



Come adore Him, Christ the Lord ...

Christmas, 2016

Dear Friends,

The liturgical season of Christmas is the shortest season of all; it lasts twelve days. I wish that it were longer, not simply because I like singing Christmas Carols and Hymns, but because it would give more time to contemplate the meaning of Christmas.

The understanding of God's coming to us (Emmanuel or Immanuel) is a powerful one. It answers the question of "who takes the first step?" Some think, "Once I get my act together, I will be available to God." Others say, "If I pray good enough prayers, maybe God will find me acceptable." Christmas provides a different answer. It is not we humans who take the first step to God, but rather God who approaches us. As Christians, we believe one of the ways that God comes to us is in the birth of Jesus, the Incarnation. I hope you have a merry and happy Christmas Day. I also hope you have a meaningful Christmas Season.

Faithfully,

Albert

The Rev. Albert A. Jennings

Wednesday, December 21, 9:00 am, Altar Guild to set up Altar
Saturday, December 24, 5:00 pm, Music & Parish Family Eucharist,
No-Rehearsal Pageant,
Birthday Party for Jesus
10:00 pm, Traditional Eucharist
Sunday, December 25, 10:30 am, Simple Holy Eucharist, Bring a gift to be blessed
Sunday, January 1, 10:30 am, Lessons & Carols

**The designated 2016 Christmas Offering
will be split evenly among:
Emergency Assistance Center, Northfield
Haven of Rest, Akron
Episcopal Relief & Development: Haiti**

ST. TIMOTHY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE TIDINGS

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



JANUARY, 2017



FROM THE VESTRY

1. We elected Jim Dudziak as Treasurer and Sandy Dudziak as Assistant Treasurer for another two year term.
2. We heard that 2017 pledges are running behind the level of 2016.
3. We received updates on the building project.
4. We gratefully approved a plan for new furniture in the Vestibule that will be given in memory of Jack & Betty Palmer by Bill and Suzanne Palmer.
5. We approved proposed changes to our Code of Regulations. Mostly changes of clarification, these changes will be made available beginning January 8.
6. We are working on job descriptions for staff and Vestry leadership.
7. We celebrated that the digital sign is operational.
8. We will research options for window coverings in the new vestibule and temporary side walls for the sidewalk canopy.
9. We discussed the need for a nominating committee for Vestry; Albert will follow up.
10. Sandy Rockwell volunteered to coordinate the greeting card ministry for people/families who are on the various sections of our Intercessory List.

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Wednesday, **December 21**, 9:00 am, Altar guild sets up Christmas Altar
2. Saturday, **December 24**, 5:00 pm, Holy Eucharist, No Rehearsal Pageant, followed by Birthday Cake for Jesus, 10:00 pm, Christmas Music and Holy Eucharist
3. Sunday, **December 25**, 10:30 am, Holy Eucharist, **No 8:30 am service today.**

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The deadline for
February
Tidings is
MONDAY
January 15, 9 am.

UPCOMING EVENTS

4. Saturday, **December 31**, All annual reports for the Annual meeting are due in church office
5. Sunday, **January 1**, 10:30 am, Lessons & Carols. **No 8:30 am service.**
6. Sunday, **January 22**, 5:00 pm, Pizza, Bunko, Compline, Festival of Lights: **Eat, Play, Pray**
7. Sunday, **January 29**, Annual Meeting following the 10:30 am service
8. Friday & Saturday, **February 10 & 11**, Winter Convocation
9. Tuesday, **February 28**, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
10. Wednesday, **March 1**, 7:30 pm, Ash Wednesday service



OUTREACH

In January, we will collect single-serving Soup Cans for OpenM. St. Tim's continues to be generous in this ministry of sharing.

Many thanks from the Outreach Committee.



CHURCH HAPPENINGS



Ronald McDonald House

Just keep pulling those tabs, at all your holiday parties !

Mary Ann P



UTO Prayer

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!
 Serve the Lord with gladness!
 Come into his presence with singing!
 Know that the Lord, he is God!
 It is he who made us, and we are his;
 we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
 Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
 and his courts with praise!
 Give thanks to him; bless his name!
 For the Lord is good;
 his steadfast love endures forever,
 and his faithfulness to all generations.*



Psalm 100: 1-5

CHURCH HAPPENINGS CONTINUED

Annual Meeting

Our Parish Annual Meeting is Sunday, January 29 after the 10:30 service. Nominations are being received for Vestry: three to be elected; Diocesan Convention Delegate: one to be elected; Diocesan Convention Alternate: three to be elected; Mission Area Council: one to be elected.



Our Parish has been the Diocesan gathering spot for clothing and medicine bottles for our partners in Belize. Last week, we packed up 57 bags of clothing and 30 bags of medicine bottles and delivered them to the shipper.



ECW



Annual ECW Cookie/Nut Sale

The ECW would like to say "Thank You" for the time you gave, the sharing of your baking talents, and the support you provided for this year's Cookie and Nut sale. The sale was a huge success and we could not have done it without the entire Church family.

Thus far, we cleared \$1720 at this year's Cookie & Nut Sale. There are still more nuts available.

Marcy Mc

A little more information regarding the income from the Cookie and Nut Sale. The Saturday sale of the cookies was our highest to date with \$1,247.00 taken in. It has always been quite a challenge to keep the nut and cookie sales separate so I just took all the income so far and lumped it together. Our free and clear total to date is \$1,730. The nut company has been paid so these figures are what we have for our outreach distribution and operating expenses and the rest of the sale of nuts will just increase our income. Thanks to all who participated in these events.

Mary Ann R, ECW Treasurer

DEACON'S REFLECTIONS

Homeless.

What does that make you think of? People sleeping under a bridge? Those without work? Yes, but the reality is more complex.

Car breaks down; bus is late; kid gets sick... whatever the reason, you miss a day or two of work and you're out. Fired. No savings: who can save money when you're choosing between food and heat. So you can't make rent and are evicted. It happens. Call a friend and crash with them. Or you've made it to transitional housing and are looking for a new job, a school for the kids. Maybe you got sick of being hit by him and fled. Or you've got a job but the money won't stretch far enough.

This is why the Homeless Stand Down was begun - as a response to poverty, that ever-present cloud of darkness. On January 14, the HSD will be attended by many who are not homeless, yet are in need of light, hope and assistance. Some who receive help will also volunteer.

It's a day where professionals offer social services, medical care, meals, hygiene kits, haircuts (that's where I'll be volunteering), clothing and more. The HSD is a way to love our neighbour, as Jesus taught. For me, it's about having a relationship with Jesus: in the lady who told me about her coming interview, or the man who showed me the keys to his new apartment. Jesus was a man of action and relationship, a model for us. (For more about HSD visit www.handsonneo.org)

Anne

HandsOn NEO volunteers and American Express join forces to provide beautification at William Cullen Bryant Elementary School.



Please keep very close watch on the Worship Schedule: the elf that usually reminds volunteers will be otherwise engaged for the next couple weeks.

Merry Christmas to all and to all a Goodnight!



RECIPE CORNER

SUBMIT YOUR FAVORITE RECIPES IN EMAIL OR IN PRINT; SEE THE LARGE ENVELOPE IN THE CLIPBOARD RACK.

Crab and Cream Cheese Crescent Ring

Ingredients:

- 16 crescent rolls (2 8-ounce cans)
- 8 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 16 ounces crab meat, finely chopped
- 4 green onions, finely chopped
- 1 egg white

Directions:

Mix softened cream cheese, crab, and onions together.

Separate crescent rolls into 16 triangles. Place them on a greased cookie sheet. Arrange triangles so the short sides form a circle. When done, it should look like a sun. Evenly spread crab mixture around the inner circle. Fold triangle ends over and around crab mixture, tucking it under bottom layer of dough to secure it. Brush top of dough with the egg white. Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 or until top is golden brown.



Annual Reports are due in the office on December 31. Please complete this task before the holiday rush overtakes you. All Committee Chairs, Activity Leaders, and Group Leaders are responsible for submitting a summary of 2016's activities and a blurb on the purpose of their group. Please reference old Annual Reports to aid in your writing. **Email is the preferred mode of delivery.**



If you find you have carried off **Karen's Church Directory**, clearly marked on back cover, PLEASE, return it to the office. There are changes to information that appear nowhere else, but in the computer files. No questions asked.

In this season of giving, it is imperative that your checks or envelopes with monetary gifts be marked with the reason of your giving: Pledge, Christmas Offering, Building Fund, Flowers, Discretionary Fund, or any other destination. We thank you for your generosity and want your donations to be used as you intend. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



RECIPE CORNER CONTINUED

Hobo Dinner in the Slow Cooker

Meatloaf Ingredients:

- 1 lb. 10% fat ground beef
- 2 large eggs
- ½ cup diced white onion
- ¼ cup ketchup
- ¼ tsp. salt
- ¼ tsp. pepper
- ¼ tsp. onion powder
- 15 Saltine crackers, crushed

For the Potatoes:

- 4 small russet potatoes, sliced
- ½ cup sliced white onion
- ½ tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. onion powder
- ¼ tsp. pepper
- 3 Tbsp. melted butter

1 cup shredded sharp cheese (add at the end)

For Serving: Ketchup for topping meatloaf

Directions: Slow Cooker Size: 6-quart Oval or larger

In a large bowl, combine the meatloaf ingredients, you will have mix this with clean hands, be careful not to over mix. Shape the meatloaf on one side of the slow cooker, I tried to keep the meatloaf from touching the sides. Make a foil "bowl" out of a foot or so of foil. Shape it next to the meatloaf. Add the potatoes and onions. Season the potatoes and onions with the salt, pepper, and onion powder, and toss them with your clean hands. Drizzle over the melted butter.

Cover and cook on LOW for 5 hours. DO NOT OPEN THE LID WHILE THIS IS COOKING, or the potatoes will not get tender.

After the cooking time is up add the cheese on top of the potatoes, and cover for about 5 minutes more or until the cheese is melted. Add ketchup to the top of the meatloaf and serve. Enjoy!



MONEY MATTERS

Here are the financial results for November 2016 compared to the budget:

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Favorable / (Unfavorable) Difference</u>
Year-to-date Operating Revenue: \$	128,623.57	\$ 119,938.00	\$ 8,685.57
Year-to-date Operating Expenses: <u></u>	<u>137,531.60</u>	<u>129,870.00</u>	<u>(7,661.60)</u>
Year-to-date Operating Surplus(Deficit):	(8,908.03)	(9,932.00)	1,023.97

Church Operating Equity: \$ 24,917.35

November year-to-date was primarily over budget in most categories for the revenues: Pledges are \$3,309 ahead of budget; Non-pledge is as well (\$2,020 ahead), as is Transfers In From Other Funds (\$942 ahead – ECW Mother’s Day Bake Sale money); along with Rummage Sale Proceeds (\$454 ahead – We discontinued the Rummage Sale, but continue to give clothes to consignment that are sold for our benefit); fund raising is \$1,929 ahead of budget primarily due to the wine tasting education event and a larger than ordinary gain from the Fall Chili Dinner. There are no categories \$300 or more behind budget on the revenue side of the income statement.

November year-to-date expenses are close to budget in total if the Equity Transfer to Other Funds is ignored. The Equity Transfer represents \$7,875 transferred by the vestry from the sale of cemetery plots owned by the Church to the New Construction account. No amount was budgeted for equity transfers. Expense items \$300 or more under budget include: Advertising (\$420 ahead); Diocesan Pledge and Assessment (\$807 ahead – October assessment was not paid until December). Year-to-Date expense items more than \$300 over budget in November include: Sunday Child Care (\$309 behind – more children are coming to church that require child care); Church Maintenance (\$548 behind – October/November mowing paid plus the first installment on the snow plow contract occurred in November); Insurance Premiums (\$309 behind – timing of expense issues that should go away by year-end); Fund Raising Expense (\$566 behind – corresponds to the additional fundraising events provided by the church this year); and finally the Equity Transfer variance noted above.

Money from the Building & Grounds Fund – New Construction Account has been used for the rebuild of the atrium and planned additional phases of church construction. Contributions from memorials continue to be transferred to the fund. Funds of \$21,761 were received from the “Planting for Tomorrow” Collaborative campaign in October for the third quarter of 2016. We paid our Architects for their work and added a new electronic sign in December. The balance in the New Construction account is now \$77,985.39, with 50% of those funds invested in the Joint Investment Account with the Diocese and the other 50% in a money market account earning 0.05% interest. These funds are earmarked for building expansion.

We currently continue to pay all our bills on time and we keep positive equity. We have worked hard to be good stewards of the funds you have entrusted to us. Please keep St. Tim’s in your prayers and help when and how you can. We continue to be blessed.

Jim D



WORSHIP SCHEDULE for JANUARY, 2017

	JANUARY 1	JANUARY 8	JANUARY 15	JANUARY 22	JANUARY 29
ALTAR GUILD	Pat S Maureen	Linda S Sandy R	Judy H Cheryl	Amy Pauline	Marcy Mc Pat S
*ACOLYTES	Mike H	Simon D	Tom K Anja	Karen R, Carlene K Compline: Simon D, April D	Cheryl Lillian
HOSPITALITY	Nancy-Anne Lois	Edie D Linda S	Marjorie Jim D	Pat S Judy H	Cheryl Mike
GREETERS	Joan P	Kathleen	Linda S	Nancy N	Mary R
USHERS	Marcy Mc Mike Mc	Cheryl Mike	Cheryl Mike	Marcy Mc Mike Mc	Cheryl Mike
COUNTERS	Jim D Mike M	Sandy D Ron H	Jim D Bill P	Nancy-Anne Lydia H	Mike M Ron H
SEASON	HOLY NAME of JESUS <i>white</i>	Epiphany 1 <i>white</i>	Epiphany 2 <i>green</i>	Epiphany 3 <i>green</i>	Epiphany 4 <i>green</i>
	Rite II	Rite II	Rite II	Rite II	Rite II
	Lessons & Carols	Baptismal Vows	Morning Prayer		
CHALICE BEARER		Peter	Marjorie	Mary Ann P	Nancy-Anne
1ST LESSON		Suzanne	Mara	Lois	Marjorie
2ND LESSON		Gayle	Judy S	Sandy R	Pat S
INTERCESSOR	Nancy-Anne	Peter	Marjorie	Mary Ann P	Bill P
FORM	TBA	II	TBA	VI, w/confession	II
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Any changes made to this schedule must be made to the copy above Karen's desk, also.

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

Acolytes: it is imperative that you arrange any trade of dates. This is your responsibility.

January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>New Year's Day</p> <p>10:30 a Lessons & Carols</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00 a Holy Chatter Noon AA meeting</p> <p>8:00 p AA Meeting</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:00 p Potluck Program 7:30 P Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>Epiphany 6</p> 	<p>7</p> <p>8:00 p AA meeting</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8:30 a Holy Eucharist 10:30 a Holy Eucharist</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:00 a Holy Chatter Noon AA meeting</p> <p>8:00 p AA Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:30 P Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:00 p AA meeting</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8:30 a Morning Prayer 2 Cents a Meal 10:30 a Morning Prayer</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Martin Luther King Day 9 am Tidings deadline</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:00 a Holy Chatter Noon AA meeting</p> <p>8:00 p AA Meeting</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:30 P Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00 p AA meeting</p>
<p>22</p> <p>8:30 a Holy Eucharist 10:30 a Holy Eucharist 11:45 a, Vestry Meeting</p> <p>5:00 p Eat, Pray, Play</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10:00 a Holy Chatter Noon AA meeting</p> <p>8:00 p AA Meeting</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:00 p Potluck Program 7:30 P Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:00 p AA meeting</p>
<p>29</p> <p>8:30 a Holy Eucharist 10:30 a Holy Eucharist 11:45 a Annual Meeting & Luncheon</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>10:00 a Holy Chatter Noon AA meeting</p> <p>7:00 p Mission Area Council Meeting</p> <p>8:00 p AA Meeting</p>				