



# St. Timothy's Gazette Lent 2012

## *Our Vision:*

St. Timothy's **Vision** is to be a nurturing, biblically-based community growing Christ's Kingdom.

## *Our Mission:*

St. Timothy's **Mission** is to:  
**Go** out into the North Shore community to  
**Gather** all ages into Christian fellowship,  
so that we may  
**Glorify** God in worship,  
**Grow** to become more like Jesus Christ, and  
**Give** of our time, talent and treasure to serve others.

**Phone: 604 908-HOLY (4659)**

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North Vancouver, BC V7M 2J5**

**Services held at Sutherland Church  
[www.st-timothy.com](http://www.st-timothy.com)**

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## **St. Timothy's Anglican Church**

Sunday Services at:

### **Sutherland Church**

630 East 19th Street,, North Vancouver

Phone: 604 908-HOLY (4659)

First Sunday: Matins at 9 a.m.

Other Sundays: Holy Eucharist at 9 a.m.

Sunday Sermons are available on our website:

[www.st-timothy.com](http://www.st-timothy.com)

## Message from the Rev. Ken Bell

### “What are you giving up for Lent?”

When I was a teenager, this question was asked each year by whoever our youth leader was at the time. It always filled me with a sense of dread and trepidation. I wanted to make sure I gave up something meaningful. It was not enough to say I would give up smoking and video games since neither held any appeal to me. Nor did I wish to go too big and make it too much of a sacrifice or worse yet, risk failure and disappoint Jesus. So giving up TV, the telephone or fighting with my brother was also off the table. I could maybe give up sugar and desserts (at least on weekdays after 6:30pm), or maybe just chocolate or going to the movies or buying music. But I always sensed it ought to be more spiritual than candy and entertainment.

Needless to say this decision would often haunt me for days, even weeks. I remember a few times being so wrapped up in the decision, Lent was half over by the time I had made up my mind. Of course by that time I had failed so miserably there was really no point in even trying. I would then go and drown my sin of disappointing Jesus with a box of candy bars and a new CD.

But as I got older that question no longer threw me off my game. I could rationalize my decisions, ‘it is not about giving something up it can be about picking something up’, or better yet ‘one should practice Lent all year round not just the 40 days before Easter and so I live out my Lenten life all year’. (This is the same rationalization which allows one to avoid buying roses at a highly inflated price on the 14<sup>th</sup> of February... “I love my wife every day I don’t need Hallmark telling me to say it so they can grab cash out of my hand”). Besides all that, do you really think Jesus cares what, if anything, you give up for Lent? He has got to have bigger things on his mind than that. Is he going to love me less because I put restrictions on my giving up TV or treats rather than give them up out-right? (Boy it is easy to self-justify if you just put in a little effort isn’t it?)

Of course the problem with this sort of rationalization is that we know we are only deceiving ourselves with these false thoughts and making up excuses to make ourselves feel better. So where do we go with the question, “What are you giving up for Lent?”

Giving up something (or picking up something), is not something we do because we think it will help us find favour with God, or so that Jesus will think us more committed or so that others will think us more spiritual. We do not do it because it is just something Anglicans do nor do we do it out of a sense of duty or responsibility. We do it, I think, for two reasons. First because it is a spiritual practice and a spiritual practice, like any other type of practice, helps us to grow and develop. The desire here is to learn more what it means to live our life with God day by day.

The second reason is that it is a symbolic, though tangible, response to the love God has shown he has for us, by giving us his son to become incarnate, become ‘insignificant’, to invite us into his kingdom and to sacrifice his life for our sake. It is a sacramental act on our part to acknowledge his suffering for our sake and then for us to enter into that suffering, if even in only a small way.

My giving up of something I enjoy (note not something I ought to give up anyways like smoking or gossiping) but giving up a pleasure and then picking up a daily spiritual practice is an outward and visible sign of a spiritual grace which is taking place within me; that spiritual grace being something like forgiveness, devotion, mercy or love. It is a willingness to look beyond my own selfish wants, needs and likes for the sake of loving Christ and serving others. While this sacrifice pales in comparison to His, it is a step towards Jesus’ provocation, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it” (Luke 9:23-24).

So...What are you going to give up or take up for Lent this year?

Your Servant on Christ,  
~ ken bell+

# What is happening for Lent this year?

Each year for Lent we try to provide several different ways for people, and for the congregation as a whole, to enter into Lent. This year our Sunday theme will begin with a continuation of our “Life with God” series following David but we will then move to “The Son of David: not what we imagined”.

Also on Sunday’s you will notice a few different aspects which hopefully will enhance the worship and help keep us aware and not distracted. Each week as we move towards the cross we will introduce symbols of the Lenten journey but we will also move into greater darkness and quiet. We will have a ‘fast’ from some of our usual elements and liturgy, like flowers and the singing of the Gloria. I do not want to tell you all of the things so as not to ruin the surprise but rather invite you to pay attention, not just with your eyes but also with your ears and heart.

The Lenten season will kick off as always with our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on February 21<sup>st</sup>. Then the next day we will celebrate the day of ashes and contemplate our fragility and mortality. On March 31<sup>st</sup> you are all invited to a Seder Supper. We did this Passover meal several years ago and thought it was time to do it again. It is a wonderful evening for people of all ages, (the children will even participate in a sort of treasure hunt). From there we will move on to Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday Foot washing service and then Good Friday.

We are also making available a Lenten Prayer journal (February 19<sup>th</sup>). The journal will include the daily readings, a brief summary of Sunday’s sermon as well as a different daily spiritual practice for each week. If you are not in the habit of spending time daily in devotions or scripture reading or do not have much experience with spiritual practices I hope you will find this journal a simple but meaningful way to begin and to explore.

Like with most things in life we get out of it what we put into it. Easter is always a wonderful and beautiful celebration of Jesus victory over death.

But it always means so much more if we have spent time during Lent travelling with him down the Way of Sorrow and then sit at the foot of the cross.

And so, I invite you, in the name of the Lord, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination, penitence, prayer, fasting and giving to the needs of the poor, and by reading and meditating on the word of God.

Amen  
*ken+*

## Council Update

In December we updated on the events going on with AMiA and Rwanda. We also spent time talking about the Give team philosophy and how we decide what to support and for how long. A discussion also began concerning the annual review process for staff.

January’s meeting primarily looked at various ways to improve communication and information flow between council and the G-teams and the rest of the congregation. We agreed to 13 steps (many of which came as a result of ideas and input from members of the church) which would help to this end.

Finally our February meeting was a year end business meeting preparing us for the Annual General Meeting.

That is a basic review of what happened at council over the past three months. We want to extend a special thank you to Ron Edwards, Ron Barrett and Daphne Martin who have completed their terms on council and are now stepping down. You did a wonderful job and brought much to the life and vision of St. Timothy’s.

By the time you read this there will be a new council in place. There will be new faces and, therefore, a new energy for the beginning of the new year on council. Pray for us to have wisdom in all we do.

~ *Nancy Nelson*

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Most people want to serve God, but only in an advisory position!

# Reports from our "G"s

## Go Group

### *Go out into the North Shore Community*

Many of you may have already read my annual Go Report, in which I have clearly shown myself as not being up to the task. Now I have come up with a passive action in which I invite you to listen to the former Bishop of Durham, N.T. Wright on the internet at <http://www.ntwrightpage.com/> There you will find a section called "Wright Audio/Video" and I invite you to listen to all of the "Inter Varsity Press Conference, January 1999". I would like to discuss any points that interest with you, either at coffee after any service or by e-mail. Since Christianity is continually being questioned in light of modern technology, far beyond from what it was originally - people in our day keep asking the same question: "Are we authentic?" in the context of Greek philosophy, and not from the First Century Jewish Narrative.

I hope that the exposure to the above contents will encourage us to become embodied, rather than seeking escapism and abandonment of the world which God spoke of as being "Good", and work towards ourselves being called "beloved and very Good."

~ *Jonathon M. Seiki*

## Gather Group

### *Gather all ages into Christian fellowship*

Gather reports for the Newsletter have usually consisted of recitations of what Gather has done and what it hopes to achieve. However, as this is my final report as head of Gather, I thought I would take this opportunity to reflect on my experience with Gather over the last five years.

It has been a truly wonderful five years. There have been many parish events ranging from Shrove Tuesday Pancake Suppers (with memories of Chris V. and Leddy slaving over a hot stove), anniversary BBQs, Harvest Suppers and Christmas Parties. And then there have been the special events such as the joint fundraiser held with St. Simon's in 2009 which raised monies for Partners-in-Hope and for a van for Steven Monks' Mexico Mission.

Pastoral Care and the Prayer Ministry have provided spiritual support for us both in our times of need and during and after Sunday services. Their importance in our helping one another and in our growth as Christians cannot be overstated.

The Ladies Group has raised \$29,000 over the past six years through its fundraising efforts. Many worthwhile causes such as the Harvest Project and the North Shore Youth Safe House have benefitted from this. Thank you, ladies!

After every Sunday service, refreshments are provided by the Coffee Hour ladies. This is a time we can relax and talk to one another while enjoying some goodies. From time to time, we also partake in special treats such as baptismal cakes or the birthday cake for Jesus the children have on Christmas Eve.

The Newsletter which is published three times a year keeps us informed of, amongst other things, church happenings, explains our place in the Anglican world and occasionally highlights some of our members' stories.

I have enjoyed attending the many baby showers Gather has hosted over the past few years. It is always a joy to celebrate the arrival of newborns as well as to see the children grow up over the years.

I would now like to thank all those who have served on Gather with me and who have done so much work on the parish's behalf. Myrna and Dara have co-chaired the Pastoral Care Team, Hazel has led the Coffee Hour and first Florence and then Peter have published the Newsletter. Linda was the first leader of the Ladies Group and was then succeeded

by Audrey. The Prayer Ministry was initially led by Sam Macdonald but has recently been led by Florence.

Finally, I cannot find the words to adequately describe my admiration and appreciation for all that Audrey has done for St. Timothy's. Audrey has the gift of being able to organize events/dinners for large numbers of people and we will miss this now that she has resigned from leading Fellowship. She has always been willing to help Hazel with coffee and, in addition, is a member of Pastoral Care and the Prayer Ministry. Although Audrey is no longer leading Fellowship, she will head the Ladies Group for another year. Thank-you, Audrey! I know Gather would not have been as successful as it has been without your enthusiasm and help.

I have now finished my five years as head of Gather. My thanks to everyone for your help and encouragement during this time.

~ *Daphne Martin*

## Ladies Group Report

Our first meeting this year started with a small group (10), many being still away celebrating Christmas and New Year festivities, but our treasurer cheered us up with the impressive total figure of fundraising we have achieved in our 8 years of being in existence of \$29,264.32.

The objectives of our Ladies Group are to meet socially in fellowship and to grow in supporting Outreach projects. Each year we invite a number of speakers to inform us of their organization's aims which we then help fund. Over the years our main outreaches have been: The Harvest Project, Northshore Youth Safe House both in North Vancouver, our Rwandan sister parish plus a number of Rwandan high school students and the Mexican Medical Mission. We have also helped a number of ACIC churches.

This year, we were delighted to have Steve Monks come and give us a presentation on his time in Mexico at our February meeting, and are looking

forward in April to having a staff member from the Harvest Project.

In addition to our monthly meetings we also plan Games Afternoons where several of our members enjoy playing whist, crib and competitive scrabble! Another is planned for April.

In May we are planning to repeat our popular "Guess Who's Coming for Dinner"! Please look out for those sign-up sheets after Easter to make sure you secure a seat at one of the dinners – proceeds will all go to outreach and the Vision Fund. There will be a Cupcake Sale following the church service on Mothers Day in May.

~ *Audrey Haigh*

## Prayer Ministry in St. Timothy's

Our prayer ministry, thanks in part to the leadership and efforts of Samantha MacDonald, takes several forms.

*Prayers of the People* is a regular part of every service. One person leads prayers for the whole congregation. Our dedicated prayer leaders follow the 'Book of Common Prayer' or similar sources and prayer focus usually includes the unity of the church, church leaders, country leaders, church activities at home and abroad, people and situations in need of prayer, those who have departed this life and those in the military. These prayers include praise, thanksgiving and requests. There are silences, when each person voices aloud or internally his or her personal requests. It is a very powerful act of unity when we pray together. The prayers always include the *prayer list*, updated weekly, for those for whom prayers have been requested, churches in the AMiA cycle, the Anglican Network and on the North Shore as well as a few parishioners from the Parish Cycle.

*Prayers after the Service* give an opportunity for individuals, wanting to be prayed for or wanting a situation or another person to be prayed for, to explain their need and receive prayers. Again, these

are individual expressions of thanks, praise or asking for blessing. The people on the prayer team simply bring the situation before God. As Ken sometimes announces, it is possible for anyone wanting prayer to simply ask the person sitting beside him or her to pray about a situation. Asking for prayer helps us focus on our need and allows us to acknowledge our weakness and God's ability to strengthen us, to heal and to forgive.

*The Prayer Chain* is a group of people who phone one another in a pre-established sequence if there is an urgent need for prayer e.g. for a sudden illness or accident. All pray as requested for that situation.

*Weekly Prayer Meeting* gives an opportunity for people to gather together to pray for the people on the Prayer List, for particular ventures or events at St. Timothy's, for our leaders, for any aspect of our church or anything else that God brings to mind.

Are you an active part of our prayer ministry, either by being part of one or several of the areas listed above or by using these services? If you are, you already are aware of the comfort and peace that being prayed for brings. If you are not, please seriously consider becoming more actively involved. Our Lord showed us how important prayer was to Him, showed us how to pray, and told us to bring everything to Him in prayer. Those who are part of the *Sunday School Prayer Partners' Program* know what a blessing this is to all Prayer Partners.

Let this Lent be a time when we all remember how dependent we are on God's love and mercy through study of His word. May our days be 'hemmed with prayer', so that we become more aware of following His teachings and drawing closer to Him.

~ Florence Wilton

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Going to church doesn't make you a Christian, any more than standing in a garage makes you a car!

## Glorify Report

### *Glorify God in worship*

The big change this past year was having to replace Angela (and Jason) as our choir director and organist, when she moved away for family reasons.

Our sad loss was met with a miraculous solution. Not only have we filled Angela's shoes with the wonderful and talented Lois Carter, but, it has also meant we now have Paul Carter once more in our midst, helping Ken at Communion services.

~ Matt Vondette

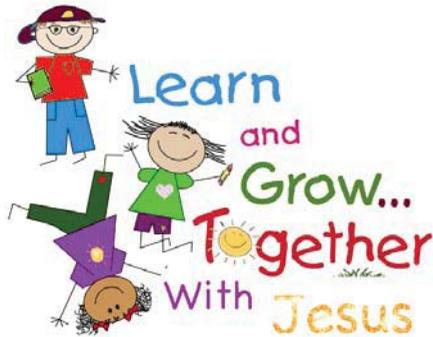
## Grow Reports



### *“Grow to become more like Jesus Christ”*

The Grow Ministry at St Timothy's is responsible for the Christian education of all of the members; young and old. This learning occurs through a variety of approaches some of which include a children's nursery, a Kidz Church program on Sunday mornings, a "prayer partner" ministry which unites our children with adults in the congregation, adult small groups, and film and book libraries. Each Sunday during the Worship service, an adult member of the congregation and at least one additional parent cares for the youngest members of the congregation. The adults play with the children and also read books and sing songs. By caring

lovingly for these youngsters they are growing more and more comfortable with being without their parents who are often themselves, teaching in the Kidz Church program. This nursery also provide a way for us to care and support our parents of young children by allowing them to be in the worship service without having to care for their children as well.



The Kidz Church program provides opportunities for the children to learn about God, how to live like God and to worship God. The program provides opportunities for the children to practice and experience Christ-likeness as they play, learn and work with others. At present and for the year to come the Kidz Church program is “bubbling with life” as they discover the great biblical stories in the Gospel of Mark. The children are enjoying opportunities for creating their own way to share the stories such as preparing short “skits”. As they delve deeper into Mark’s Gospel they are challenged with new words and concepts, such as baptism, temptation, fasting and healing and the Sabbath. To introduce the children to new worship music, a music CD and booklet are being made for them to enjoy listening to at home. The songs and hymns that have been chosen are music that they will hear both in the Sunday worship service and in the Kidz Church. At present there are 9 adults and children united in partnership in the Prayer Partner ministry. Over Christmas and into the New Year they have enjoyed getting to know each other better and have enjoyed visiting each other’s houses, sharing gifts and spending time together as vital parts of the body of Christ at St Timothy’s caring and loving each other.



At present there are 5 different small groups of adults meeting at different individual homes and places, at different times and days. Topics currently being studied include: Prayer, Spiritual Disciplines and “Life with God” sermon series. There is also a Women’s Group that meets Wednesday mornings at Sutherland. This group, which includes child care has invited St Timothy’s women to also attend. They are currently studying a book by Carol Kent, “Between a Rock and a Grace Place”. All groups welcome new members.

The film ministry provides opportunities for parishioners to borrow films each Sunday after worship. The DVD includes questions for thought and discussion. A wide variety of films are available such as documentaries, comedies, dramatic presentations and even some historical films. New films to come on board soon, include; “Of Gods and Men” a fictional film based upon the true story of a group of Trappist monks stationed within an impoverished Algerian community and their decision whether to leave or stay when threatened by fundamentalist terrorists. Also joining the collection will be the film, “Courageous” which is about four police officers who struggle with their faith and their roles as husbands and fathers when tragedy strikes home. Please come and visit the film collection after church and borrow a film!



~ Patricia Young

## St. Timothy's Church Library:

Bright new changes coming soon to your Church Library, and the Library Blog --You can find the blog linked on the church website: Click on "**Links**" in the sidebar! We're #1.<smile> The Library blog also continues to include the Film Ministry updates.

The upcoming new and improved changes should help you "check out" the books before you check them out. And, soon, you will be able to even "reserve" a book from the Church Library. We have books for everybody, feeding the Christian soul and mind!

Is there a wish list of books you would like to see placed in our library? Do you have any newer or classic books that you would like to donate?

Some recent donations to the Church Library include:

**"Have a Little Faith: A True Story"**, by Mitch Albom - The story of two incredible men whose lives demonstrate what faith is all about.

**"Becoming a Prayer Warrior: A Guide to Effective and Powerful Prayer"**, by Elizabeth Alves - Written by the founder and president of "Intercessors International", a Texas-based ministry. Join her at the feet of Jesus and you, too, will become a mighty prayer warrior.

Blessings during the Holy Lenten season.

~ *Monica Craver*

## Give Group

***Give our time, talent and treasure to serve others***

St. Timothy's Church provided support for a number of very worthwhile and important ministries and services at local, national and international levels in 2011. This year, the Give team continued to focus on ways of providing support on two dimensions: the various ministries that can be supported (health care, evangelism, mercy

ministries, education, environment, church planting, church resourcing) and where the support is used (e.g., local, national and international).

In 2011, St. Timothy's church continued to provide support for a number of local ministries including the Harvest Project and Arocha and supported church plants in Victoria (The Table) and Squamish (Mountain Valley Mission). As a church, we continued to make a commitment to assisting local laity in being able to attend Winter Conference through providing travel bursaries. We also increased our support to ensure that we are able to continue funding 16 students in Rwanda through the Kids for Kids Program.

As I near the end of my time as Give team leader, it is an honour to reflect on the various ministries, organizations, causes and people that St. Timothy's church has supported over the past four years, in addition to those already mentioned. These have included:

- Purchasing a motorcycle for Reverend Nsabimana Callixte from our sister church in Rwanda.
- Donation of 10 DVD/VCR combo players to the paediatrics ward at Lions Gate Hospital.
- Stipends for guest speakers that have come to St. Timothy's church.
- Partners in Hope.
- Helping to purchase a coffee wash station in Rwanda.
- ACIC fundraising dinners.
- Providing funds for counselling and support for ACIC clergy.
- Support for Ryan Barrett in his work for UBC SOS.
- Providing support for Keats camp.
- Donations to various fundraising auctions.

It has certainly been a blessing to serve as Give Team Leader for the past four years and thank the congregation of St. Timothy's for generously supporting these important ministries and for being a blessing to so many.

~ *Rami Nader*

## Update on Sharyn Thomson

Sharyn has returned to Burkino-Faso after spending Christmas in North Vancouver with her family. The annual dusty winds from the Sahara have arrived, which reduces the normal temperatures, but windows must be kept shut to keep out the dust. The dust also causes and aggravates all kinds of respiratory problems for the local people.

She is now involved with an arts group to present drama within the church context, creating sketches from the New Testament stories. It is just another way of effectively communicating the biblical truth.

Work also continues with the Translation Committee and in developing materials to support the distribution of translated scriptures – Sunday School supplies and the like. Sharyn asks for our continued prayers to support the good work ongoing in Burkino Faso.

~ Peter Haigh

## AMIA Winter Conference 2012

The AMIA Winter Conference was once again a high point in our spiritual lives. The Holy Spirit, who has directed, guided and empowered the AMIA over the last twelve years, poured down His blessings upon us and we were able to worship our God in all His glory.

This was Lucy's and my third Winter Conference and it will not be our last. The opening worship, with over a thousand in attendance, provided us with a magnificent celebration of rousing worship music, liturgy and messages from our three founding archbishops. Andy Percy was ever-

present with his twelve-piece worship team of musicians.

The conference schedule provided a wonderful blend of teaching, encouragement and reflection. Teaching and encouragement was provided by six plenary speakers which included some of the Mission's bishops. Their presentations were inspiring, their messages about listening to the Holy Spirit were compelling. Many of us found the life story of spiritual missionary and noted preacher Jack Deere, to be particularly moving. Read his books. On one afternoon, we were able to choose from thirty workshop sessions on offer during which we could reflect upon our understanding of the Word, the Church and Anglicanism.

Perhaps the overriding tenor of the conference was set by Bishop Chuck Murphy in his opening address. He centred on the role of AMIA, its missionary purpose and its place in the Anglican community. He made several references to a book by Dr Steven Addison, "Movements that Change the World". He said that while "discontent" with the status quo marks the beginning of movements, such discontent can become a roadblock as movements mature.. He said the AMIA had moved out of its discontented stage and was now focused on God's vision of mission which requires a strong faith, commitment to our cause, contagious relationships, rapid deployment and adaptive methods. As we look to the future, he said, we must maintain and stay on the right track with what the Lord has started with us.

Of course the situation with Ruanda was reported and discussed. A whole afternoon was devoted to a facilitated discussion with the Council of Bishops which included a short address from all the bishops, including Silas. They explained the events that had lead to their resignation from each of the Ruanda House of Bishops. Chuck Murphy was very open and forthright in his comments. He drew attention to his need to be open to the Lord's plan and in defending his own actions, he avoided saying anything that would build a case against his detractors.

Following the facilitated discussion, we attended breakout groups which were each lead by a bishop and during which we were provided with the opportunity to express our concerns, to ask questions and to hear from other clergy and laity about their unease. We also attended a meeting with all thirty of us from BC which was lead by Archbishop Yong Ping Chong. What interested us was the concern that the many of the younger priests have about maintaining ecclesiastical authority and for the ideals of Anglicanism.

We left the Conference understanding that that there is enormous support for Chuck Murphy who is certainly a God-inspired and dedicated leader. St Timothy's is fortunate to have found a home with an authentic, biblically centred and traditional organization in the AMIA. We are now called to give more of our time to furthering the ideals of mission, both in our community and overseas.

*~ John and Lucy Collings*

## **Kids for Kids (K4K) University Scholarship Program**

For the past several years, St. Timothy's has been an enthusiastic supporter of the K4K program in Rwanda, both corporately (through the church and the Ladies Group) and individually. Until now, our assistance has been restricted to students at the senior secondary (High School) level. We are now embarking on a program to extend our financial support to students seeking to attend University.

Why has this support been necessary? The answer is that Rwanda is a poor country, where a large percentage of its population is still engaged in subsistence agriculture. Whereas we take for granted that children here are entitled, at a minimum, to free education through to Grade 12 and can, if necessary, access financial resources to attend University, this is not the case in Rwanda.

The reality in Rwanda is that, owing to budget constraints, the government is currently restrained from offering free education to its population above Grade 9 (their Form Three), even if there was a sufficient supply of Teachers with the proper qualifications to teach the higher grades (which there is not). In Rwanda, it is the primarily the churches that operate the schools at the senior secondary level (their Forms Four to Six).

At the conclusion of Form Three, all students in Rwanda must complete a series of national examinations. Those doing well in those examinations may carry on to the senior secondary level. However, the commitment of the central government in Kigali is only to pay the salaries of the Teachers in those schools. It is the responsibility of those schools to cover remaining operating and capital costs. Their circumstances are in many ways similar to those facing private schools operating in British Columbia.

The schools that Ken, Leddy and I visited in Rwanda last year attempt to defray expenses by, in part, raising their own crops and livestock.

However, to operate at a break-even position, these schools must charge their students fees to cover room and board, uniforms and other costs.

This was the original rationale for establishing the K4K programs, namely to assist families of limited means in covering most (but not all) of these fees. In the absence of this support, students from these families would not have been able to attend senior secondary school.

Currently, St. Timothy sponsors 36 students in the program. In total, K4K is sponsoring 121 students in Rwanda at the present time.

At the conclusion of Form Six, students must again write a series of national examinations. Again, those most successful will be offered free tuition at University, but they must still cover their living expenses. Most students will need to relocate to Butare to attend the National University of Rwanda (NUR).

Historically, the Rwanda government has had a stipend program in place to assist students in covering these costs. This stipend is essentially a loan that must be repaid by students. However, with a burgeoning population of primary school students, the Rwanda government has been obliged to scale back this program in order to assure funding at the primary level. The government estimates that for every University student it educates, 150 students can be educated at the primary level.

This is where the extension of K4K funding comes in. For those secondary school K4K students already receiving assistance, a series of annual scholarships will be available to enable them to attend University, in the faculty of their choosing. The intent of these scholarships is to replace funding that would have otherwise been available to them through the government's stipend programs. Qualifying students will be entitled to a scholarship equal to \$500 US per year for four years. To continue to receive the scholarship after the first year, they must continue to be in full-time attendance at University and to pass all courses.

The selection of these students will be through the Kigame diocese. St. Timothy's (and hopefully other churches) will forward funds to K4K as needed, with K4K then sending on the funds to Rwanda. With the current funding in place and starting with five or six students, we expect that a minimum of thirty students will qualify for these scholarships over the next eight years. Bishop Augustine has declared that this will be a 'pay it forward' program, meaning that students will be required to repay the diocese for the financial support they receive. What this means is that once our original capital has been committed, there will still be funds coming to the diocese to assist other students in covering their costs while attending University.

At present, there is enough funding in place to give one in eight of all K4K students the chance to attend University. Additional donors are welcome. By doubling the funding, we could raise this ratio to one in four.

~ Gerry Taunton

## Shrove Tuesday

(also known as Pancake Day) is the day preceding Ash Wednesday. Shrove Tuesday is observed in English-speaking countries, especially in Ireland, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Philippines, Germany and parts of the United States. Shrove Tuesday is linked to Easter therefore its date changes on an annual basis.

In most traditions the day is known for the eating of pancakes before the start of lent. Pancakes are eaten as they are made out of the main foods available, sugar, fat, flour and eggs, whose consumption was traditionally restricted during the ritual fasting associated with Lent. It was a convenient way to empty the kitchen cupboards before Lent.

**Ash Wednesday**, in the calendar of Western Christianity, is the first day of Lent and occurs 46 days before Easter. It is a moveable fast, falling on a different date each year because it is dependent on the date of Easter

According to the canonical gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, Jesus spent forty days fasting in the desert before the beginning of his public ministry, during which he endured temptation by Satan. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of this forty day liturgical period of prayer and fasting, known as Lent.

Ash Wednesday derives its name from the practice of placing ashes on the foreheads of adherents as a sign of mourning and repentance to God. The ashes used are typically gathered after the palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday are burned.

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Give God what's right – not what's left!

Man's way leads to a hopeless end – God's way  
leads to an endless hope.

## Lenten Prayers

From Saint Ephraim of Syria (4th century):

O Lord and Master of my life,  
take from me the spirit of sloth, despair,  
lust of power, and idle talk,  
but grant rather the spirit of chastity,  
humility, patience, and love to Thy servant.  
Yea, O Lord and King,  
grant me to see my own transgressions and  
not to judge my brother,  
for blessed art Thou, unto ages of ages.  
Amen

**For a more personalized version, try:**

~ Each day when you awake, pray:

*I thank you, Heavenly Father, for a new beginning. This day of Lent, I ask you to send the Holy Spirit to guide my steps, my thoughts and my actions. Today, I ask for special help with the following challenges: (ADD WHATEVER IS APPROPRIATE FOR YOU).*

*I ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen*

~ Each day before going to bed, pray:

*Thank you, Heavenly Father, for bringing me safely through this day. Through your grace, please forgive all the times I have put myself first and not treated others as myself. I ask that you forgive in particular: (ADD WHATEVER IS APPROPRIATE FOR YOU).*

*Let me lie down in peace and take my rest.*

*Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen*

## REMEMBER:

A lot of kneeling will keep you in good standing!

He who kneels before God can stand before anyone

When praying, don't give God instructions; just report for duty.

Don't wait for six strong men to take you to church!

We don't change God's word – His message changes us.

Suffering from truth decay? Brush up on your Bible.

## Top Ten Predictions For 2012

With all the problems the World is facing today, it can be unsettling to the mind.

These predictions are true!

1. The Bible **WILL STILL** have all the answers.
2. Prayer **WILL STILL** be the most powerful thing on Earth.
3. The Holy Spirit **WILL STILL** move.
4. God **WILL STILL** honor the praises of His people.
5. There **WILL STILL** be God anointed preaching.
6. There **WILL STILL** be singing of praise to God.
7. God **WILL STILL** pour out blessings upon His people.
8. There **WILL STILL** be room at the Cross.
9. Jesus **WILL STILL** love you.
10. Jesus **WILL STILL** save the lost when they come to Him.

Isn't it great to remember who is really in control, and that; "the Word of the Lord endures forever."

(1 Peter 1:25)

~ Thanks to Florence



**St. Timothy's  
Lent & Easter Services 2012**

**February 21**  
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper  
6:00pm

**February 22**  
Ash Wednesday Service  
7:00pm

**March 31**  
Seder Supper 5:30pm at Sutherland



**April 1**  
Palm Sunday

**April 5**  
Maundy Thursday Foot Washing  
7:00pm

**April 6**  
Good Friday 10:30am  
Joint with Sutherland

**April 8 EASTER SUNDAY**  
Easter Celebration 9am