

THE PERIODIC

(A SOMEWHAT REGULAR BUT MOSTLY IRREGULAR PUBLICATION)

Why Give?

From the very beginning St. Timothy's made "giving" a priority and we incorporated it into our vision and mission statement, "To give of our time, talent and treasure to serve others". Each Sunday after the offering is collected we give thanks to God for his abundant provision for us, acknowledging that all belongs to him and comes from him, "All that we have comes of thee O LORD, and of thine own have we given thee. So take these our gifts and offerings; bless and multiply them as you did the loaves and the fishes that they may be used for the goodness and the glory for your kingdom here in this church, this community, this nation and around your world".

God gives all to us, and while we can never out give God or repay his blessing and mercy, we are called in scripture to give as a symbol of our thanksgiving. In the Old Covenant the standard was the "tithe" a tenth of the harvest and income back to God to support the ministry and worship of the temple. In addition, the people would also give burnt offerings of grain or animals for peace, sin and guilt, (all told it came closer to 25% of one's grain, animal and income annually). Under the New Covenant, a covenant of 'grace instead of grace', we are no longer under the law, and no longer offer animal sacrifices, for Christ our Passover Lamb is the final, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, but the need to give thanks has not gone away. In light of the fact that we have received far more grace and mercy than those under the old covenant ever received, Paul in 2 Corinthians gives us the new standards by which we are to give, . We ought to 'give generously' as an over flow of our abundant joy and we are to give cheerfully not begrudgingly or out of guilt.

"The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
2 Corinthians 9:6-7

So as a church we both teach and practice the principle of generous and cheerful giving. Since our first year we have given 10% of our church income to the ministry of the diocese of which we are a part and 10% to ministry and mission outreach, locally, nationally and globally. That equates to about \$350,000 over the past 11 years and that does not include the donations of the Ladies group, individual donations to projects like Kids for Kids and special offerings to various projects (one time and ongoing in Rwanda).

In this special extended edition of The Periodic you will learn about where these gifts and outreach offerings went this past year and some information about this coming year. I hope you find this informative, encouraging and challenging as you consider your giving to the church in this coming year.

Each year St. Timothy's gives 10% of what we receive in donations to the Anglican Network as part of our Diocesan support and an additional 10% to ministry and mission outreach to organizations in our community and around the world.



How we divide it up:

We have no set formula for how we divide up our 'Give Outreach Budget' but we do keep certain things in mind. We want to make sure that some money is given to support mission and ministry in our own community, some goes across Canada (or within our Anglican Province) and some is given to needs across the globe. We also want to meet various needs, mercy, education, church planting, creation care and evangelism. We receive suggestions from people in the congregation, look into various organizations we hear about and we pray. We make every effort to ensure that whatever we give will be wisely spent and will reflect the love, grace and glory of God.



Mercy:

From the early days of Israel's history, one of the things which set her apart from other nations was her charge to care for the sojourner, the refugee, the lost and the stranger at the gate. In the Gospel of Matthew one of Jesus' most challenging moments comes when he tells us we are to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, and visit the sick and those in prison. God has a heart of mercy for the poor, the weak, the homeless and the vulnerable. We ought to too.

The Harvest Project \$2000

We have been a supporter for Harvest from our early days. In fact St. Timothy's first Sunday services were held at the Harvest. Harvest Project is a North Vancouver organization reaching out to individuals and families challenged by family break-down, illness, job loss and poverty. They provide client-care coaching and counsel, grocery and clothing support, emergency drop-in help, and the Clothes For Change thrift shop. Impacting the community by breaking the poverty cycle and restoring people to participation in work, school and a healthier family life.

Mission Possible \$1000

This is our second year supporting this amazing organization working in the Downtown Eastside amongst some of our communities most vulnerable and needy people. For over the past 20 years Mission Possible has walked alongside people challenged by homelessness and poverty. Every day they provide street-level care for those with immediate and critical needs as well as create jobs that build a bridge to stability through a variety of enterprising ventures. Mission Possible helps people renew a sense of dignity and purpose through meaningful work.

Kinbrace \$1000

The Kinbrace community welcomes refugee claimants. They provide housing, education, and support. Kinbrace is committed to welcoming people who are forcibly and globally displaced and are committed to creating a world of welcome, belonging, and opportunity. They welcome the stranger and have compassion on the beaten man.

St. Gregory's Armenian Church \$1000

St. Gregory's Armenian Church in Richmond is sponsoring twenty-nine Armenian Christian families who are refugees from Aleppo in Syria. The families are now in U.N. refugee camps in Beirut, Lebanon, and will be arriving in Canada before the end of the year.

Emergency Funds \$1100

This is money set aside for individuals and families in our local community who may need urgent help due to illness, job loss, family breakups, death or other emergency situations. Our help may come in the form of gift cards for food, funding for urgent shelter, clothes, counselling or the like.

Mercy in Rwanda

St. Timothy's has a long history (such as it is) with Rwanda. Through the Kids for Kids program the church, and individuals within the church, have helped over 100 children graduate from high school. Through another generous donation we have also helped several students attend and graduate from university. Several years ago we helped Land of a Thousand Hills purchase a coffee wash station which now helps to employ thousands of coffee farmers, pickers and exporters.

Our closest link to Rwanda though has been with our Sister Parish in Kaduha. In 2011 three of us traveled to the parish, met Pastor Callixte and visited the five 'chapels' which make up the parish. We have helped them to buy a motorcycle so the Pastor can visit all the people in the parish and we have helped them to purchase and build some storefront for business and employment opportunities for the church.

Most recently we have partnered with Embrace Rwanda to bring The Healthy Mums Project to the community. We are very excited about this new venture and believe it will go a long way to bring health and prosperity to the whole village.

Embrace Rwanda: Healthy Mums Project



The Healthy Mums Project \$6000

(Taken from the Embrace Rwanda website)

Maternal mortality is a devastating challenge to women living in rural Rwanda. Too often the women do not have easy access to health care facilities and support during their pregnancy. This can lead to complications and death of mother and infant.

Maternal and child survival are high health priorities for Rwanda and the Healthy Mums Project seeks to assist the mother during her pregnancy by offering consultations with a Health and Social Worker, and one-on-one support from locally trained volunteers, "Agents of Health", who make the regular visits to the home. The training has now spread to 53 communities. As a result many more women in the project are visiting the health centre for regular check ups and attending the hospital for their delivery.

A goat is given to the mother to assist with her kitchen garden and therefore some of her nutritional needs have been addressed. Ongoing education about nutrition, family planning, agriculture, hygiene and parenting is also provided in the local community. The project is reporting better outcomes for the health of the mother and more full term babies. It also provides the much needed emotional support to lonely and isolated women living in poverty.

Now over 800 mothers are benefiting from the project and the more recent projects include the husbands and so the whole family is involved.

The Bishop of the Kigeme Diocese notes that in an area that is still recovering from the affects of the genocide, "The first impact that we have from this program is that it has brought people together. It has created friendship".

We began this project back in July and they have already held training events and this past month began to give away the goats. The cost for the first year is about \$750 per month and then will be \$500 per month moving forward.

A letter from the Pastor:

Dear Pastor Rev Ken Bell,

First of all we greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and we hope that you are preparing well the Christmas day. "Matthew 2:2-12".

We thank again for helping the children and mothers through the healthy mams project which are composed by three groups of sixty people. May God bless you!!!

"When they were come into the house, they saw the young child with may be his mother, and fell down and worshipped him" our friends be with Our Lord Jesus Christ then you will be exceeded with great joy: Amen

Dear Pastor. Pray for us in this period because we travel highland hills and preach the people about Christmas day in using foot because our motorcycle becomes old because is longer existence in using in the bad road and we travel hardly. Pray for us with the God's Power will get the force. We are wishing you to have Merry Christmas and happy New Year 2016

Give our love to your family and parish

Rev Pastor NSABIMANA Callixte.

Creation Care

[A Rocha](#) \$2000

A Rocha is an international Christian organization which, inspired by God's love, engages in scientific research, environmental education, community-based conservation projects and sustainable agriculture. Their vision is for the transformation of people and places by showing God's love for all creation. Locally they have a farm, guest house and environmental centre at Brooksdale in Surrey. Their main conservation effort has been the restoration of the Little Campbell River watershed for which they just named a "Community Champion" by BC Hydro and received a \$10,000 award.

Church Planting



The Table was begun about six years ago by Rev. Josh Wilton and Rev. Andy Withrow (our former curate). They are a multi-site community based church doing marvelous work in Victoria and have just recently launched a third gathering location.

Evangelism and Missionaries

[Sharyn Thompson \(Wycliffe Bible Translators\)](#) \$500

Sharyn has worked in Burkina Faso for over 25 years translating the Bible into the Bwamu language. She is now also co-ordinating a team working on bible translation in Mali.

[Jane Holloway \(Youth With a Mission\)](#) \$500

Jane has worked with YWAM for over 25 years. She is currently based in England co-ordinating teams who are working with marginalized and persecuted Christians who live in Buddhist dominated countries, teaching them and giving them hope.

[The Trinity Mission](#) \$150

The Trinity Mission, led by Rev. Michael Jarrett, works to make ancient Christian formation more accessible to the modern believer. Since January 1st, 2013 they have been providing the Audio Daily Office and other prayer podcasts available on line. We have a link to them on our website.

Additional Outreach

[The Ladies Group](#), thanks to several fundraising efforts, donated \$5240 to various organizations locally and internationally including: Covenant House, Harvest Project, Hollyburn Family Services, North Shore Crisis Centre, The Table, Sharyn Thompson, A Rocha, Embrace Rwanda and St. Gregory's Armenian Refugees.

[Rwanda University Scholarship Fund](#) \$10,000 was distributed this year to university students.

Your Giving

January 17th will be our annual 'Pledge Sunday'. We will present you with a preliminary budget for 2016 and ask you to prayerfully consider your offertory pledge for the year. This process helps us to come up with a reasonably accurate final budget for the AGM in February.

The budget for 2016 will be similar to 2015 about, \$170,000. As a parish we tithe 10% to both the diocese and to outreach. But we do this in accordance with St. Paul's standard of generosity and cheerfulness. Regardless of whether you already tithe or not, our main request is you pray about giving as St. Paul would have us give.