

CONNECTIONS

ADVENT + CHRISTMAS + EPIPHANY

From Mary+

This year, as we journey through the Advent season, our centering words are **Close to Home**.

Developed by the creative team at Sanctified Art, Close to Home is both comforting and challenging - the comfort of being home and the challenge to be home for all God's beloved. Remembering that God made God's home with us, how do we (re)imagine home? And how will we be home for our neighbors, family, friends, and strangers? So many questions to fuel our Advent journey!

Come and see as we make our way through this season of anticipation and renewal - join us in prayer and conversation, worship and acts of kindness as we deepen our understanding of home, God's home in us.

Preparing our hearts and homes for the coming of the Christ Child

God of the stars and God of our hearts— our days will pass but your words will last. The earth might fade but your words will last. Our memories might blur but your words will last. The grass will wither but your words will last. The sky could go dark and your words would last. So as we listen today, help us to hold onto what will last. Help us hold onto you. Gratefully we pray, amen.



**The people of the Diocese of Iowa
invite you**
to the ordination and consecration of
The Reverend Elizabeth Lockwood Hawley Monnot
as a Bishop in the
one holy catholic and apostolic Church,
and Tenth Bishop of The Episcopal Diocese of Iowa
Saturday, December 18, 2021, at 11:00am
to be held at
Lutheran Church of Hope
925 Jordan Creek Parkway
West Des Moines, Iowa
Chief Consecrator
The Most Reverend Michael Bruce Curry
Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal Church
*The Standing Committee of the Diocese of Iowa
requests the honor of your presence
A reception follows the consecration*
Clergy: Red stoles Bishops: Rochet, Chimere, and Tippet

RSVP by December 3, 2021
iowaepiscopal.org/consecration-rsvp

WORSHIP

ABOUT THE CLOSE TO HOME LOGO:

"As we brainstormed imagery to convey this theme, we were drawn to architectural blueprints as a visual symbol and theological metaphor. Blueprints are tangible glimpses of a vision actively and intentionally pursued. They are precise and will inevitably be revised. Blueprints give builders the information they need to bring a dream to life. In many ways, the Advent scriptures are like blueprints—detailing the dreams of a God who makes a home with us.



The icon in our Close to Home logo conveys a theological concept of home. The hands express our deep longing for connection, intimacy, and for God to come close. As the hands—representing both God's hands and the hands of humanity—draw closer to one another, they form a structure of home. The home structure is not one dimensional; it expands outward, with a doorway offering an open invitation to us all. The hands break through the house structure, centering human connection and mirroring the inbreaking of God in our lives. The logo is both structural and personal, comforting and nostalgic—reminding us of the ways God's home is close but not yet complete."

—Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman & Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS & GREENS

Each year at Christmas, our Flower Guild uses our donations to adorn our Sanctuary. We would also like to offer the opportunity for you to lift up the memory of loved ones and/or give thanks for the blessings in your life.



Please supply the church office with your name, the names of those you would like to remember or give thanks for, along with your donation, to the office NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 17TH, making all checks payable to: ST. TIMOTHY'S, with a notation for Christmas Altar Flowers.

You may also go to the GIVING page on our website. Just choose Altar Flowers from the menu. If you would like to include specific memorials & thanksgivings, you may include those in the notes area.

Forms will also be available at church services each weekend.

WORSHIP SERVICES IN ADVENT

Saturdays

Holy Eucharist in the
Parish Hall,
5:00 PM

Sundays

Holy Eucharist &
AGAPE Meal, 10:15 AM

WORSHIP SERVICES FOR CHRISTMAS WEEK

Sunday, December 19

10:15 AM

Christmas Pageant

[LINK](#) for 10:15 AM
service registration

Tuesday, December 21

7 PM

A Service of
Remembrance & Hope

Friday, December 24

Christmas Eve

5 PM Pre-Recorded

Family-Friendly Service

9 PM Service of Lessons
& Carols

[LINK](#) for 9 PM
service registration

Saturday, December 25

9 AM Holy Eucharist

Sunday, December 26

10:15 AM Morning Prayer
on Zoom

Sunday, January 2

The Feast of the Epiphany
10:15 AM

BOOKS, BREW & BANTER

10 AM Fridays

This is our weekly book group where we read a wide variety of books, fiction, non-fiction, short stories, poetry.

During Advent, we'll be reading and discussing *Dune* by Frank Herbert. We're always eager for new people who love to read. You can join either in person or by Zoom.

Read some of our reviews and lists of what we've read and are considering at sttimsbbb.blogspot.com/



ADULT FORMATION

BY DEACON JEANIE SMITH

Adult Forum, 9 AM Sundays

During Advent, we'll use our regular Adult Forum time to focus on our Close to Home Advent theme. Join this small group on November 21 and December 5, 12, and 19 as we explore scripture, poetry, art and more to bring us ever closer to home. During Epiphany, we'll embark on a series entitled "Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say."

Bible Study

If you're available, our Bible Study group meets on Thursdays at 9:30 am. We've been looking at what the Bible says about what happens to us when we die, which has led to a resumption of our reading of the book of Revelation. In Epiphany, we're going to start delving into our conceptions about and the work of The Holy Spirit. We have a wonderful time with each other in this Bible study that calls on each of us to interpret scripture through the lens of our own lives and experiences.

Call to Worship

A voice calls out in the wilderness. It sings of a home for all. It speaks of justice and peace. We could choose to ignore it. We could drown out that song. We could choose not to listen. Instead, we come into this space. We let the world grow quiet. We listen. A voice calls out in the wilderness. Do you hear it? We hear it. In listening, we worship. Let us draw near to God.

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

CONSCIOUS AGING WORKSHOP

Saturday, January 8, 10AM - 1 PM

<p>10 AM WORKSHOP</p> <p>CONVERSATION MATTERS <i>How to have an end of life conversation with a loved one</i></p> <p>Facilitated by Mary O'Brien and Jeanie Smith</p>	<p>11 AM WORKSHOP</p> <p>MONEY MATTERS <i>Planned Giving St. Timothy's Endowment Fund The Importance of Estate Planning</i></p> <p>Facilitated by Mary Sheldahl, Tom Carpetner, Priscilla Sayeed</p>	<p>NOON WORKSHOP</p> <p>FUNERAL SERVICE PLANNING MATTERS <i>at St. Timothy's</i></p> <p>Facilitated by Mary Cole-Duvall</p>
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RSVP by January 5 at office@sttimothyiowa.org
Choose one workshop or choose all three!
Questions? Contact Mary @ rector@sttimothyiowa.org

FORMATION FOR YOUTH & CHILDREN

2022 PILGRIMAGE

BY ABIGAIL LIVINGOOD

This coming summer, our youth pilgrims will road-trip from Des Moines to visit several iconic human and civil rights spaces in the southeast part of the US. These are sites that figure large in our American history where injustice and justice showed up in our democracy.

Between now and June, we will prepare ourselves by visiting local Iowa historical sites, reading stories, articles, and books, by talking together to absorb what we are learning. Also, we will share the progress of our 2021-2022 faith journey with the congregation in the bulletins and during our worship together.

As of now we have 25 Pilgrims. Our fundraising goal will be to earn enough to cover ½ the cost of the trip for each pilgrim. We ask you to pray for our pilgrims, our preparations and to help with our fundraising. The Pilgrims next meeting is Sunday, December 5th at 9 AM in room 137 in the lower level. The Leader Team is Sarah Bunch, Alan Feirer, Abigail Livingood, and Deacon Jeanie Smith.



FOR CHILDREN + FAMILIES

Art in Advent @ 9 Am

December 5, 12, 19 in the Parish Hall
Advent/Christmas-themed crafts for youth

Advent Agape Feast @ 10:15 AM

November 28 - December 19

Advent Collection for DMARC

Please see the Reverse Advent Project on page 8 and bring needed items to the altar area every Sunday in Advent.

Questions? Contact Heather at formation@sttimothyiowa.org

IMPORTANT DATES

PAGEANT PRACTICE & RECORDING

Recording
Sunday, December 5

* If you are playing an instrument for the pageant, your recording times will be separate from the main recording of the pageant.

FORMATION RESUMES

Sunday, January 2
9 AM

This does not include the Children's Ark or Childcare. (See below)

CHILDREN'S ARK & CHILDCARE

The Reopening Committee recently met and decided that we will postpone "opening" the Ark for now.

We do not want to put our youngest population at risk, nor our teachers, by having a group together when it might not be safe. So, until 3 year olds can also be vaccinated, we are on hold.

This is certainly disappointing, but we want to remain consistent in prioritizing the health of all St. Timotheans and would rather wait than have to re-close due to illness.



Sunday, December 19th

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA DELIVERIES

Sign up your family to deliver poinsettias to our homebound parishioners!

Plants will be available for pick up on December 19th between 11:30 AM and 12:15 PM.

[SIGN UP TO HELP HERE!](#)



ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS - BUILDING & GROUNDS

CAMPUS PROJECTS BY DAN MONTGOMERY

Several campus projects that had been deferred for several years were completed in 2021:

- New screens were installed in the classrooms by the step garden and accountant's office
- Crumbling concrete on the patio and near the red doors was replaced
- Trees along 24th street and outside the preschool were trimmed
- Landscaping around the new church sign was completed
- A new columbarium wall was installed.

Planned improvements for 2022 include:

- Replacement of the tree in front of the office entrance and area landscaping
- Funds permitting, the area by the southeast corner of the church will be landscaped and
- Three new crab apple trees are planned along 24th street, to replace the trees damaged by the derecho.

If you are interested in volunteering to keep our campus a welcoming and beautiful place in every season, we'd like to hear from you! The tasks required don't take long and can be manageable for any age group. We do also offer hours for silver cords (HS graduation recognition).

Additionally, anyone who is interested in preparing the columbarium wall for inurnment or the garden for burials of cremains should contact Dan Montgomery at daniel.montgomery@mchsi.com. This ministry is part caring for our campus and caring for families facing a loss.

Thank you for your continued support!



ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS - FINANCES

2022 APPROVED BUDGET

2022 Operating Budget				
Final Budget - Vestry Approved 11.17.2021				
		2022	2022	2021
	Operating Fund	Approved Budget Vestry Approved 11.17.2021	Draft Budget Vestry Approved 9.22.2021	Final Budget
INCOME				
	Loose Plate	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,228
	Non Pledge Contributions	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 9,570
	Pledges	\$ 394,055	\$ 393,000	\$ 393,008
	Easter/Christmas	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,500
	lowers, Candles, VBS, Rentals	\$ 3,550	\$ 3,550	\$ 3,550
	Interest	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ 835
	Designated Funds Transfer	\$ 17,908	\$ 18,963	\$ 20,995
	Preschool Reimbursements			\$ 9,744
	TOTAL INCOME	\$ 440,713	\$ 440,713	\$ 446,430
EXPENSE				
	Diocesan Pledge	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
	Community Ministries	\$ 3,600	\$ 3,600	\$ 3,600
	Christian Formation	\$ 2,940	\$ 2,940	\$ 2,788
	Music	\$ 8,840	\$ 8,840	\$ 6,895
	Liturgy	\$ 6,650	\$ 6,650	\$ 7,480
	Pastoral Ministry	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 700
	Parish Life	\$ 3,800	\$ 3,800	\$ 3,800
	Personnel	\$ 214,200	\$ 214,200	\$ 219,925
	Office	\$ 16,195	\$ 16,195	\$ 16,746
	Communications	\$ 5,043	\$ 5,043	\$ 5,009
	Property	\$ 128,445	\$ 128,445	\$ 129,487
	TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 440,713	\$ 440,713	\$ 446,430

2ND OFFERING TOTALS AS OF OCTOBER

January's 2nd Offering to CSM	\$1,182.00
February's 2nd Offering to Simpson Youth Academy	\$757.00
March's 2nd Offering to Women at the Well	\$1,465.00
April's 2nd Offering to Faith & Grace Garden	\$4,918.00
May's 2nd Offering to Freestore	\$3,180.00
June's 2nd Offering to the Diocese of Nzara	\$3,471.00
July's 2nd Offering to JOPPA	\$1,953.00
August's 2nd Offering to the YJI Study Table	\$3,162.00
September's 2nd Offering to Faith & Grace Garden	\$1,713.00
October's 2nd Offering to Many Hands for Haiti	\$1,124.18

YEAR-END GIVING

BY SCOTT ANDREWS

Outstanding tax-savings opportunity for older taxpayers - the IRA Charitable Roll-over.

If you are over 70 ½ years old, you must take the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) out of your IRA every year. But, you are permitted to roll-over funds out of your IRA and make gifts to charities. The making of such a direct gift (1) counts towards satisfying the annual RMD, and (2) keeps the gifted amount entirely out of your taxable income.

Please consult your tax advisor on this amazing opportunity!

FRIENDLY REMINDER...

All financial gifts to St. Timothy's must be postmarked no later than December 31, 2021 to be included in your 2021 contribution statement.

COORDINATOR CONTACT INFORMATION

STAFF

Mary Cole-Duvall, Rector
Jeanie Smith, Deacon
Abigail Livingood, Seminarian
Amy Wachter, Accounting
Coordinator
Heather Preston, Children &
Youth Formation Coordinator
Jennie McKinney, Parish
Coordinator

VESTRY

Suzy Coen, Sr. Warden
Mark Slocum, Jr Warden
Liz Brennan, Secretary
Sarah Bunch
Rick Ballinger
Darin Krantz
Dave Leigh
Abby Luhrs
Amy Rech

LAY COORDINATORS

Bob Soddors,
Building Coordinator

Dan Montgomery,
Campus Coordinator

Neil Guy,
Livestream Coordinator

John McManus, IT Coordinator

Vince Preston,
Diocesan Convention
Delegate Coordinator

ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS - LEADERSHIP

VESTRY NOMINATIONS

As the new year approaches it is time to add new members to the Vestry. Traditionally, three members end their service as three new members join the Vestry. Many thanks go to Sarah Bunch for her three years of service on the Vestry. Rick Ballinger and Liz Brennan will extend their service for one additional year to complete projects they have been working on. Even though Rick and Liz will be staying for an extra year the Vestry would like to add three new members in 2022.

Vestry members meet monthly, help with weekend services, and may do committee work, depending on the Vestry member's interests. New or long-term members, young or old parishioners - everyone is welcome to serve on the Vestry!

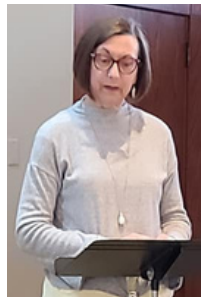
If you are interested in serving a three-year term on the Vestry, please contact Sarah Bunch, Rick Ballinger, Liz Brennan, or Suzy Coen. Deadline to submit your name is **Friday, December 10.**

ORDINATION - ABIGAIL LIVINGOOD

On Saturday, December 4, I will be one of three candidates in the diocese who will be ordained as Transitional Deacons. You are my sponsoring/sending parish and are currently my internship site. I work here with both the permission of Luther Seminary and this Diocese as part of my educational program. Mary Cole-Duvall has been my supervisor and there is an Internship Committee that has met with me monthly to support me, guide me in different parish life areas and evaluate my work.

Both my schooling at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN, and this internship started in June of 2020 and will continue through May 2022.

My goal in going to seminary is to become an ordained Episcopal priest and the ordination as a deacon in December is the next step in this process and will be followed, I hope, in 6 months with ordination as a priest. Between now and then I will continue to be in school full-time, work at St. Tim's part-time, and I will sit for the General Ordination Exam (GOE) – January 3-7, 2022. All of my classes are on-line – by design. The exception will be my upcoming winter term 2022. It will be a short but intense study time in Germany primarily in Berlin in the Dietrich Bonhoeffer House. I will graduate on June 5, 2022.



CONNECTING AT HOME & IN COMMUNITY

ANGEL TREE

Join in the amazing spirit of giving this Christmas as we celebrate and provide gifts for six families (with 18 children!) through our Angel Tree!

As we did last year, we'll provide a Signup Genius site where you can choose a recipient. The Angel Tree will be in the Parish Hall on November 28. The Signup Genius site will go live on November 29. We're asking that you choose a child recipient. We'll provide you with some information that will help you to do your shopping (clothing sizes, likes/dislikes, what is wanted, what is needed). All recipients will be given code names so as to remain anonymous. Keep in mind the old gift-giving adage: "Something to wear, something to read, something you want, something you need." We ask that all gifts be returned to the church wrapped and tagged in time for the 10:15 service on December 19. We will place the gifts around the altar and bless them before delivering them to our recipient families.

Thank you so much for your generosity!

THE REVERSE ADVENT PROJECT is a meaningful way for us to journey through Advent by helping our neighbors in need. The Des Moines Area Religious Council (DMARC) created this list. Please bring the following food items to the church sanctuary and place in front of the altar. Check the ENews for the next week's food requests. Questions? Contact Mary at rector@sttimothysiowa.org.

December 1: Jar of Peanut Butter | Peanut Butter is a great source of protein. DMARC goes through 1,000 jars a week.

December 2: \$1 | Cash donations make a bigger difference. DMARC can purchase up to 6x more food through our system with your dollar than you can in the grocery store!

December 3: Learn! | Visit www.dmarcunited.org/pantry-locations/ and count how many pantries and how many mobile pantry sites we have in the metro area.

December 4: Canned Meat | DMARC provides canned Tuna, Chicken, and even Sardines in our pantries. Please make sure it is within the best by date!

December 5: Toilet Paper | DMARC provides hygiene supplies. Even if a package of TP is open, we can still receive it.



2ND OFFERING PARTNERS FOR NOVEMBER THROUGH MARCH

November

Center for Social Ministry - Providing poverty awareness and social justice education that transforms and empowers to drive change.

December

St. Timothy's Faith + Food Fund - Helping our neighbors through difficult times

January

Youth Civil Rights Pilgrimage - Supporting our youth as they learn about our history and how we are called as Christians to work for Beloved Community

February

Women at the Well - enabling ministry to incarcerated women at ICIW

March

Simpson Youth Academy - enriching spiritual development in high school youth