

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26

# WEEKLY CONNECTION

ST. TIMOTHY'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

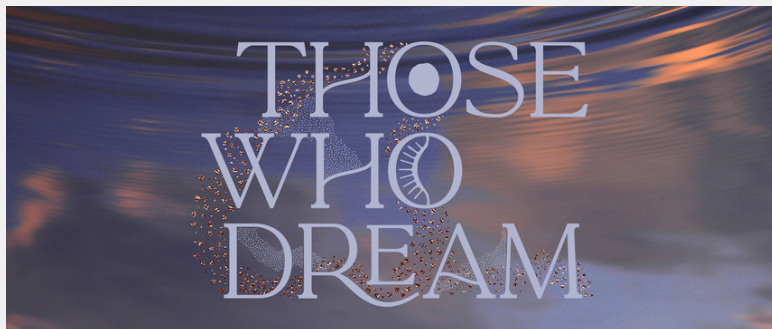
## Thanksgiving Day Prayer

On this day, O God, we give thanks in all kinds of communities, or even in solitude. Our desire in this moment is to come before you with our prayers of thanksgiving. For some of us the words we offer will flow easily from our lips. For others trying to name our blessing may prove difficult. Thanksgiving 2020 may be very different from previous years:

a smaller table at which to sit,  
new persons sitting with us,  
or a dear one absent,  
worries crowding out our sense of blessing.

These realities may reshape our prayers from years past. To seek joy may lead through heartbreak. Whatever our reality, O God, we ask that you help us focus not so much on material things (whether their abundance or scarcity) but rather on how we are living our lives. Help us recognize all the ways you are present in our lives this year. Help us gather the strength we need for today and for all of our tomorrows. Grant us the satisfaction of intimacy with Jesus, your great gift to us, through whom you offer Living Water, Bread of Life, more than we can ask or imagine. Help us to extend our prayers of thanksgiving to you into tomorrow with joyful spirits. We are loved and blessed and thankful. Amen.

*written by  
Henrietta Stith Andrews*



## THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**Sunday, November 29**

10:15 am Service of Holy Eucharist ([service link](#))

Services will stream on our YouTube channel and on our Facebook page. We will also post the recording to our website worship page following our "broadcast."

**Contactless communion** is available from 11-11:30 am on the Sundays in Advent. Please enter the circle drive entrance closest to Ashworth.

If you have Advent collection items or Angel Tree gifts to drop off after communion, please place your items in the back of your vehicle and drive to the parking lot entrance. An Advent Angel will retrieve the packages from your vehicle.

Packages may also be dropped off Monday-Thursday 9am – 4 pm beginning November 30. Please place the items in the marked totes near the parking lot entrance.

# AROUND ST. TIMOTHY'S

## WITH GRATITUDE

- For **David and Bev Blaha** who bagged leaves that had blown into the step garden, wrapping the pipes that run from the church to the air conditioning unit and for cleaning out gutters;
- For our liturgical ministers from last weekend: **LeAnn Phillips, Jana Montgomery, Abigail Luhrs, Abigail Livingood, Neil Guy, Deacon Jeanie, and Rev. Mary**;
- For **Deacon Jeanie**, our CLW leader last weekend;

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**For or those in service to our country:** Scott, Jack, Zach, Marshall & Reece;

**For those seeking ordination:** Abigail Livingood;

**For those who are sick or in need of healing:** Rosemary, Marty, Jovan, Kris, Troy, Lu, Mary, Sophia, Suzanne, and Dorothy;

**For those celebrating a birthday:** Kathy Larson, George Eldridge, Clayton Bunch, Krystal Coffey, Hillary Gaebler, Susan Koenig-Vande Haar, Hinton Stokes, and Hugh Drake;

**For those awaiting the birth of a baby:** Katy & Nik Pappas;

## 2ND OFFERING PARTNER

Our 2nd Offering partners for December are the Angel Tree & our Faith & Food Fund!

Make sure to check your Advent/Christmas newsletter for details about how to participate in the Angel Tree this year or click [here](#) to donate!



**For those to be married:** Sarah (Larson) & Alex, Dana & Zach (Slocum), and Molly & Joe (Brennan);

**For those just married:** Andrew & Jessie Marshall;

**For those celebrating an anniversary:** Stephanie & Scott Andrews;

**For our 2nd Offering Partner in December:** the Angel Tree and our Faith & Food Fund; **and**

**For the Episcopal Church in Sudan & South Sudan especially Archbishop Samuel and Bishop Richard and their families.**

# DATES TO REMEMBER

## CALENDAR DATES

### November

26 Thanksgiving Day  
27 Church offices closed for the holiday

### December

15 Vestry Meeting  
24 Christmas Eve, offices close at noon  
25 Church offices closed through Jan. 5

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## FORMATION SCHEDULE

### Wednesdays

7 AM Lectionary Reflection + Discussion  
November 25 through December 16  
Zoom link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87529589422>

### Thursdays

4:30 PM 6th Grade Faith in Action, ZOOM

### Fridays

10 AM Books, Brew & Banter

### Sundays

9:45 AM Children Living the Word - Zoom  
(for all ages)  
  
11:15 AM -Noon Bible Class - Zoom  
(4th and 5th grade)

## CALLING ALL ST. TIMOTHY'S FAMILIES!

## 2020 "VIRTUAL" ANGEL TREE

This year, St. Timothy's has adopted four families with a total of 15 children. The parents have specified for each child something they want, something they need, something to wear, something to read." That means we have a total of 60 gift opportunities for these children. In addition, we will try to provide parents with grocery gift cards and, perhaps, a gift or two.

We have only a "virtual" Angel Tree this year, So you can't come in to pick an "ornament" off our tree as in previous years. Therefore, if your family would like to participate, please contact Mary or Jeanie or the office and we'll supply you with a child's name and something from his or her list, or if you prefer, a family name for you to gift with a grocery gift card. We ask that gifts be returned, wrapped and labeled, as part of the post-communion drop-off on one of the Sundays in Advent, but **no later than December 20.**

### Questions:

Contact Deacon Jeanie at  
[deacon@sttimothyiowa.org](mailto:deacon@sttimothyiowa.org).



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As part of our pageant this year, we'd like to share very short (10 seconds or less) videos of families wishing "Merry Christmas" or any other Christmas greeting to our viewers. We need these videos by **December 10th**, but the sooner the better.

We hope you share your greetings with us!

You can add your video here: [FamilyVideos](#) - Google Drive

# WAYS TO GIVE

## PLEDGE UPDATE

Stewardship Weekend Update	The Hope	23-Nov
# of pledges Received	141	90
Total Amount Pledged	\$400,281	\$360,944

By the Numbers		
Total Operating Pledges	90	\$360,944
No Pledge	0	
Increased Pledges	45	\$203,726
New Pledges	5	\$8,100
Stayed the Same	32	\$122,118
Went Down	8	\$27,000

Amount Increased	\$28,019
Amount Decreased	\$(5,740)
New Pledges	\$8,100
2020 Attrition	\$(1,776)
<b>Net Increase/Decrease</b>	<b>\$18,603</b>

## MATCH GIFT NEWS

Our \$5000 match gift is generating great momentum! To date, we have received \$4000 toward retiring our parish hall loan.

If you have questions please contact our Treasurer, Scott Andrews at scottandrews143@gmail.com

## GIVING @ ST. TIMOTHY'S

We continue to be grateful for the generous spirit that permeates our community. Here are ways you can continue to give:

### Online:

[www.sttimothysiowa.org/giving](http://www.sttimothysiowa.org/giving)  
Pledge, 2nd Offering & More

### By Mail:

Regular Pledging/2nd Offering  
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church  
1020 24th St., W. Des Moines IA 50266

## CHURCHES OUTREACH GROUP

Due to the pandemic, West Des Moines Human services has revamped this year's Children's Shopping Spree.

They are asking for donations to purchase gift cards and presents which they will coordinate internally. This process was put in place to keep everyone safe.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

### Donations needed by December 1st.

Make your check out to St. Timothy's, mark COG Christmas Shopping Spree in the memo line and mail it to the church: 1020 24th Street, WDM 50266.

**Questions?** Contact Rosemary Drake at [dhd36@q.com](mailto:dhd36@q.com).

Thank you for your generous support & thank you to our COG Representative, Rosemary Drake for helping to coordinate the efforts of our local churches!



# ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS

## VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### INCLUDED:

- Review of the e-newsletter that went out this week for details on Advent and Christmas services and programming
- Affirming that the office is closed to the public effective immediately, visitors will be limited to essential visits by appointment only and that the preschool will close for Thanksgiving break and remain closed until at least January as a COVID precaution.

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## COLUMBARIUM UPDATE

Brick has been selected and work will be completed as soon as we can get on the mason's schedule. A couple of weeks, weather permitting.

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## PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

We will be registering for the 2020-2021 school year starting January 11th. It will first be open to current preschool families and church families January 11-15. It will open to the public on January 18th.

Registration forms will be available in the office and on the preschool website after Christmas.

Questions? Contact Preschool Director Michelle Madden at [psdirector@sttimothyiowa.org](mailto:psdirector@sttimothyiowa.org)

## PRE-OPENING TEAM NEWS

November 25, 2020

We are very excited to announce a change in how we worship this Sunday as we will be live streaming from our Sanctuary! At this time there will be no congregation during live stream services but we continue to plan ahead for when we can safely welcome small groups back into the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings. Many thanks to Neil Guy for making this a possibility!

As COVID-19 cases remain at high levels in our community, we will continue to meet only virtually for now and are asking for your help in keeping everyone at St. Timothy's safe. At this time, no visitors are allowed into St. Timothy's during open office hours without an appointment. Thank you for your understanding.

While we wait patiently for when we can gather again in person, please be on the lookout for fun opportunities to connect during Advent! It may be as simple as calling someone or sending a notecard or a text to let them know you are thinking about them.

As always, any feedback or questions may be directed to the office or to Suzy Coen, [suzycoen@gmail.com](mailto:suzycoen@gmail.com).

Stay safe and have a blessed Thanksgiving!