



St. Timothy's Church
4523 Six Forks Road
Raleigh, North Carolina 27609

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The Monthly Newsletter for Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church January 2016

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THE VESTRY OF SAINT TIMOTHY'S CHURCH

Cathy Elsea (Sr. Warden) cmelseal@aol.com; Ed Watson (Jr. Warden) ewatson@me.com

Kevin Bodiford, Bob Elsea, Mike Lewis, Deanna Lord, David Mason, John Royall and Marie Stewart

Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church Mission Statement



**Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church is a traditional,
welcoming, and scripture-based place of
worship that leads to salvation
through the celebration of the sacraments,
service, fellowship, and outreach.**

RECTOR'S 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

It's helpful for me to be forced to look back over the previous year and have to look forward to, and plan for, the coming year. I need the discipline imposed on me of sitting down and writing an annual report. It is good to regain and recall what has happened for the good over the year just ending, and to try to plan what needs to be put in place for the upcoming year. If I never had to be forced to put words to paper, I would easily forget the good that has happened and I would easily suppress the bad. So I should say "thank you for this opportunity", but you may not be thankful for sitting through this the final report of the morning. I'm glad you are here, though, and I hope this report is helpful.

We have the potential of seeing some very good things happening in the parish. I hope and pray that we do see these things because, if some of these exciting plans come to pass, we will be part of a parish that is on an upswing. We need an upswing and I pray that is what God has in mind for us. A few events could see us come out of the doldrums and into activities that make us a more attractive and vibrant parish.

Focussing on attracting and keeping new members by The New Members Committee of The Daughters of the King, hiring an assisting priest and collaborating with our parochial school on a ten to twenty-year master plan could all have an uplifting effect on us. As was reported by Mary Watson the greeters are doing a good job of identifying persons and families who are visiting for the first time and welcoming them to our church. If the greeters are able to get the newcomers to coffee hour, then it is up to the rest of us to make the newcomers feel at home so they want to return. If this is not something that we can all do in the parish, then all the efforts and planning of the greeters' committee will be for naught. These efforts, combined with the increased use of social media by Sarah Culton, could help provide us with new and committed parishioners and that will make for a healthier and more vibrant parish.

It is going to be a rare bird to cage to bring a priest on board in the parish, but we are committed to doing this. In fact, we have assented to the goals of a three to five year long range strategic plan with our school to bringing someone on board full time by this fall. I have already stalled one year to give us time to plan and budget for this position. The compensation for the position, in order to make it an attractive, full time position, will need to be split between the church and the school. The priest we bring into the parish will spend about half the time in the parish helping with parochial duties, just like any other parish priest, and the other half of the time in our parochial school being the chaplain. We need someone who not only wants to be a parish priest, but also wants to teach middle schoolers; a unique work in the Kingdom of God if you've ever tried to teach middle schoolers. The priest will lead chapel services, provide pastoral counseling to the

students, teachers, parents and staff, and possibly teach some courses on world religions and the history of Anglicanism.

We have joined with Saint Timothy's School this past year in an effort to create a long-range master plan of our entire property. The property that we have called home since 1956 here on Six Forks Road belongs to the church and Saint Timothy's School takes up the largest portion of the property. Rightly, if there is going to be any expansion or improvement in the property it is the church that is ultimately responsible. We know that our parish hall, kitchen, church school space, choir rehearsal space and adult education spaces are woefully lacking or do not exist. The school, even with its large building completed six years ago, is always needs more space for playing fields, performing arts areas, classrooms and athletic facilities. The questions are, "Where is the best place for them?" and "How do we get them built and paid for?" The improvements we need are not going to happen overnight.

The church and the school have engaged Ratio Architects, here in Raleigh, to design a fifteen to twenty-year plan to address the questions of where is the best place for buildings, for a gymnasium, for an early childhood center, for more parking and for playing fields. We were all invited to attend an open workshop in October so the architects could hear what we would want to happen and what we would not like to happen. They have taken this information and comments from parishioners, the vestry, parents, students, and teachers and are now in the process of creating what our property could look like in fifteen to twenty years. This is very exciting and we will all see what will be possible in January or February. Please take the time to become familiar with the plan when it is published. If early designs are able to be executed, and we cooperate with the school in fundraising, then our parish will really undergo great improvements early on in the plan. We may benefit greatly from a new parish hall, buildings that are easily accessible by everyone and be able to host events without worrying about whether or not appliances will work, the heating or air conditioning will come on, or the bathrooms will function. We will also not have to move our church school around so the students wonder where their next class will meet. Please look for this exciting plan early in 2016.

We visited and prayed for Father Martin through his long illness and finally had to lay him to rest last July. We lost a good friend and a faithful, scholarly and devoted priest. We will miss him, but we will continue to give thanks for his faithful witness and his ministry that reached people, without exaggerating, all over the world. *May he rest in peace. Amen.* It was our privilege to have him as part of Saint Timothy's staff for the past six years. We continue to be blessed by the presence of both Father Michael Carreker and Father Henry Presler. Father Presler's participation and presence have been severely limited over the past year. He will return and be more active once his healing improves. Father Carreker celebrates,

preaches and teaches in the parish on top of serving as a full time teacher at Saint David’s School here in Raleigh. We will benefit once again through Lent of 2016 as he will lead us through C.S. Lewis’s *Screwtape Letters* after each of our Wednesday evening soup suppers. The gift of these two fine priests to Saint Timothy’s is something for which we are truly thankful.

Debbie Nicholas, our parish administrator, continues with us full time and wears a number of large hats. She completes all the communications for the parish like the Sunday bulletins, the monthly “Tidings”, and the correspondence. She completes the payroll, pays the taxes, completes the monthly financial reports and is to keep track of all the financial accounts. I appreciate her dogged determination to complete tasks and get them done on time. Also, very efficient, because of his organizational skills and his musical talent, is our choir director and organist, John Herrmann. John became our choir director and organist with the departure of Patricia Warren last August. His direction, his excellent skill and talent at the console and his willingness to work with the choir members and our church school students have made him just the right person to be leading the choir.

We have been able to have our church school run smoothly, and be infused with creativity and new ideas by Sarah Culton. Sarah, over the past year, has organized, taught, refreshed and improved the communication of our church school and we are indebted to her for that. She has also taken on the position as a coordinator of parish life. This really means that she oversees the development and maintenance of our website. She has put us on the cyberspace map in a way that we have not been before. We now have a website that is attractive and easy to use. We have accounts with Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram and Sarah has our website doing things that it has never done before. Whether you’re a fan of parishes utilizing the internet or not, with the communication climate being what it is, if a parish is not on the internet the parish is behind in its outreach and will have to have a prominent presence just to maintain its ability to reach out to people. Sarah is making sure that we are able to do that and she does it very well.

Charles Wiggins has been with us, for a number of years now, as our sexton on Saturdays and Sundays. My wish would be that we could have him working in the parish every day. There is not a job he is not willing to take on and there’s not a job that he does not know how to do. May he remain with us well into the future.

Stewardship is a year-round proposition. It really should be. We are always called to be good stewards of what God has given us and He does not give us blessings just in the fall when we conduct our every member canvass. No sooner do we finish one stewardship campaign but it feels like we go on to the next one. This makes stewardship a year-round proposition, but it should be. This year we began early last spring creating a stewardship committee of Meredith Elsea, Angela Wainaina, Farah Williams and Angie Stewart. They put together a good stewardship campaign that focused on growing together in faith. It worked. We have had a good response to the campaign and if everyone pledges, who is supposed to respond to the campaign, then we could reach our goal of 225 pledges and have a budget that will include

an amount that is adequate to meet the 2016 budgetary needs. Thank-you’s go out to not only the committee, but the other helpful parishioners who volunteered to consult with and work for the stewardship committee like Deanna Lord, Sarah Culton, Vaughn Vreeland and everyone who helped make the stewardship celebration such a fun evening. Please view the video the committee produced on our website.

In 2015 we elected a vestry that has been supportive and willing to care for Saint Timothy’s and make the best possible decisions for our parish. Thank you for having me work with these faithful parishioners and within that vestry, thank you for allowing me to work with our new senior warden, Cathy Elsea. Cathy has graciously accepted my nomination to be senior warden after Peter and Linda Bourey moved to the coast. She knows Saint Timothy’s so well and supports who we are historically, theologically and wants to see us move forward and do great things. She gives really helpful suggestions on what we should be doing, and is willing to help in any way she can. It is also a good thing that God has seen fit for us to have Ed Watson as our Junior Warden. Ed’s experience on vestries and his willingness to “make things happen” have gone a long way to help us keep up with the building maintenance, and help us plan for the financial well-being of parish. Ed also serves on our finance committee so he knows what we need to maintain the material as well as the spiritual health of the parish.

As we move into 2016 there are three areas of our parish life that will need attention: attendance, stewardship, and episcopal visitation. Two of these ought to be a perpetual concern for us; attendance and stewardship. The third, episcopal visitation has become a concern only since our former Diocesan Bishop, Michael Curry, has been installed as the Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church. Attendance at our services the past two or three years has declined and the curious factor of the reduction in Sunday attendance is that we have not lost parishioners. We bring people into our parish membership and that is a good thing, but we also lose parishioners through moving, death or just staying home. So we are not losing parishioners, but we are not gaining. Our active membership numbers are level. The problem is that we have a good number of people who have just reduced their frequency in attendance. That is a problem we will have to solve.

Concomitant with the attendance problem is stewardship. We need to emphasize that giving toward the building of the Kingdom of God is not optional. It is expected that all of us who are baptized and worshipping God have a duty to give. It is ultimately the Vestry’s responsibility to see that the parish has the financial wherewithal to compensate the staff, keep the buildings up, and keep the church open. We make it really difficult for them if we do not pledge, or pledge but do not pay the pledge, or expect someone else to pledge. We found earlier in 2015 that some people only pay their pledge if they come to church. This means that the attendance problem, people not coming to church, affects the stewardship problem, not keeping the budget healthy with its cash flow: low attendance, low finance.



JANUARY SERVERS' SCHEDULE



	January 3 (White)	January 10 (White)	January 17 (Green)	January 24 (Green)	January 31 (Green)
ALTAR GUILD	Midge Silberman Mary McDaniel Everlyn Boro Shawna Hastings	Darlene Sholtis Bonnie Searcy Danielette Coleman	Marie Stewart Princess Cheetham-Smart Jennifer Wainaina Carol Rippetoe	Pennie Bliss Scotty Martin Sandy Wheat Princess Byass	Midge Silberman Mary McDaniel Everlyn Boro Shawna Hastings
ACOLYTES	C: Brody Culton 1st Server: Taylor Wamser 2nd Server: Jake Bodiford C: Christopher Stewart Torch: Izayah Lamont Torch: Millie Soler	C: Michael Lewis 1st Server: Aly Persing 2nd Server: Christopher Bain C: Matthew Bain Torch: Fei Persing Torch: Danielle Lewis	C: Parker Johnston 1st Server: Roma Boren 2nd Server: William Johnston C: Jake Bodiford Torch: Eli Williford Torch: Sean Manuel	C: Danielle Lewis 1st Server: Roma Boren 2nd Server: Aly Persing C: Michael Lewis Torch: Meredith Elsea Torch: Fei Persing	C: Meredith Elsea 1st Server: Parker Johnston 2nd Server: Sean Manuel C: William Johnston Torch: Jake Bodiford Torch: Eli Williford
9:00 LAY READERS	L/C: Al Clement P/C: Mike Spencer	L/C: Tom Donegan P/C: Mike Spencer	L/C: Mike Spencer P/C: Tom Donegan	L/C: Pennie Bliss P/C: Al Clement	L/C: Mike Spencer P/C: Tom Donegan
11:00 LAY READERS	L/C: Kevin Bodiford P/C: Margaret Soler	L/C: Simon Naylor P/C: Meghan Lord	L/C: Kathryn Carroll P/C: Connie Wilson	L/C: Jon Castro P/C: Simon Naylor	L/C: Margaret Soler P/C: Jon Castro
LECTORS	Patricia Michael	Bill Marley	Vivian Finklestein	Marlee Bourey	George Bang
9:00 USHERS	Pete Gattis Ed Watson	Derek Doolittle Doug Jurney	Arthur Cheetham-Smart Martin Whitley	Freddie Martin	Pete Gattis Ed Watson
11:00 USHERS	Rob Stone John Poole Rick Smothers Robert Elsea	Kevin Bodiford Mike Lewis John Royall Frank Louder	Duncan Culton Steve Sholtis Jim Caldwell	Bill Marley Dave Elsea Van Vreeland	Rob Stone John Poole Rick Smothers Bob Elsea
9:00 GREETERS	Doug Jurney	Doug Jurney	Doug Jurney	Doug Jurney	Doug Jurney
11:00 GREETERS	Deanna Lord	Patty Hunt		Anne Wamser	Carol Rippetoe

January 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 The Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ 12:00 HC Happy New Year Parish Office Closed	2
3 The 2nd Sunday after Christmas 9:00 HC 11:00 HC 11:00 Church School	4	5	6 The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ 9:00 Staff Meets 10:30 HC and Healing Service 6:30 Bible Study movie night	7	8	9 11:00 Baptism Rehearsal
10 The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ Bring-a-Friend-To-Church 9:00 HC 11:00 HC and Holy Baptism 11:00 Church School	11 6:30 DOK Meet	12	13 9:00 Staff Meets 10:30 HC 6:30 Bible Study on The Book of Esther	14	15	16
17 2nd Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 HC 11:00 HC 11:00 Church School 12:30 Youth Group	18 The Confession of Saint Peter 12:00 HC Parish Office Closed	19	20 9:00 Staff Meets 10:30 HC 6:30 Bible Study	21	22	23
24 3rd Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 HC 11:00 HC 11:00 Church School	25 The Conversion of Saint Paul 12:00 HC	26	27 9:00 Staff Meets 10:30 HC 6:30 Bible Study	28	29	30
31 4th Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 HC 11:00 HC 11:00 Church School 5:00 Chili Cook-off	1	2 The Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple 12:00 HC	3 9:00 Staff Meets 10:30 HC and Healing Service 6:30 Bible Study	4	5	6

What we find in our spiritual lives is that giving of every part of our lives, including our substance, actually deepens and enhances our love with Jesus. If you haven't tried it, then you're not taking full advantage of the sacrificial part of your spiritual life. We tend to put our money toward things about which we care and we truly care about things toward which we have a financial commitment. I hope we can instill this in our entire parish family through 2016. Those of us here at this annual meeting are probably already doing this. We need to get more of the parish practicing good stewardship in 2016 or we are going to be a sadder parish in the long run.

With the departure of Bishop Curry from our diocese to hold the position of Presiding Bishop, we have given thanks to God for his calling. We hope and pray that Bishop Curry will flourish in this new office and that The Episcopal Church in this country will have a positive and uplifting future. This leaves the question in our diocese; *Who will be our next diocesan bishop?* We know that it could take a year and a half and maybe two years for the diocese to elect another diocesan bishop. We at Saint Timothy's watch and wait, much like we are called to watch and wait in Advent each year, for who will be our chief pastor. We want someone who will allow us to preach and teach orthodox Christianity. We want someone to minister to us who relies on, and teaches, Biblical morality in matters of marriage, ordination and sexuality. Right now the present suffragan bishop, Anne

Hodges-Copple, is the bishop pro tem until the election of our next diocesan bishop. We will work with her to see if visitations, confirmations, communion, and preaching can be done in a way that division in our parish is minimized. Talks with her I'm sure will be productive and, God willing, we will continue our life together with the same inclusion and appreciation we enjoyed for the past fifteen years under Bishop Curry.

It is a joy to minister in a parish like Saint Timothy's and a joy that my family and I continue to appreciate with each year. I would not minister, or enjoy ministering here, without the support and love of Betsy. Not only does she let me put in the hours and days that it takes to minister in this place, she supports and takes part in the parish in a way that most priests could only hope for or imagine. Thank you, once again, Betsy.

May God continue to bless us as a parish and allow the word to be preached and the sacraments administered with the love and care they deserve in this place.

Respectfully submitted,



The Reverend Jay C. James
Rector



Happy New Year to everyone at Saint Timothy's! 2016 is here and we are excited for a new year of activities and programs at Saint Timothy's.

Sitting in the Annual Meeting, I could not help but get excited about all the wonderful functions and services we are going to offer this year. From the expansion of the Christian Education Program, Soup Supper Series, Youth Group plans, and development of a master plan with the school, who could not be thrilled about the future of our parish.

I would also like to thank all the members of the parish who attended and helped pull off the surprise reception for Fr. James and his family. It was a true reflection of our appreciation for him. Patty Hunt summoned it up best when talking to Fr. James at the reception by saying, "We love you Fr. James!" The attendance at the Annual Meeting was the most I have ever seen, so we will have to plan something special following the 2016 Annual Meeting as well. Again, a heartfelt thank you to all!!!

During the annual parish address, Fr. James mentioned we need to focus on regular attendance in 2016. So, why not start off the year with a resolution to make Saint Timothy's part of you and your families' Sunday routine. We will also have Bring-a-Friend-to-Church Day on Sunday, January 10, 2016. Hopefully we will see some new faces and make our guests feel welcome. Saint Timothy's is such a special, loving parish because of people like you!! So let's share our parish with others!

Faithfully,
Cathy Elsea

Attention St Timothy Singles and Empty Nesters: our next get together will be at the Cinebistro at Waverly Place in Cary on January 30th for dinner and a movie. You can see the fabulous menu online at Cinebistro.com. Movie will be determined when we know how many will be attending so please RSVP to **Jackie Okoth** at jokoth3@gmail.com or **Pennie Bliss** at pennie_bliss@yahoo.com.



As I write this, Christmas is still 2 weeks away. I know it will be here before we all know it!! As you all know, Christmas is synonymous with Music. In my last Tidings I had mentioned that the choirs have been rehearsing for Christmas since mid-October And we're almost there!! 2 more Sunday rehearsals and a rehearsal with the Christmas chamber orchestra to go!!

In the next Tidings I intend to offer a review of what we actually did at Christmas as well as give an overview of what lies ahead musically in Ordinary Time, Lent and Holy Week/Easter liturgies.

Between now and then, I've got work and practicing to do!! Perhaps you could consider a GIFT of your TIME and TALENT by joining us in the choir loft (and 9 AM rehearsal, of course!) in the New Year. We're still saving a seat for you! I was happy to hear that one of our members who has been away and busy will be joining us again in January. Will you join us too???

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Julia Farris	01/01
Maggie McDaniel	01/01
Hal Stewart	01/01
Edwin Thompson	01/01
Sarah Stager	01/02
Taylor Lord	01/03
Jonathan Spencer	01/03
Gerald Sullivan	01/03
Andrew Silberman	01/04
Helen Smawley	01/05
Will Hollingsworth	01/06
Melissa Merchant	01/06
Bailey Persing	01/07
Bradley Persing	01/07
Lauren Searcy	01/09
Robert Elsea	01/10
Isabella Wiggins	01/12
Kelsey Agu	01/13
Alexis Stewart	01/14
Michael Agu	01/16
Vanessa Perry	01/17
Pam Bond	01/18
William Rhett Taber	01/18
Meredith Elsea	01/19
Midge Silberman	01/19
Ramone Soler	01/19
Margaret Soler	01/19
Tabitha Artis	01/20
Edwin Thompson, Jr.	01/23
Pat Baker	01/25
Maggie Flaughner	01/25
Stephanie Agu	01/27
Robert Hockenberger	01/27
Septimus George III	01/30
Alexander Wheat	01/30
Cynthia Johnson	01/31

Prayer Requests

- Browning Altizer
- Doris Brock
- Robert Brown
- Tom Casey
- Vicki Cannefax
- Mark Dwyer
- Charles Hensley
- Jane James
- Melissa Jefferies
- Tillie Marshall
- Terri Northcutt
- Shelby Norwood
- Boo Parker
- Rorin Platt
- Father Presler
- Rachel Rutledge
- Gaye Setliff
- Gary Shelton
- Barratt Sturtevant
- Allie Thompson
- Roger Watson
- Alexander Wheat
- Nathan Zook



Nursery Care is provided for both Sunday morning services and between the services. (9:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.) Our Nursery accepts children ages 3 months to 3 years of age. Kyllie Nicholas is our Nursery care attendant and loves taking care of children. Kyllie offers child care during the week, she can be reached at 919-264-1973.

Happy Anniversary

Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Hinton	01/14
Mr. & Mrs. David Flaughner	01/18
Mr. & Mrs. Joffre Fisher	01/20
Mr. & Mrs. Septimus George	01/26
Mr. & Mrs. Keith Killinger	01/27

Please join **The Men's Fellowship Group** in assisting with Warmth for Wake this season. The Men's group will be delivering fire wood on these dates: Jan. 23rd, Feb. 13th and Mar. 12th, at 8:30 am. The address is **7044 Wildlife Trail in Raleigh**. Contact Duncan Culton for more information. sdculton@gmail.com

If you are interested in becoming an Usher for one of the services on Sunday, please contact Ed Doolittle at 919-847-0663.

DID YOU KNOW? You can now make secure online pledge payments through the church website! You can even set up an automatically recurring payment for the 2016 pledge year. Even if you miss a Sunday, automatic pledge payments will ensure the church will still meet her daily obligations with your continuous support. Step-by-Step instruction sheets are available from the church office to assist in turning your online payment into an automatic event for 2016. Or e-mail Debbie Nicholas at dnicholas@sttimothys.org for the instruction sheet in a PDF format.



- Sunday, January 3rd** : Children's Chapel and Church School will resume.
- Sunday, January 10th** : Bring-a-Friend-to-Church Sunday. Who will you introduce to Jesus in the New Year?
- Sunday, January 24th** : The children will practice singing in the Choir Loft.
- Sunday, January 31st** : The children will sing *What Child Is This* during the 11:00 a.m. service. The children will sing from the choir loft and stay there for the rest of the service. Parents, please pick your children up in the Narthex.

What will your New Year's resolution do for God's Kingdom in 2016? Let's start the year by engaging our community outside of our church family and support the **Bring-a-Friend-to-Church Day!** On January 10th, 2016 let us nourish those seeds that Jesus has been planting in our family and friends, strangers and neighbors. Be on the lookout for a flyer in the bulletins that you can use as an invitation to your invite those looking for hope, salvation, and love.

Happy New Year! I am so proud of our Church School children for all their hard work during the month of December! They practiced and practiced for the pageant and they presented a wonderful gift to all of us on Christmas Eve. The teacher volunteers have earned a Sunday off so please enjoy the church service on Sunday, Dec. 27th with your family. On January 3rd, we will resume our regular schedule. Students Pre-K through High School will meet in the Parish Hall at 10:45 a.m. and will remain in the Parish Hall for Children's Chapel then be dismissed to class. Following Church School, we will join the Parish for Communion and the closing prayer. Parents please feel free to go to Communion with your child, but join us in the Narthex and sit with us in the first two pews. If siblings wish to sit together in church we ask that the older siblings sit with the younger sibling's class. Also, please remember that children in grades Pre-K-5th will remain at the front of the church until a parent picks them up. This helps us maintain a safe and happy environment for your children.

If you have any questions about Church School, please e-mail Sarah Culton or call her, I am happy to help in any way. christianed@sttimothys.org, 919-787-7590.

The **Youth Group** had a very successful December and would like to thank everyone who participated in the Angel Tree project in December. Together we provided gifts to 19 children in our community.

Looking ahead to January we will resume our meetings on the **17th of January** as we prepare for our fund raiser. More information will be available in the weekly announcements in the bulletin as we get closer to the date.

We continue to encourage all parents to bring their 6-12th graders to youth group. As a group we are constantly reminded of the joy that God provides for us when we come together in His name and look forward to doing so the rest of the year. If you have any questions, please contact Olivia James at 919-604-3767.



The Pastoral Care Committee meets the third Thursday of each month at 3:30 in the parlor. In our meetings, we primarily review and update the Prayer List from the bulletin and Tidings.

Most parishioners pass on prayer requests to Father James directly, but we have also developed a Prayer Request Form, which is printed and restocked in the pews by Debbie Nicholas. Completed written requests are returned during the offering and forwarded to Father James and Pastoral Care via the church office. We contact and maintain correspondence with those who are homebound, ill or living in times of transition. Small gift bags have been assembled for hospital and home visits. Additionally, we provide meals and transportation when needed. Although there has not been any request to do so this year, Pastoral Care is available to organize refreshments if there is a reception planned after funeral services. Also, because special events, such as a requiem mass, bring visitors unfamiliar with Saint Timothy's services and facilities, we will provide a greeter for these services as often as possible. The

work of the Pastoral Care Committee has been forwarded this year by a partnership with Daughters of the King. The majority of our expenses have been covered by in kind donations with occasional reimbursement for food items. Many thanks to all those church members who have participated in this ministry!

A Prayer for the New Year

Lord, thank you so much for all that you have done for us this year. Your hand on our lives is so much more than we could ask for, and your blessings are so greatly appreciated. As we enter a new year, You know I have made resolutions to change the areas of my life that need it, and I ask for your strength to make those changes. I ask for your guidance to walk better in your path this year. I also ask, Lord, for your continued blessings on my family and friends and that this year is one of peace and joy, not only for those close to me, but the world at large, I ask that you continue to be a presence in all of our lives. Give each of us a heart for you and a desire to serve to make the world a better place.

CHILI COOK-OFF: We need to find the next Chili Meister at Saint Timothy's. After taking a break from our Chili Cook-off last year we are returning to the Chili Cook-off this January. The Cook-off will be hosted by the people of the Adult Bible Study and will begin at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 31st. Past winners have been Bob Elsea, Taylor Lord, Mike Lewis, Cathy Elsea, Mary Richardson and Duncan Culton. There will be lots of chili, hotdogs for the kids, cornbread, salad, desserts, and beer and wine for a donation. Take a break from the winter chill; come out and compete, or come out for some great food, company, and a nice cold beer! The contest is open to everyone and we hope to have many kinds of chili entries this year – spicy, con carne, vegetarian, whatever the style, we want a taste of your best! Come enjoy all the great chili and find out who will be the next **SAINT TIMOTHY'S CHILI MEISTER**.