

THE SAINT TIM'S TIMES



Joy at J.O.Y.

by Sharyn Lennox

Even as a child I always had heart for service to others. As children we are taught Bible verses that encourage us to love others as Christ loved us. And that we are the hands and feet of Jesus. For me those were marching orders to go out and do what it takes to live out what I learned as a child. So how do we do that? By sharing our love with others.

On the front panel of the JOY Soup Kitchen van is the verse from Matthew 25:40 "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sister of mine, you did it for me." Serving at the soup kitchen is one way I can share my life with others and I come away being filled with my own joy at having participated in making their day a little better having been fed by people who care about them.

The name JOY is the acronym for Jesus, Others and You but it also reflects the feeling you have of joy being able to serve the hungry neighbors we have here in our hometown. So many of the patrons say thanks for the meal or God Bless and while you can see pain in many of the faces we also see many smiling faces and folks talking and laughing with others. Not only are they sharing a meal but also being filled with the love we have for them. Imagine being thankful for a bologna sandwich!

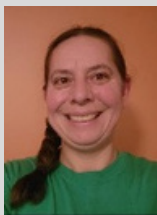
There is a place for you in this ministry and we need your help. You may volunteer to make sandwiches, donate individually wrapped items, serve during lunch times and pray for those who need our help and for those who follow Jesus by feeding the hungry. The doors are open for everyone to come and break bread at JOY!



Celebrating our Teachers

by Leslie Bowman

We're back with part two of introducing our Lead Teachers from St. Timothy's Preschool. We hope you will express your gratitude to these caring leaders when you see them around campus. Our Preschool has been in operation for more than 30 years. Our children range in age from 14 months to five years. Registration for the 2023-2024 school year is now open! We are fortunate to have an outstanding staff and a beautiful campus.



Young Twos:
Sarah Simmons

Sarah has a BS degree and over 10 years' experience working with children, including being an after-school director and assistant camp director. Her hobbies include arts and crafts, spending time outdoors, and sports such as soccer, fishing, basketball and softball. Sarah takes pride in her work with children. Being able to help them learn and grow and seeing them thrive fulfills her.



Older Twos:
Sharon Canosa

Sharon has an Associate Degree in Early Childhood and 22 years' experience leading the 2-Year-Old Class at St. Timothy's Pre-School. Her interests are spending time with her five grandchildren, reading, crafting, and sewing. Sharon has always enjoyed teaching two-year-olds because the children are highly impressionable and enthusiastic.

Music and My Faith

by Greg Ness

As far back as I can remember, music has been part of my life. The old western musical themes of our transistor-free vacuum tube television and the pop/classical tunes of the omni-speed 33 1/3, 45, 78 rpm buffet sized phonograph still resonate in my memories.

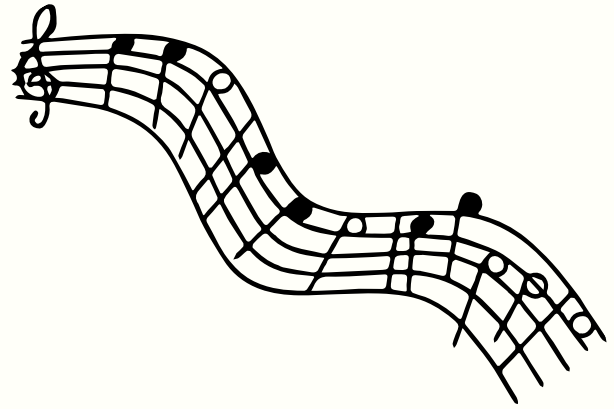
Music echoes as well in the memories from lullabies to pre-school, Sunday school songs to Chancel Choir, grade school to Y camp, Luther League to Scout camp and all the way to composing camp skit and retirement songs for friends now long singing with the angelic choirs.

Music is a universal language of all cultures. Unlike learning languages, music requires very little training to appreciate the beauty of the tones, rhythms, harmony and expressive emotion of instrumental or vocal songs.

The analogies for musical experience are many. When we pray or when we read God's word, we may hear the Holy Spirit between the lines in the way God uses to communicate the deepest truths. For me, this is the best analog for the music of a song using finite words that fall short of expressing the infinite unconditional love of God. For example, in setting the poetry of the Book of Psalms or the words of the Bible as the lyrics to the tone, timing and passion of a melody; one can almost hear the planets and stars of the night sky moving as if there is a "music of the spheres". I believe God speaks through the light, sound & beauty of creation and, if He must, he sometimes uses words.

For our part, composer Robert Lowry expressed it best in his hymn, "How Can I Keep from Singing":

We are indeed privileged to have hymnals, service music, an organ and musicians blessed to lead us in the expression of the profound love God offers us. In the end, music helps bind Christians praising God as a single body in Christ whether in the simplicity of a shared melody or the wonderful harmonies that give us a resonant vision of God's glory.



My life flows on in endless song;
Above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, though far-off
hymn
That hails a new creation.

Refrain

*No storm can shake my inmost calm
While to that Rock I'm clinging;
Since Christ is Lord of heav'n and
earth,
How can I keep from singing?*

Through all the tumult and the
strife,
I hear that music ringing;
It finds an echo in my soul—
How can I keep from singing?

What though my joys and comforts
die?

I know my Savior liveth;
What though the darkness gather
round?
Songs in the night He giveth.

The peace of Christ makes fresh my
heart,
A fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am His—
How can I keep from singing?



Knitting in Community

by Carol Taylor

A lively group gathers in the church meeting room for a morning of fellowship and creativity each week. As you enter the Nave of the church, you hear voices of chatter and laughter on Wednesday as the ladies love to knit and crochet visiting and storytelling. Truly it is a wonderful way to focus on how we can help in the community beyond our church. This group has been meeting for years making an impact for others in different ways as time has moved forward.

A non-profit organization was formed four years ago and became based out of St. Timothy's. It is called "The East Carolina Knitted Knockers". The ladies knit and crochet breast prothesis for women who have had mastectomies that are free to breast cancer survivors. We have adopted the ECU Health Cancer Center and Physicians East Cancer Center who we donate knockers too for distribution in the cancer centers here in Greenville. We also give knockers to individuals who request them. Lots of hours and hard work go into the creation of a knocker. People in other East Carolina communities donate knockers to our group. Now in our 5th year we have made 2,758 knockers. Each knocker takes approximately 3 hours so we have given 8,274 hours of volunteer time with the creation of all these items. We have made 250 knitted or crocheted hats for breast cancer patients at the ECU Health Cancer Center. A lady who gives her crochet items to our group has also crocheted 40 tension balls for women to squeeze during their chemo sessions. The process of making a knocker, stuffing it with polyester fiber fill, sizing them and packaging in a gift bag takes additional time in our preparation. This is a sacred experience in many ways as we are able to touch cancer survivors and cancer warriors who are beyond us fighting through the experience of breast cancer.

Our group continues to grow with people joining in to knit and crochet sharing fellowship in this sacred space at the church. We each do the projects we prefer to do: Knockers, hats, baby blankets, scarfs, etc. A big thank you for the time we share and the gathering time at St. Timothy's. Please join us on Wednesdays or let us know if you would like to knit/crochet from home on a project to donate to our work in the community.