, who also won Penn Station Subs gift cards. Karen R walked away with the Christmas Cookie Baking Basket donated by Nancy & Jim N. (We are anxiously awaiting the finished product!) Nancy N was thrilled to win the cross-stitched Christmas Pillow & Ornament donated by Jean & Bob B. Rose Cassmer went home with the Spa Basket donated by Jen Blevins & Heather Johnson of Primp Parlor, Macedonia. Connie Murray took home the Wine Basket donated by Mary Ann & Mike R. Kim K delighted in her win of both Children's Baskets donated by Cherie H. Jean J was the happy recipient of the Brown's Tailgate Basket donated by Gayle & Scott L, in addition to Penn Station Subs gift cards. The hilarious culmination of the evening was Gay winning, courtesy of O'Reilly's Auto Parts, the O'Reilly's gift card & auto care supplies, (for Albert to wash her car), and Albert winning the \$50 cash prize donated by Pat & Bill S. A good time was had by all.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL/YOUTH GROUP



Happy Holidays from the crew in the back & upstairs. First, thanks so much for your support on Samaritan's Purse. We sent 50 boxes this year. The kids had a great time assembling the boxes & Jim & Sandy delivered them to the drop off site. Pictures will be available the Sunday after Thanksgiving so be looking for the Sunday School signs - thanks again.

One box was special with a pair of tennis shoes provided by Albert. We know the boxes are a treasure to the kids receiving them - but some little girl will really get a thrill when she opens her pink trimmed Nike's. We'll have to think about how this effects our program/if it should effect us. Just so everyone knows, we pre-bought the shipping tags with bar codes so we'll know where the boxes went and let you know.

The Christmas pageant will return to a sharing of gifts and singing. With the short timing between Thanksgiving and Christmas, we know we couldn't pull off a quality production so we are going to share some enjoyable instrumental and vocal music. Thanks for all your support to education and we all wish you much happiness and blessing - and here's to a great 2012.

Love in Christ - Ed, Jean, Kelly, & Sandy

## ECW COOKIE & NUT SALE



We hope you all have had a chance to read the information and flyer that came by way of the internet. Here are a few crumbs of information that weren't available earlier. **The church will be open from 9 am to 4 pm on Friday, Dec. 9 for cookie donation drop off.**

The nuts are being sold for \$8.00 a pound for both cashews and mixed nuts. They will be sold on Sundays before, between, and after the services. If you wish you may order them by signing the "Nut Sign Up sheet".



We hope you will enjoy being a part of ECW's biggest fund raiser of the year, whether a purchaser, baker, or worker of various sorts.

If you have any questions you may contact a chair:

Mary Ann R, Judy H, Jean B, and Marilyn P.

## RECIPE CORNER

(Submit your favorite recipes in email or in print; see the large envelope in the clipboard rack.)

### PUMPKIN CAKE

1 box yellow cake mix (remove 1 cup for topping), 1/2 cup butter, 1 egg, 1 large can pumpkin, 4 beaten eggs, 1 cup sugar, 1 1/2 tsp pumpkin pie spice, 1/2 tsp salt, Mix first 3 ingredients with fork and press into 9 x 13 pan. Beat next 5 ingredients and pour over crust.



**Topping:** Mix 1 cup cake mix with 1/2 cup butter till crumbly. Sprinkle topping over top. Bake at 350 for 45 minutes.

## MONEY MATTERS

Here are the financial results for year-to-date October 2011 compared to the budget:

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Favorable / (Unfavorable) Difference</u>
Year-to-date Operating Revenue:	\$127,917.09	\$102,233.00	\$25,684.09
Year-to-date Operating Expenses:	<u>102,391.39</u>	<u>103,198.00</u>	<u>806.61</u>
Year-to-date Operating Surplus(Deficit):	25,525.70	(965.00)	26,490.70

Church Operating Equity: \$60,002.38

October 2011 receipts were \$2,624 over budget primarily due to a \$2,138 gain in our investments with the diocese and Rummage Sale receipts over budget by \$1,268. Non-pledge income year-to-date continues to be ahead of budget (over \$3,590 ahead) and most other income areas are ahead as well.

Monthly pledges were behind budget because of the annual pledge paid in February, but excluding that event, we were ahead for pledge receipts for the month. We still need to focus on catching up on our pledges for the year. Please use the September giving statements you should have received to note the remaining pledge amount you may have and see if you can catch-up over the next two months. We will be sending out giving statements in early December so you can see where you stand on your pledge balance.

Apparel sales continue to be zero. How about buying a St. Tim's garment for Christmas?

We have reduced our spending this past month to where operating expenses are now less than budget but your Treasurer paid the Diocesan monthly assessment late so the expense was not recorded in October, so expenses for the year are actually about break-even. This is after being over budget by as much as \$2,000 or more throughout the year. We have been able to reduce the deficit through our frugal spending.

Money from the Building & Grounds Fund – New Construction Account is being used to research new expansion for the Church and to provide initial funds for that expansion. Contributions from memorials continue to be transferred to the fund and the money is invested in a combination of bank accounts, money market accounts and stocks. The balance in the New Construction account is \$162,344.99, with approximately 30% of those funds invested in the stock market. We plan to use some of those funds next year to expand the parking lot and other construction. We hope to fund the parking lot expansion through a combination of New Construction funds, Grants from the Diocese and donations to the fund from parishioners. We will keep you informed of any updates regarding costs and a pledge drive.

The new heating and air conditioning system was funded from the Vestry this month through four sources: 1) Contributions from our parishioners (over \$3,000); 2) General Building and Grounds Fund monies available (over \$3,200); 3) Appreciation and Interest earned on the Parish Endowment Fund since its inception in 1995 (approximately \$8,500); and, 4) Transfers of money from the Parish Equity Account (over \$4,400). If we obtain a grant from the Diocese for part of the cost of the units, we will contribute back the funds in the reverse order noted above.

We continue to pay all our bills on time and we keep positive equity. Keep St. Tim's in your prayers and help when and how you can. **Turn in your pledge cards** so St. Tim's can continue to be blessed.



Jim D

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE for DECEMBER, 2011

	<b>Dec 4</b>	<b>Dec 11</b>	<b>Dec 18</b>	<b>Dec 24, 5 pm</b>	<b>Dec 24, 11 pm</b>	<b>Dec 25</b>
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	NANCY N Mary P	JUDY H Pauline N	MARY R Maureen L	Nancy N, Mary P, Pauline N,	JUDY H	8:30 Mary P 10:30 Sandy R
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	Lily S Lauren S	Mike H Karen R	Mike H	Simon D Tommy K	Lily S Lauren S	Mike H Karen R
<b>HOSPITALITY</b>	Cheryl M Suzanne	Mara D Rick D	Karen R Sandy R			
<b>GREETERS</b>	Kathi F	Nancy N	Joan P	Linda S	Hilary	Marianne M
<b>USHERS</b>	Joan P Phil W	Mike M Cliff P	Phil W Cliff P	Mavis Joan P	Cliff Mike M	
<b>COUNTERS</b>	Sandy Bill P	Jim D Nancy-Anne	Mavis Mike M			Sandy D Lois O
<b>SEASON</b>	Advent II <i>blue</i>	Advent III <i>blue</i>	Advent IV <i>blue</i>	Christmas Eve <i>white</i>	Christmas Eve <i>white</i>	Christmas Day <i>white</i>
<b>PROPER</b>		Psalm 126	Canticle 15			
	Rite I	Rite I	Rite I	Rite II	Rite II	Rite II
<b>CHALICE BEARER</b>	Anne P	Anne P	Nancy-Anne	Anne P	Karen R	Jim D
<b>1<sup>ST</sup> LESSON</b>	Karen R	Nancy-Anne	Marjorie	Pat S	Suzanne	Cheryl M
<b>2<sup>ND</sup> LESSON</b>	Leah Y	Maureen L	Norb	Peter D	Mara	Lois O
<b>INTERCESSOR</b>	Anne P	Anne P	Nancy-Anne	Anne P	Bill P	Jim D
<b>FORM</b>	II	I	V	III	III	VI
<b>PAGE</b>	385	383	389	387	387	392-3, w/confess

**If you are unable to serve, please call someone on the list to change and notify the appropriate leader.**



# December 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 9am-1pm Quiet Day 8:00 p AA meeting
4 8:30 a Holy Eucharist 9:30 a Church Breakfast 10:30 a Holy Eucharist	5	6 10:00 a Book Study Noon AA meeting 8:00 p AA Meeting	7 6:00 p Potluck Program 7:30 p Choir Rehearsal	8	9	10 9am- Noon ECW Cookie & Nut Sale 8:00 p AA meeting
11 8:30 a Holy Eucharist 10:30 a Holy Eucharist	12	13 10:00 a Book Study Noon AA meeting 8:00 p AA Meeting	14 6:00 p Potluck Program 7:30 p Choir Rehearsal 8:00 p Education Mtg	15	16	17 8:00 p AA meeting
18 8:30 a Holy Eucharist 2 Cents a Meal 10:30 a Holy Eucharist Christmas Program	19 7:00 p Vestry Meeting	20 Noon AA meeting 8:00 p AA Meeting	21 6:00 p Potluck Program 7:30 p Choir Rehearsal	22 9:00 a Altar Guild sets up for Christmas services	23	24 <b>Christmas Eve</b> 4:45 p Choral Prgm 5:00 p Family Eucharist 8:00 p AA meeting 10:30 p Choir Cantata 11:00 p Holy Eucharist
25 <b>Christmas</b> 8:30 a Holy Eucharist 10:30 a Holy Eucharist	26	27 Noon AA meeting 8:00 p AA Meeting	28 6:00 p Potluck Program 7:30 p Choir Rehearsal	29	30	31 <b>New Year's Eve</b> 8:00 p AA meeting