

Summer 2019

The newsletter of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church Danville, CA

Rector's Article

Greetings Friends,

I finished my first session at the "Missional Leadership Cohort" in late May. I come into Pentecost and summer energized and very hopeful. My overarching goal (always) is to help St. Timothy's find renewal and the focus of the cohort put that goal into sharp relief. As a cohort, we had hopeful conversations, told some crazy church war stories, and shared dreams in the sacred space of a courtyard Marriott.

Everything the cohort focuses on is vital ministry in a changing cultural landscape. This cohort is a mouthful, but it is twelve fellow Episcopalian priests who gathered because of the generosity of the Kellogg Trust. What that means for St. Timothy's is that we can explore renewal as major focus for the future. Right now, we have some holy reshaping to do to revitalize our community. We do a lot of things well, so let's keep building on that and see where the Holy Spirit leads.

What I am <u>not</u> suggesting

We are not focused on turning worship inside out. Sunday morning should feel pretty much the same as it has been. I don't think God is asking us to burn it all down and start over. We already do lots of things well, and I hope we can find ways to do things deeply.

Hope

I am grateful to you who came to our town hall meetings. Let me share a blinding flash of the obvious — We all want St. Timothy's to be rocking and rolling. We wanted it years before I ever showed up.

I have discovered another secret you may not want to hear, but you know to be true. The church we know is unsustainable. It's beautiful and excellent right now. We are stable and we sort of make budget.

Yet, if we don't remap our course, then we have 10, maybe 15 years until a shrinking budget and community exhaustion eats most of everything else. Conventional logic about church stability used to say, "Don't worry if teenagers leave the church, they'll come back after their first child." Not anymore and likely not in our lifetime.

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While you're traveling to beautiful places this summer, don't forget to keep current with your pledge!

Cathedral Confirmation June 1, 2019

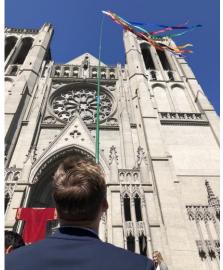
We had the privilege of welcoming 14 new people into our Episcopalian faith. There were three adults and ten youth who made the journey to the Cathedral on Saturday, June 1st. Here are some pics. Welcome Ryan Ball, Jake Ball, Joseph Biester, Eleanor (Ellie) Cottrill, Alexandra (Lexi) Gates, Colin Horsley, Thomas Hager, Chris Mouser, Jan Mahoney, Jennifer O'Byrne, Brandon (Colin) O'Byrne, Michael Olden, Lauren Stafford.



Getting ready in the Cathedral gym



St. Timothy's lining up



Jack flying the dove high



After the service



with Bishop Marc



Great Day

Fruits of the Harvest - Update!

Raising funds for all Outreach Ministries for 22 years

WE DID IT! Even the rain did not dampen our spirits. We had to revamp the plans and get the silent auction and raffles under cover in the Youth Center, and then parade over to the Parish Hall for dinner and the rest of the evening. This is only the second time we have had to do this.

We are happy to announce that you raised in the ballpark of \$46,000 to \$48,000 to support all our Outreach Ministries. We still have donations and expenses coming in and we are getting all this reconciled. There are so many people to thank. I didn't condense it this year because you all need to know what it takes to put this event together. It takes all of you and it brings the parish together to make it all happen.

H heartfelt thank you to all of you who supported FOTH.

Donors – to all of you who gave beautiful items and special dinners and events for the silent auction which made \$12,875, and raffles which brought in \$885.

Donations – to all of you who generously made monetary donations before the auction-\$8,845, and in the Fund-A-Need which broke records - \$24,670!!!

Donations of \$3,370 came in to help the Teen Mission Trip to Louisiana, with Jessica Pray and Thomas Vila staffing the table.



Thank you to all the volunteers who participated in FOTH.

Invitation - Leslie Firth, Sally Potts

Invitation Stuffing - Sara Bossatti, Mae Warren. Trudy Macmillan, Trudy McMahan, Kay Lynn Haddad Liggens, Nora Hudson, Carleen Carns, Kimberly Bryant, Sally Shea Potts, Jane Butterfield, Gina Hodgson

Registration tracking, Software support, major

Printing support of catalogs, badges, signage, banking and everything – Sally Shae Potts. Thank you, Sally. We couldn't have done this without you. What a trooper!

Auction – THANK YOU Kimberly Bryant, & Joann Oliver for all their tremendous work. Kimberly, this is a major job at FOTH. We appreciate all your new ideas and your great ability to put it all together, for the Preview Packet, Mystery Boxes, description sheets, white stickers for the auction, and for handling the auction and raffle table setups, and to Joann Oliver for documenting all the donation items, and all your help with setting up the auction tables, as well as other jobs.

Bank – John Geraci, Cathy Hager, Sally Shae Potts, Ken Anderson, John Hager, Karen Anderson. They are so critical to the event and they give their all, and sometimes it means they miss out on most of the fun. We are grateful for your sacrifice and hope we can figure out a way to fix that.

Bookkeeping – Carleen Carns gets all our figures together after the event.

Appetizers and Dessert - A special thank you to Shelley and John Wells who brought their love of New Orleans food and management abilities to us with delicious, complex appetizers and decadent Bananas Foster dessert, and to Carol Moore for plating the dessert. The appetizers and dessert were beautifully done and so delicious.

Appetizer prep helpers and helpers in feeding lunch to volunteers: Cindy Wittenberg, Ann Fletcher, Chris Milligan, and Mae Warren

Catering by a Loveable Feast with authentic Jambalaya, Red Beans and Rice, and Corn Spoon Bread.

Bar – Spencer and Rena Fulweiler, Debbie and Tom Linari, Allison Fletcher. The Spencers have been managing the bar for the last twelve years, and they do one heck of a job at it. They know what to do and even generously donate the expenses for the bar. You are awesome...especially since you had two bars running at the same time this year

Ticket Table Sellers -- Stephen O'Neil, Bev Matsunaga, and Kay Lynn Haddad Liggens

Decorations Work Party and Event Setup –Sandy Varco, Jacque and Ole Chiavini, Bev Matsunaga, Kathy Wills, Joann Oliver, Alison Hill, Patti Farris, Jane Butterfield, Kay Lynn Haddad, Gina Hodgson, Alison Hill, Patti Farris, Debbie, & Tom Linari, Cynthia Mathis, Mae Warren, Chris Milligan, Diane Carpenter, Sue Klingman, , Joe Cunningham, Barbara Monsler, Ann Carter, Don Plondke, Jason Handel, Stephen Hedden, Helen Coleman, Ann Fletcher, Dee Geisler, Stephen Geisler, Nancy Arroyoavila, Michele Fey, Karen Anderson, Dick Firth, Nora Hudson, Sue Klingman, Kay Lynn Haddad Llggins, Trudy McMahon, Joann Oliver, and Elaine Reisert....thank you for all your hard work!

Breezeway lights: Neal Matsunaga, Tom and Adam Linari. Thanks for putting them up and taking them down. They add so much to the ambiance.

Powerpoint of Outreach Ministries – We are happy to finally have a presentation of our ministries and liaisons to show you the breadth of your support for these organizations. Thank you to Sally Shae Potts, Alison Hill, and editing by Susan Cyr, with audiovisual and tech help from Rand Mahoney.

Music – Leslie Firth selections, & MP3s help from Thomas and James Vila, and Rand and Ryan Mahoney

Sound – Rand and Ryan Mahoney, and Adam Linari

Second Line parade – Rand Mahoney and his rolling speaker, and Adam Linari on the trombone, Hezzi Hill on the snare drum. and everyone as saints during "When the Saints Go Marching In" to the parish hall through the light rain.

Fund-A-Need – Thanks to Todd for his Fund-A-Need calling, and to Mike Oliver for his talking points, and Nancy Arroyoavila for managing the F-A-N recorders.

The Wall of Wine attended by Steve and Lauren Mason made \$800. They liked this job so much that they volunteered to do it next year. Thank you all for donating 40 bottles of wine!

Photographer - Jim Coleman, we thank you for creating lasting memories of the night.

Cleanup Angels – Tania Hansen De Young, Dick Firth, Jacque Chiavini, Rachel Wehenmeyer, Neal Matsunaga, Bev Matsunaga, Jane Kuka,

Sylvia Hegerty, Debbie, Tom, & Adam Linari, Stephen Hedden, Alison Hill, Joann Oliver and so many others that I can't remember. Thank you for helping!

Staff Support – Bev Matsunaga, with office support from Sally Shae Potts, Kimberly Bryant, and thanks to Noah's Ark Preschool for use of their Childcare facilities and kitchen for the event

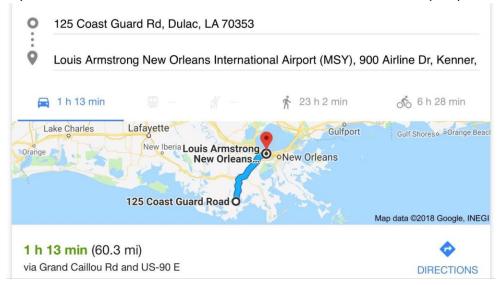
Web Site – Leslie Firth, Rich Wood, Sally Potts, with assist from Susan Cyr We are grateful and we love you, Saint Timothy's! Save the date - 23rd FOTH – May 16, 2020 (I'm thinking...maybe an Italian night theme.)

Leslie Firth, Event Chair

High School Immersion Trip July 28 to August 4, 2019

Here's a quick look at what the mission trip for high school will look like.

Where? Dulac Community Center (http://www.dulaccommunitycenter.org) The community center is part of the United Methodist Church's mission to First People (Native Americans),



Who?

We will be working with a loosely affiliated First People (Native American) — Houma. Many Houma families run shrimping boats in the gulf coast today. They are feeling enormous financial pressure from loss of wetlands, hurricanes, and economic competition from a Vietnamese community of shrimpers.

How do you pronounce the word "Houma"? What does it mean?

Houma is pronounced "hoo-mah." It may have come from the word homma, which means "red" in their own language, or it may have been a corrupted form of the band name Chakchiuma.

How is the Houma Indian nation organized?

The Houma tribe is not federally recognized by the United States. That means Houma people in the US don't have a reservation. They do have an elected tribal council, but it is unofficial as far as the US government is concerned. This unaffiliated status, among everything else, contributes to financial insecurity.

What are the accommodations?

Dorm-style housing; mattresses, linens, pillows, and blankets are provided. The dormitory has a total of 40 beds with 20 in each the male and female side of the dorm. In the center is the lounge area for volunteers to sit back and relax when done for the day. Each the male and female side have their own private restroom complete with 4 showers each. A washer and dryer are also located in the center room.



Food

The group will be provided with three meals a day Monday through Friday - it's real Cajun food!

High School Immersion Trip Continued

Are there places nearby or at the housing site that would allow for free time and community building?

There is a convenience store nearby for ice cream breaks. There is a gymnasium in the center's facility. Swamp and land tours can be arranged that provide a glimpse of the Houma Native American and Cajun cultures. Several country roads into the swamp and the bayou areas allow you to view and appreciate the serenity of the area.

For a complete list of attractions and information of the area please visit http://www.houmatravel.com/

Work Sites

Teams will work at multiple residences in the community, based on need. Every day is different depending on feedback from the community to the center leaders.

What kind of work will we be doing?

Jobs like drywall, flooring, porch painting, scraping old paint are common. Requires a willingness of adult volunteers to go to hardware store if something is missing, but most supplies are ready to go.

Thank you!

Thank you to our teens and adult volunteers who have signed up to travel to Houma and make a difference in the life of this special community. We can't wait for you to return and share your experiences!

Zootopia (VBS) is Happening June 3-7

Thank you to all the people who are helping VBS to happen! Thank you to our Kitchen Grannies - Sara Bossatti, Chris Milligan, Mae Warren, Cynthia Mathis, Ann Griffin; and T-shirt maker Kimberly Bryant, who with Sally Shea Potts have helped VBS to happen. Thanks to our Director of Music Darita Seth, our Director of Noah's Ark pre-school Cynthia Chavez, Grace Widman, Jane Butterfield, Sue Enes, Debbie Koteskey, Olivia O'Keefe, Shelley Wells, Helen Coleman, Jim Coleman and our Rector, Todd Bryant and lots of others who have helped make this week to happen. Watch for pictures! We are called and loved by God to love and serve the world!

Video Sermons

Big Thanks goes to Don Perry who is recording video sermons. You can watch videos online at https://sainttimothysdanville.org/video-sermons/ The sermons are usually a few weeks behind, as a great deal of behind the scenes work goes into each one.

Rector's Article Continued

So here is some foreboding news. I want to provoke a little "holy anxiety", then I promise to get back to the hope.

- 60% of our stewardship is supported by families 65 and older.
- 93 of 155 pledges are made by people 65 and older.
- The top 12 pledges account for 33% of the total amount pledged

Thank you, thank you for your steadfast generosity and incredible giving. Without our faithful legacy members, we would be crippled. Our most generous members are investing in our future. Let's all leverage this investment in renewal.

I know we want a youth group, throngs of families, a buzz of senior events, and huge outreach programs but stay with me... if we want to be even more vibrant and appealing to families and newcomers in general, we've got some spiritual renewal to explore. We can't bank on families coming back and staying because they want their first child baptized.

I won't be talking nuts and bolts quite yet and won't be offering the logistics map today. There are some best practices that I can share over the next couple of months. Yet, together we will discover renewal over time.

Right now? Do you have an idea for a small group? Great - you can go for it right now! Just tell me, so I can tell others about it. The big reveal of next steps probably won't happen until ministry fair in the Fall.

CEO?

This is a truth I know from observation. Many of you are waiting for me to tell you what to do. You hired me to secure our future... right? You want me to reveal the Vision 2025 / church of the future / St. Tim's 3.0 model of success. You want your holy CEO to whip you/us into shape.

I was trained to run committees, vestries, liturgies, and lay teams. I work hard on teaching and preaching and am always trying to know your needs. I will keep doing all the stuff that makes a church run, but I am convinced that if we are going to have a vital future, the CEO model is insufficient. The church is like a business but it's *not only* a business.

I am figuring out how to be your CSGC (Chief Spiritual Growth Catalyzer) and figuring out how to help everyone one of us to be a spiritual catalyst. CSGC probably won't catch on, but I think you get the point.

Success story from Oregon - CSGC - But I'm <u>NOT</u> suggesting we do this at St. Timothy's I want to share with you a story from one of my cohort colleagues. You may remember one of the many clergy who served at St. Timothy's...Shana McCauley? Maybe you loved her or not, but she is now the Vicar of Saint Edwards in Silverton, Oregon, and she has grown into a powerful leader in my estimation. I know her because she is in the cohort I told you about in the beginning.

Here is the short version of a Holy Spirit story — St. Edwards watched their endowment dribble down to nothing. The church really struggled. Shana was getting ready for Sabbatical with no supply clergy. The BAC (like a vestry) took a radical step — everyone took a sabbatical along with Shana. Yep, they closed the church for the summer.

They went to other churches, synagogues and temples and listened to their neighbors. They heard the Holy Spirit in all of these conversations and came back in the Fall absolutely

Rector's Article Continued

committed to each other and to the mission of their church. They finally became a family.

It was a Holy Spirit summer too because the mission became clear. God remade them into family and not just a group of struggling associates who happened to go to the same church. As a renewed family, they became convinced that the homeless of Silverton were their family too, which led to the St. Edward's Cottages.

After a long, sometimes ugly, public battle with the town, they constructed four cottages for the homeless to stay on their property. They will officially break ground on Pentecost Sunday (this June 9th). Take a look for yourself. https://stedwardsilverton.weebly.com/cottage-project.html

St. Timothy's

I am not advocating that we squander our endowment to create a sense of missionary urgency. **Don't** quit church for a summer! But folks, the time is now, endowment or not. *To those of you who give tremendous time and talent, thank you for your trust and thank you for giving us this precious window of time.* We have sacred time with a financial buffer so that we can engage in the privilege of listening for where God is leading.

Our future will likely not include 21 outreach programs, 4 clergy, 2 music leaders, and 2 family ministers to take care of our every spiritual need. *It will be better though* — as a family we will learn to be vulnerable and trust each other while dwelling in the spirit of God. Out of this strength, we bless our world.

This renewal won't look like 4 new ways to give away more money, 3 new worship experiences or a million-dollar budget. *We are not chasing attendance or stewardship dollars - we're chasing after God.*

Small groups are a one part of the spirit chase

When intentional groups of people know and trust each other, they help out in times of need. Renewal will be a blessing for the whole church, small group member or not. These small clusters can create spiritual connection. Do you know what the 3Rs of church are? Relationship, relationship, relationship. Many come to church craving this kind of connection, and small groups can be a big part of meeting that craving.

We are in a paradigm shift of church life. Our society, youth sports, and schools don't automatically support, nor create space for the spiritual journey. We did not cause it, but it is in our lap. However, we don't have to be roadkill as culture changes. We can sharpen our community to love as well as commit to make our larger society an extended family. Otherwise, church-as-museum will become our future.

Small groups don't replace what we already do really well. On the contrary, it makes everything else have more energy and can create new interconnections of ministry and fellowship.

It's all of us - not me saving us

I have talent, but I can't fix our future through force of personality. I can participate with *all ya all* in listening for the movement of God to renew the mission of the church. You might be getting nervous.... "Here we go again." Fire up new committees to create a vision, mission and core values document for a brass plaque - let's *not* do that.

I am praying that as we live into renewal work, we will "discover" the vision and mission. Small groups can be an integral part of the Saint Timothy's family. **Don't** take a sabbatical from church like St. Edwards, but **do** keep listening for how God is on the move for our renewal.

Thank you, Todd

Global Episcopal Mission Network (GEMN) Annual Conference 2019

The Global Episcopal Mission Network is the independent mission network dedicated to promoting global mission in The Episcopal Church (TEC). GEMN consists of dioceses, churches, organizations, and individuals committed to engaging and connecting people worldwide through global mission relationships.

The Diocese of California is a member of GEMN and has been a part of the annual mission conference since it began 24 years ago. I have had the joy of attending 23 conferences. The Global Companions Commission of our diocese creates a space for gathering mission-minded congregations and individuals'. We have two missioners appointed by Bishop Mark: The Rev. Deacon Phyllis Manoogian, in Guetamala and The Rev. Deacon Davidson Bidwell Waite, in Haiti. We meet by Conference calls and Dinners at St. James Episcopal Church in Oakland.

This year's conference was held in April in Boca Chica, Dominican Republic. In partnership with the Diocese of the Dominican Republic, the theme, "Sharing Jesus: Mutual Witness in Global Mission", focused on sharing our witness to Christ across cultures, engaging in healthy mission, mission best- practices and spiritual formation for mission. The conference emphasized the roll of cross-cultural witness and evangelism in global mission, both spiritually and practically.

Keynoters and speakers included:

- The Rt. Rev. Griselda Delgato, Bishop of Cuba
- The Rev. Canon Stephanie Spellers, serves as the Presiding Bishop's Canon for Evangelism, Reconciliation and Stewardship
- The Rev. David Copley, Director of Global Partnership and Mission Personal for TEC

Panelists:

- The Rt. Rev. Moises Quezada Mota, Bishop of Iglesia Episcopal Domanicana
- The Rt. Rev. William Skilton, former missionary in the Dominican Republic and retired Suffragan Bishop of South Carolinia
- The Rev. Canon Anthony Guillen, Director of Ethnic Ministries for TEC

Recently we have been committed to holding some of our conferences (every third year) outside the continental US.

Local students, parishioners and clergy welcomed the conference attendees with flags, displays, food in an abundance of warm Dominican hospitality. Approximately 130 global mission members were in attendance along with a large presence of local members of the Iglesia Episcopal Dominicana. We worshiped, attended workshops and shared together over the conference time. On the last day, attendees had a choice of visiting three nearby churches or a school, retreat center and clinic in San Pedro de Macoris. The bilingual conference included simultaneous translation between Spanish and English. The conference ended in a colorful fiesta of local dishes, traditional music and dance.

Save the Dates for 2020! April 29 - May1 Indianapolis, Indiana Earthkeeping: Creation Care in Global Mission

Contact: Mary Louise Gotthold, globetrottinglady@sbcglobal.net, 925.324.4593

Why I support Danville Discovery Center

The Danville Discovery Center provides good mental health for people of all ages in the San Ramon Valley through its professional classes and individual support. I'm very proud to be St. Timothy's liaison for this fine organization.

Danville Discovery Center (DDC) first came to my attention when working as a resource specialist at the middle and elementary schools in the San Ramon Valley School District. When faced with troubled students who failed to thrive in their academics, **DDC provided skilled psychology interns who were successful in dealing with anxiety, depression and other disorders.**

Proceeds from the May Devil Mountain Run and the Thrift Station (Crossroads Shopping Center) provide funds for the operation of DDC. The Thrift Station accepts donated items which are assessed, priced and resold in their lovely store. Around ninety volunteers work a couple of shifts a month to staff the store Mondays through Saturdays year-round.



Volunteering at the Thrift Station both at the register and preparing items for sale has taught me skills in running a store, but I've learned much more. Most customers are friendly, and some visit the store almost daily to find "a treasure." There are occasional customer problems such as: changing prices on the items, becoming irate if window items aren't available for purchase until the weekend and stealing of merchandise. There are also heartwarming experiences: teens who want to "save the planet" by buying used rather than new clothing to stock their closets, a customer who pays for the next-in-line person's shopping choices and the people who share their excitement about "finding a treasure."

Working at the Thrift Station has given me a whole new set of friends and the opportunity to help others at the same time.

Call or email me if you are interested in joining the staff. Dee Geisler 925-837-4670 / doloresgeisler@sbcglobal.net

Thank you Kearsten

Our nursery care provider Kearsten Simoni's last day with Saint Timothy's will be Pentecost June 9th. We thank her for all her care for our little ones and for her care during special events like Fruits of the Harvest. She leaves to continue her schooling at San Diego State University in their nursing program. At some point she plans to study abroad (perhaps Thailand or Vietnam). We are excited for Kearsten in this new stage of her journey and wish her well. We will miss her—and so will our children.

From Kearsten "Working in the nursery has been such a blessing. I cannot express to you how much I have appreciated your hospitality in bringing me into the church. I am beyond grateful to have had the opportunity to watch each child grow in their character and faith...I will always reflect on the wonderful memories that I have made with you and the kids."

Blessings Kearsten in all that you do

Treasurer's Report – Neal Matsunaga

Financial Highlights May 15, 2019

- 2019 budget was based on 144 pledges, with an additional 11 pledges received after the budget was approved for about \$28,000.
- 2019 budget vs actual results, through April are:

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Pledge Income	\$202,805	\$215,852	\$ 13,047
Other Income	\$ 42,309	\$ 30,095	\$(12,214)
Expenses	\$254,370	\$239,787	\$ 14,583

Income – Pledge Income difference due to:

Pledges received after budget was prepared. Portion, from 11 additional pledges, is an offset for the underrun in Contributing income in Other Income.

Other Income difference due to:

Contributing income about \$17,000 under budget.

Facilities cost sharing about \$4,500 over budget.

Expenses – Operating expense difference is the sum of lots of overs and unders, with main ones being:

Personnel about \$1,774 under budget.

Christian Formation about \$728 under budget.

Children & Youth Ministry about \$686 under budget.

Fellowship about \$1,617 under budget.

Administration about \$1,045 under budget.

Facilities about \$7,875 under budget.

Finance about \$2,031 over budget.

Contingency about \$2,409 under budget.

Contact Us

The Rev. Todd Bryant-Rector

(925) 837-4993 x.114;

Rector@SaintTimothysDanville.org

The Rev. Susan Geissler-O'Neil-Associate Rector

(925) 837-4993 x.113;

sgeissleroneil@SaintTimothysDanville.org

Darita Seth - Director of Music

(925) 837-4993 x.115:

DMSeth@SaintTimothysDanville.org

Cynthia Chavez – Noah's Ark Preschool Director

(925) 362-8565;

NoahsArk@SaintTimothysDanville.org

Bev Matsunaga – Facilities (Volunteer)

(925) 837-4993 x.111;

Facilities@SaintTimothysDanville.org

Liz Haughey – Bookkeeper

(925) 837-4993 x.116;

Bookkeeper@SaintTimothysDanville.org

Neal Matsunaga – Treasurer (Volunteer)

(925) 837-4993 x117;

Treasurer@SaintTimothysDanville.org

Office Administrator

parish@ SaintTimothysDanville.org

Carleen Carns – Pledge Secretary (Vol.)

Pledges@SaintTimothysDanville.org

May Vestry Highlights

The vestry met in Grace House on Wednesday, May 15, at 6:30 pm.

- MOTION passed with one no vote to establish a policy that the following people will have
 access to the name and amount pledge information: treasurer, pledge secretary,
 bookkeeper and rector (should he or she desire it). The stewardship chairman will have
 timely access to trending and pledge information without specific names, as needed. See
 the minutes below for the full text of the motion.
- **MOTION**: The following pre meeting reports and minutes were approved as submitted: 1) minutes of the April vestry meeting, 2) reports by the treasurer, 3) rector report, 4-7) reports by Children and Youth, Pastoral Care, Property and Worship Commissions.
- **MOTION**: Allocate specific donated moneys received in the last month to maintenance reserve.
- MOTION: Approve designating funds received from Diocese from a family Charitable Remainder Unitrust (CRUT), to endowment account.

ACTION ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:

- Still need to find a Commission home for St. Timothy's logo ware
- Allocation of \$7000 in budget for church growth
- Storage location for pictures of children

OTHER ITEMS DISCUSSED

- The treasurer, Neal Matsunaga informed the vestry about the people bonded because of the positions in the church. They include: Treasurer, Bookkeeper, Pledge Secretary, Accounts Payable, Counters, and Check signers.
- The facilities manager informed the vestry that the trash dumpster in the back parking will be locked to prevent people from using it to dump their personal trash.

Parish members are welcome to attend Vestry meetings. The next meeting is on Wednesday, June 19, 2019. There is no vestry meeting scheduled for July 2019.

The minutes of the vestry meeting will be filed in the Parish Office after they are approved by the Vestry.

Submitted by Sally Shea Potts, Vestry Clerk

Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church www.SaintTimothysDanville.org 1550 Diablo Road Danville, CA 94526 925.837.4993

Email: parish@sainttimothysdanville.org