



ANNUAL GATHERING

JANUARY 22, 2023



St. Timothy's Annual Meeting Minutes 2022

Sunday, January 30, 2022, 10:15 am Service

The Annual Meeting opened at 10:28 am with the congregation repeating their Baptismal Covenant.

Suzy Coen, Senior Warden, welcomed everyone present and on-line to the meeting and introduced a memorable photo and video slideshow prepared by Neil Guy.

Coen thanked the following persons for their work and leadership at St. Timothy's: 2021 Diocesan Delegates (Vince Preston, Abigail Livingood, Alex Volker, Scott Andrews, Stephanie Andrews, John Wheeler, and Gloria Blondino), Outgoing Vestry members (Sarah Bunch and Rick Ballinger), Assisting Priests (Pat Genreux, Bill Wolff, and Milton Cole), Deacons (Abigail Livingood and Jeanie Smith), and our Rector Mary Cole Duvall.

The minutes of the 2021 Annual Gathering were presented. Mary Sheldahl moved to approve the minutes as printed, Amy Rech seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Coen thanked the Vestry Nominating Committee (Rick Ballinger, Liz Brennan, and Sarah Bunch) and introduced the 2022 Vestry candidates: Alan Feirer, Jacob Nastruz, and Alex Volker. Bill Smith moved to approve the Vestry slate, Sarah Bunch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Sheldahl moved to approve the Vestry Executive Team (Senior Warden Suzy Coen, Junior Warden Mark Slocum, Clerk Liz Brennan, and Treasurer Scott Andrews), and Bill Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

McB McManus moved to approve the 2022 Diocesan Delegates (Vince Preston, John Wheeler, Gloria Blondino, Lexi Brennan, Jenna Parker, Amy Rech, and Lindy Wells), and Sarah Bunch seconded the motion. Bill Smith reminded Coen that the Vestry needs to confirm this group at the next Vestry meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

John Wheeler provided a brief report from the 2021 Diocesan Convention.

Scott Andrews gave an overview of St. Timothy's finances. Further reports will be given at the Financial Town Hall in April.

Mary Sheldahl presented the Endowment update. The Endowment's current total balance is \$266,700.

John McKinney reported on the Search Committee activities. The Search Committee has given its recommendation to the Vestry and their role is complete.

Coen urged everyone to read the Annual Meeting materials to get complete reports on many activities at St. Timothy's. The materials are also available on-line. Coen thanked the technology team for their work with the Annual meeting.

Rector Mary Cole Duvall shared remarks about her journey to St. Timothy's in 2004 and the journey toward welcoming a new rector in 2022.

Coen thanked the Vestry and the wonderful St. Timothy's staff. Scott Brennan moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:13 am and Bill Smith seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Brennan, *Clerk*

RECTOR'S REPORT

The Rev. Kyle Carswell



"We'll miss you," said one of my parishioners in Texas on my last Sunday there, "but we're also thrilled for you. It must be so exciting for you to move on to your own church."

I knew what she meant, of course. I was excited (if also a bit nervous) to be called as a rector for the first time. But I also felt the need to clarify that I wasn't a fan of the phrase "my own church." St. Timothy's was not and will not be *mine*. And not just because there are many of you who have been part of this community far longer than I have. This church doesn't truly belong to you or to me. It belongs to Jesus.

It's been a joy to enter into a community that embraces that truth. St. Timothy's is a parish that exists not for its own sake, but as an embassy, as ambassadors of Christ. It's a church that not only talks about, but lives out its commitment to being the hands, feet, and voice of Christ in the world. You can take a look at what follows in this Annual Report, especially the Outreach Report, to see some of the ways this congregation represented Jesus in the world in 2022.

One of the ways the people of St. Timothy's live that out is through hospitality. I have personally experienced that welcoming atmosphere this year from my very first Sunday here in June, when we celebrated the beginning of our ministry together with a parish picnic. That sense of welcome only grew as I got to know many of you at our Meet-the-Rector Home Gatherings and as I familiarized myself with the congregation's ministries by visiting many of the outreach and formation offerings. Another highlight of the beginning of my tenure here was the Celebration of New Ministry in September. Bishop Betsey Monnot was present to officially institute me as rector, and various parishioners presented me with symbolic gifts to represent our shared ministry together.

I've also enjoyed having the chance to lead a couple of formation offerings at St. Timothy's this year. In September, I led a two Sunday adult forum on "Images of God." It was a great chance to look at some of the ways Christians have depicted God and Jesus through art and to discuss the role these images can play in our spiritual lives. I also led our Wednesday morning Advent series in December, where we explored the meaning of the season of Advent with the help of Fleming Rutledge's book, *Advent: The Once and Future Coming of Jesus Christ*.

Worship remains central to what we do as a church, and thanks to the unfailing service of lay ministers and the choir, our worship services remain a vibrant weekly opportunity to draw closer to God. Each week we are strengthened through our worship together so we can again go out and do the work God has given us to do.

The livestream of our services provides a connection for members who are unable to attend in person, for health or other reasons. It also serves as an introduction to the church for those who may be discovering us for the first time. Our number of views (5,649 in 2022) is comparable to when St. Timothy's introduced streaming at the height of the pandemic, suggesting that the number of people watching virtually has remained steady even as more people have returned to in-person worship. Three individuals manage and operate the streaming technology (Colleen Krantz, Beth Arnold, and Neil Guy) and are always looking for others who would like to join them in this ministry in 2023.

Of course, none of the work above could be accomplished without the dedication of our amazing staff. As I've begun my time here as rector, I've continually given thanks for the support of Jeanie, Jennie, Heather, Don, and Amy, all of whom enrich the mission and ministry of St. Timothy's.

As we look ahead to 2023, we will explore how we can continue growing in our mission and vision. One way we'll do this is through a process called Genesis II: Revision and Renew. Thanks to the support of the Diocese of Iowa, a team of lay leaders from St. Timothy's will receive two years of free coaching as they think creatively about new ways our parish can live out our call to be Christ's hands and feet and voice. We will also be discerning how best we can use our building space, including our preschool space, which has been unoccupied on weekdays since the preschool was put on pause in 2021.

The chance to explore these questions and many more make this an exciting time at this parish. St. Timothy's is Christ's church, and I'm so grateful to be a part of it. I look forward with joy to what 2023 will bring in our ministry together!



SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Suzy Coen



As my time on the Vestry draws to a close, I realize there is much I have learned about what makes up St. Timothy's. Some things are obvious, such as our call to worship, mission to be the hands and feet and voice of Christ, and a shared love for food and gatherings! Others are less so, such as our ongoing building maintenance, financial decisions, and the behind the scenes work that keeps everything moving forward. I've loved having the chance to learn so much more about the inner workings of St. Timothy's, the challenges as well as the rewards. I am blessed and continue to be in awe of the love, faith, and deep respect that emanates from this parish.

We had much to celebrate in 2022. The culmination of the rector search process and our rector transition was a primary focus this year. In May we honored the Rev. Mary Cole-Duvall as she entered into retirement. There was a Celebration of Ministry for Mary and Milton and all of St. Timothy's to joyously gather and commemorate her tenure. We celebrated the good news of Rev. Abigail Livingood's ordination to the priesthood. And we gathered again to celebrate and give thanks that our call was answered as we welcomed Rev. Kyle Carswell to lead our St. Timothy's family. What a wonderful journey and time of transition this year has been.

It has also been a busy year. Lots of new and wonderful things were accomplished in 2022. We began a space sharing agreement with CSM (Center for Social Ministry); a first step in reimagining how we can utilize our building differently. New 'Safe Church, Safe Communities' policies were adopted and Trainings implemented for our staff, vestry, and volunteers. Numerous building and grounds beautification projects were completed and our new to us, high-quality Allen Organ was installed.

This year we have seen a renewal of our fellowship and ministries. We have gathered again alongside worship at coffee hour and first Sunday breakfast. There has been a return of the offertory plate and communion at the rail. We have seen a tremendous response and desire to connect with each other at events such as the meet the rector home gatherings. There was the Justice Journey pilgrimage in June experienced by many youth pilgrims and adult shepherds. I am eager to see what next year will bring.

As I reflect on my tenure on vestry and this past year, I am grateful for many things. St. Timothy's has an amazing staff and I am thankful to each and every one of them for the hard work, passion, and thoughtfulness they bring every day. Thank you to the Search Committee for the tremendous amount of work and dedication you gave these past few years. Gratitude to the vestry, past, current, and future for their ongoing commitment to St. Timothy's and the support they provide. And to all of the parishioners – each of you bring a unique gift to St. Timothy's along with the generosity of your time and your talents. It's been an honor to serve with you. My heart is full.

Blessings for the new year!

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Mark Slocum

2022 was a year of many changes, and as we reopen our doors post-covid we have refocused our energy to repair and rejuvenate the building and the campus. Many small projects have been completed, such as touch up paint and replacing light switches.



We also have had many larger projects occur. The Clerestory soffit and fascia was repaired, the back of the property has been cleared of debris, dead trees and dead limbs, the circle drive has been replaced and phase one of the eastside landscaping will be underway this spring.

A summer hailstorm damaged the roof, destroyed the garden, and damaged a number of items around the campus. Most of the damage has been repaired and the roof is scheduled to be replaced later this spring.

I want to thank Dan Montgomery for countless hours caring for the new plantings around the campus and picking up downed branches and debris each week. I also want to thank Larry Anderson for leading the work on the drive and roof. The continued betterment of our church home relies on individuals willing to help.

As we look to 2023, we will continue to tackle our list of deferred maintenance projects and continue to improve the property. Our new Junior Warden, Jacob Nastruz, is working with a small team to rebuild a campus team to tackle these projects and continually assess the needs of the building and campus and ensure that we are properly caring for St. Timothy's. I encourage you to ask, "How can I help?" No special skills are required, just a desire to help.



DEACON'S REPORT

The Rev. Jeanie Smith

As an ordained Deacon in the Episcopal Church, one of my vows is to “interpret to the church the needs, concerns and hopes of the world.” If I’m doing my job correctly, I should be calling all of us into our work outside the walls of the church into the broken world in which we live. I’m not supposed to be the one doing all the work, but I am supposed to move us (myself included!) more and more closely into walking in the footsteps of Jesus. There is a separate report on our Outreach during 2022 that shows just how much this wonderful congregation has heard God’s call and has followed!

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My other work as Deacon in this congregation has centered on our Saturday and Sunday liturgies (where I proclaim the Gospel, set and clear the table, and dismiss us at the end of the service; and occasionally preach) and on Adult Christian Formation. Our parish has done adult Christian formation primarily through Sunday Morning Adult Forum and through Thursday Morning Bible Study. Both of these programs have been held in person during 2022 (excepting summer months), following hiatus times and Zoom times during the pandemic.

Our Adult Forum is structured around short video programs that present a topic and invite our discussion. We try to leave 40-45 minutes of our hour to talk with one another, to share our own thoughts and to be open to how others might see issues differently. In 2022, we have discussed:

- Half Truths with Adam Hamilton: This series looked at half truths such as – everything happens for a reason; God helps those who help themselves; God won’t give you more than you can handle; God said it, I believe it, that settles it; love the sinner, hate the sin.
- Short videos with Rob Bell: These focus on the intersections of our lives in the real world with scripture.
- Embracing an Adult Faith with Marcus Borg: How we see God, Jesus, Salvation, Practice and Community
- Reading the Bible with Vickie Garvey: Wonderful and practical tips on how to “read, mark, learn and inwardly digest” our very complicated and difficult scriptures.
- The Gospel of Matthew with Katy Valentine: Who wrote this Gospel and when, who was the intended audience, what was the historical context, how should we read it?

Bible Study delves into our scripture. Once again, we do not approach Bible study in a didactic manner. We read together, discuss together, look for ways the books of the Bible we read are speaking to us today. We laugh!

During 2022, we have focused our study on:

- Who or what is the Holy Spirit?
- The Letter to the Hebrews
- The Book of Genesis
- The Book of Exodus



OUTREACH REPORT

The Rev. Jeanie Smith



I am so delighted by our congregation's commitment to what has traditionally been called Outreach – our ministries to those outside our doors. And 2022 was a banner year for this work at St. Timothy's!

One important focus for this work is our Second Offering program, through which we identify non-profit organizations working to make life better for our neighbors who are not as fortunate as we are. In 2022, we raised a LOT of money to fund the work of these organizations: Specifically, \$47,174.21! We funded the work of the Journey to Justice Youth Pilgrimage; Women at the Well; Simpson Youth Academy; the Faith and Grace Garden; Archbishop Peni's work in Western Equatoria, South Sudan; the FreeStore; Children and Family Urban Movement; Des Moines Area Religious Council; the Beloved Community Initiative; JOPPA; and the Faith and Food Fund.

Through the Second Offering program, we also encourage our parishioners to volunteer their time and talent to these and other organizations. We showcase these efforts through our "Minute for Mission" speakers during our 10:15 services on Sunday morning, through our various communications, most particularly our weekly E-News, and on our website.

Many of our parishioners do work outside our Second Offering Partner program. They work for:

- the FreeStore, picking up, sorting, and delivering furniture and gently used goods to victims of domestic violence and other needy families;
- the Faith and Grace Garden, providing fresh organic produce to food pantries, shelters, and other ministries;
- Youth Justice Initiative, feeding criminal justice-involved youth at a weekly study table and helping them with their homework;
- Casserole ministry, baking and delivering nutritious casseroles to food pantries and other outlets that feed hungry people;
- JOPPA, organizing supplies and delivering supplies to those experiencing homelessness; making sandwich lunches for these people;
- Grocery Ministry, providing a week's worth of groceries each month for four families;
- Reentry Team Ministry through Women at the Well, serving on a team to offer weekly support to women being released from incarceration at the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women.

We have shown that we are committed to our work as the hands and feet of Christ in this world. Our next challenge is to add being the voice of Christ for peace and reconciliation in our very divided communities. As 2023 unfolds, we look forward to figuring out how best to do this.



CHILDREN + YOUTH FORMATION

Heather Preston, Director



2022 saw a return of Christian Formation offerings for birth up to 9th grade. Children returned to the Ark, Godly Play, Welcome to the Bible, Children Living the Word, and Faith in Action classes in January 2022. After a Covid-hiatus, it was nice to have the children return to normalcy at our church. Classes ran from January - May for the 2021-2022 year. In the summer, CLW used a purchased curriculum from Illustrated Ministry and returned to normal programming in September 2022. Also in summer, youth from 7th-9th grade attended the Justice Journey pilgrimage with stops in Alabama and Tennessee detailing the horrors of racism and injustice in our country throughout history into today. Sunday school classes began again in September and continued through to the end of the year. We had pageant practice and held our pageant on Christmas Eve.





DIOCESAN CONVENTION

Episcopalians from all over Iowa met in Des Moines October 28-30, 2022 for the 170th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa. The delegation from St. Timothy's was made up of the Rev. Kyle Carswell, the Rev. Jeanie Smith, Gloria Blondino, Lexi Brennan, Jenna Parker, Vince Preston, Amy Rech, and Lyndy Wells.

This year was the first Annual Convention for Bishop Betsey Monnot. In her address to the convention, she shared her experience at General Convention and the Lambeth Conference this summer, and spoke to the challenges of learning to live with COVID-19 as an endemic disease in the years ahead. She also laid out the focus of her vision for the diocese in three points: strengthening congregations, supporting clergy and lay leaders, and deepening our connection with God.

The convention approved the diocesan budget for 2023. The budget included a \$50,000 "Opportunity Fund" on the income side, representing the difference between the Stewardship Share ask that is made of every congregation and the actual amount received. Both the bishop and Diocesan Treasurer, Bill Smith, spoke to the need for parishes to meet their stewardship ask in order to fund the work of the diocese.

The Rev. Jeanie Smith spoke as part of the Reparations Task Force, a group focused on tangible action to address our history of racism. The task force emphasized the need for reparations to be educational, relational, financial, and generational.

The convention passed a resolution calling on state legislators to support a Safe Harbor law, which would prevent minors who are victims of sex trafficking from being arrested and charged with prostitution. Another resolution renewed the relationship between the Diocese of Iowa and the Diocese of Nzara. There were also a number of courtesy resolutions, including one honoring the ministry of the Rev. Mary Cole-Duvall and wishing her and Milton the best in retirement.

The convention concluded Sunday morning with Eucharist at St. Paul's Cathedral, at which Bishop Monnot preached about encountering Jesus.

SACRAMENTALS

BAPTISMS

Tiffany Okpokiri
William Pappas
Easton Slocum
Ezalyze Perez
Dorthee-Ann Sorenson
Jeffery Spivey
Kaleb Dunn

MARRIAGES

David Rice & Vanessa Miller
Harry Swanson & Carole Haas
Rick Ballinger & Cheryl Critelli

IN MEMORIAM

Glenease Glynn
Gordon Segelke
John Hausafus
Kris Kittrell
Dick Jensen
Gerald Graff
Rosemary Graff
Craig Stark
Lu Wolff
Marcella Huff
Gordon Flinn



FINANCE REPORT

Scott Andrews, Treasurer

We are blessed with a talented Finance Team who are diligent and faithful stewards of our finances: David Blaha, Larry Anderson, Mary Sheldahl, Lyndy Wells, and Darin Krantz (Vestry Liaison). We also have a BRILLIANT bookkeeper Amy Watcher!



I am pleased to share an overview of our 2022 financial results and 2023 budgets thanks to your generous support of our mission and ministries. A summary of our 2022 Operating Fund, 2023 Operating Budget, and 2023 Annual Giving are on the following page. Please contact me with any questions you have on our financials.

OPERATING FUND

We ended 2022 with an operating loss of (\$24.2k). The 2022 loss follows three years of year end surplus of \$23.1k in 2021, \$34.3k in 2020, and \$38.0k in 2019. Our balance sheet remains strong. Drivers of our 2022 loss: Income was (\$8.1k) under plan driven primarily by strong non pledge contributions, offset by pledges and holiday income below plan as well as a \$20.9k Designated Funds transfer required to balance the budget. Expenses were (\$16.1k) over plan primarily driven by our new Rector Kyle starting two months earlier than planned as well as some lay salary and utility inflationary expenses above plan.

Blessings, we achieved a +2% increase in our 2023 Pledges. While the overall 2023 operating fund budget is relatively flat, we increased expenses to support a +8% Diocesan pledge over 2022 as well as certain inflationary expenses (e.g. utilities). These increases are offset primarily by lower new Rector Total Compensation and discontinued reserving for an Organ replacement and Sacristy storage renovation.

FAITH & GRACE GARDEN

The garden ended 2022 with a surplus of \$6.7k driven primarily from non pledge contributions above plan as well as volunteer support expenses below plan. The garden raised \$12.2k from grants, gifts and a plant sale to fund implements for the tractor as well as a trailer. The Greenhouse roof panels were replaced due to hail damage.

The Garden's 2023 budget is -16% below the 2022 budget reflecting a decrease in Volunteer Support required for harvest. The Garden funds 100% of its operations mostly from your generosity. Please continue to support this amazing ministry.

PRESCHOOL

The Preschool balance sheet sits at \$37.6k as of 12/31/2022 thanks to prudent fiscal management over the last several years in addition to support provided by the COVID-19 relief act. The Vestry is assessing future preschool opportunities and needs in our community.

ENDOWMENT FUND

In December, the Endowment fund received a generous \$12.0k gift from a parishioner. As of 1/10/2023, the endowment fund balance is \$266.7k in the following accounts:

- Capital Permanent Account \$154.5k
- Columbarium Account \$88.4k
- Community Outreach Account \$19.5k

A few other general updates. We completed a Diocesan desktop audit this summer for our 2021 Financial Statements. In addition, we have provided financial support and recommendations for the organ replacement, Northwest lot and circle driveway projects as well as our Campus Renewal initiatives. We are also working with our insurance carrier on the upcoming roof replacement. Finally, we have begun discussions on a potential future capital campaign to raise funds beyond our annual operating budget for initiatives such as replacing our front entrance "Red Doors", HVAC replacement, driveway pavement, and other long-range building/property capital improvements.

END OF YEAR OPERATING FUND 2022

2022 OPERATING FUND (End of Year)	2022 ACTUAL	2022 BUDGET
INCOME		
Regular Pledges	\$ 392,140	\$ 394,055
Loose Plate/Non-Pledge	\$ 36,001	\$ 17,500
Easter/Christmas	\$ 1,166	\$ 6,500
Flowers, Vacation Bible School, Rentals, Other	\$ 2,844	\$ 3,550
Interest	\$ 3,448	\$ 1,200
Designated Funds Transfer	\$ -	\$ 20,908
Preschool Reimbursements	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 435,599	\$ 443,713
EXPENSE		
Diocesan Pledge	\$ 53,000	\$ 53,000
Community Ministries	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,600
Christian Formation	\$ 798	\$ 2,940
Music	\$ 5,664	\$ 8,840
Liturgy	\$ 6,920	\$ 6,650
Pastoral Ministry	\$ 44	\$ 1,000
Parish Life	\$ 1,112	\$ 3,800
Personnel	\$ 234,339	\$ 214,200
Administration	\$ 19,611	\$ 16,195
Communications	\$ 5,190	\$ 5,043
Property	\$ 129,700	\$ 128,445
Surplus Administration	\$ -	
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 459,778	\$ 443,713

2023 APPROVED BUDGET

Operating Fund Budget	2023 Final	2022 Final
INCOME		
Loose Plate	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
Non Pledge Contributions	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Pledges	\$ 402,854	\$ 394,055
Easter/Christmas	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,500
Flowers, Vacation Bible School, Rentals, Other	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,550
Interest	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200
Designated Funds Transfer	\$ 13,887	\$ 20,908
Preschool Reimbursements		
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 445,441	\$ 443,713
EXPENSE		
Diocesan Pledge	\$ 57,000	\$ 53,000
Community Ministries	\$ 3,600	\$ 3,600
Christian Formation	\$ 3,812	\$ 2,940
Music	\$ 3,450	\$ 8,840
Liturgy	\$ 4,450	\$ 6,650
Pastoral Ministry	\$ 500	\$ 1,000
Parish Life	\$ 4,500	\$ 3,800
Personnel	\$ 210,585	\$ 214,200
Office	\$ 16,989	\$ 16,195
Communications	\$ 5,383	\$ 5,043
Property	\$ 135,172	\$ 128,445
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 445,441	\$ 443,713

2023 ANNUAL GIVING

BY THE NUMBERS		
Total Operating Pledges	117	\$402,854
No Pledge	9	
Increased Pledges	53	\$ 225,434
New Pledges	16	\$ 32,910
Stayed the Same	29	\$ 127,190
Went Down	10	\$ 17,320
2023 Total	117	\$ 402,854



SAINT TIMOTHY'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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