

## September 2019

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

#### **Rector's Article**

## Welcome Back Sunday is September 8<sup>th</sup> One service at 10 AM

After worship, Ministry Fair will follow with food and games / bingo that focus on highlighting small groups of different flavors (book study, bowling, bocce, meditation, or, yes... I am looking at you – bring a new idea)

- Ministry leaders will be highlighting their ministries on the patio (we will have tables set up outside).
- Small group leaders (established and new ones) will be cheer leading on September 8 too. I am twisting arms of brave souls to "call" one game of bingo during the fun. (Foyers Groups are part of the small group mix)
- Food Don't have a menu yet, but it will be good, just probably not good for you!
- Stupid games and jokes from yours truly

#### Did I mention? Welcome Back Sunday September 8th at 10am

We intentionally moved the date later because last year was too early.

**September 15**<sup>th</sup>: Tom Gorham, the director of Options Recovery, will be our guest preacher at both services. Let's welcome him bigger than Texas (and California)

#### **Sunday School in October**

We would like to try periodic offerings that expand a focus on young families. We are noticing that there is an opening to offer formation for middle elementary aged children. We will continue Children's Liturgy throughout these offerings. See how we are shaping up in the Parish Hall. Huge thanks to Tom Linari for sprucing up our education rooms

Sunday Oct 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th at 10am in Parish Hall

You will drop off your children in Parish Hall right before 10am church. Nursery for weeones and children's liturgy will continue as

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always. In this new class, your middle elementary child and above will be part of a series with biblical storytelling and age appropriate activities. All kids (nursery, children's liturgy and older kids) will rejoin you for communion. We will take a break with older kids in November and start back up with an Advent series in December.

See next the section for Pastor Susan's in-depth description.

#### **Trial Sunday Evening Worship**

First Sunday of the Month:
October 6, November 3, December 1 at 5pm

Food after worship! The service would last approximately 45 minutes with Darita picking and playing contemporary music. The whole service will be projected (but there might still be music with notes on paper for those who know how to sing). We hope this service can help families create a deeper community so that we all can support more youth fellowship and events. It will be open to everyone, but middle and senior high youth will get priority on serving in worship. There are some great serving opportunities for younger ones too, like Gospel procession, bringing up bread, and ushering. This will not be a glorified children's liturgy (even though children's liturgy is great). It will be a complete worship experience for all ages.

Todd

### **Sunday School for Older Elementary Children**

#### **Children's Worship Bulletins**

Did you know we have 2 children's bulletins ages 3-6 and 7+ every week? They are lectionary based and contain puzzles, matching and "what's different" kinds of questions. (Even some of our adults love them!) They are in the narthex and in the Worship corner set aside for children on the left as you walk into the church.

#### Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy takes place every Sunday during the first part of worship offering our little ones, pre-school to first grade, an opportunity to participate in worship, hear Bible stories and pray for one another, the people in their lives, and the world. Sometimes we use lectionary-based curriculum to tell the stories of our faith and sometimes we tell the story with Godly Play, a way to tell Bible stories and invite children to reflect. Children join us at the time of the Peace and bring their offering of Bread to the Eucharistic table. John Geraci-Novy leads this very special ministry. Would you like to learn more and be part of our team? johnfgeraci@gmail.com or sgeissleroneil@sainttimothysdanville.org

#### **Sunday School for our Older Elementary Children**

Sunday school for our children grades 2-5 will take place during church in our new classroom in the Parish Hall. We are planning "units" beginning with 4 weeks in October and will learn about prophets, beginning with Elijah! Children will join their parents and the younger children from Children's Liturgy in church at the Peace. During November, our elementary children will be in church and our pre-school through first grade children will continue to be part of



Children's Liturgy. Sunday School will resume in December with another 4-week unit.

Sunday School will be an opportunity to learn more about our faith as Episcopalians; we will be looking at the larger story of the Bible, not always based on the lectionary — the lessons we use in church on Sunday. The curriculum we are using is called Weaving God's Promises and hopes to offer a way for children to reflect on the Bible, know more about our Episcopal story and "foster the spiritual formation and growth of our children in Christ's love and mercy." We will continue with the theme of "God's love for us and how God stays with us, no matter what, to bring us back to God's divine love." (p. 6)

We will have fun! **Would you like to be part of a team of teachers?** Our curriculum offers all the lessons plan and possible activities and leaves room for your special way of sharing God's love. Let's explore God's story with our children as they encounter God in story, Scripture, worship and service!

#### **Child Care during Worship**

Our littlest ones, babies — 3 years, are welcome in our Nursery in the Parish Hall where Anna Vila greets them with a smile! You will be asked to sign in your child, and children may not leave until you pick them up after church. If they are ready for Children's Liturgy, they are welcome and then may return to childcare and play or join you in church. Children are always welcome in church.

#### Coffee Hour Hosts: Needed and Thank You!



We offer coffee hour and fellowship between the 8:30 and 10am services and often after the 10am service. Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to host. We always need more help! Here are the dates that still need to be filled:

September 22, 29 October 6, 13, 20, 27

To sign up and find more details, go to: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0f4cacac23a64-coffee

## 2019 High School Mission Trip Dulac, LA July 28 – August 4

Thank you to everyone who prayerfully and financially supported our high school immersion trip. 29 youth and 6 adults from five churches gathered at Oakland Airport for a Sunday morning flight to Louisiana. The flight to New Orleans was without incident; unless you ask a couple of the youth who were scared out of their minds with the turbulence over Texas. Even air pockets are bigger in Texas! After acting a little bit like a dog chasing its tail, we got all our rental vehicles and headed south. The majority of the youth counted "Sonic" as their best, first southern food experience – ugh.



#### **Dulac**

We arrived in Dulac late Sunday night. We called the night supervisor to let us into the community center. Only in Louisiana would "Baby, it's all good" count as a way to end a conversation. It made me miss the South (Todd).

### **Dulac Community Center**

Mary and Eugene Billot, John and his mom were excellent hosts. They took great care of us, welcomed us into their lives, and gave us the privilege of serving the wider-Dulac community

#### **Workdays**

Our site supervisor was behind on Monday so we did not get to jump right in. By Monday afternoon, we had a plan and were in full gear. Tuesday through Friday were busy. They were days full of painting, demolition, repainting the community center, helping with VBS and the thrift store — full workdays.

#### **Clanton Chapel United Methodist Church**

Kirby Verret is the pastor of the Dulac Methodist church across from the community center. He spoke eloquently (Wednesday night) about First People / Native American history of the area. He told us his story about being called to serve his people as well as inviting us to help and pray for federal recognition of the United Houma Nation.

#### **New Orleans**

I love the south, but not a fan of the French Quarter; apologies to you diehards. The re-entry to "normal life" was designed to be a little jarring and was an important experience to compare to our work in Dulac. A highlight for me was a cooking class for real Cajun food. We learned about the ins and outs of jambalaya, gumbo, pralines, and bread pudding.

#### St. Augustine's - Metairie

During our New Orleans time, we slept in the parish hall of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church. They not only opened their facilities, but also went out of their way to make us a hot breakfast on Sunday. They joyfully welcomed us into worship in their sanctuary.

#### **Coming Home**

Thoroughly exhausted, we were all glad to be back in California. But we will carry our news friendship with us for a long time. As they say in Dulac, "You are never a stranger, just a friend we have not met yet."

Enough talking. Here are some pictures:

































## **Thank You for the Help Around Campus!**





Thank you Tom Linari for giving an old storage closet a makeover! The storage closet that use to hold the stage and lots of other stuff has now been cleared out and cleaned up. With a fresh coat of paint, it is almost ready for Sunday School kids!

More credit to come for all of you who have responded to help out around campus.

### **Rise Against Hunger**

Volunteer Opportunity for all Ages!

For the last four years, St. Timothy's parishioners have hosted a Rise Against Hunger Meal Packaging event. In 2018, the congregation raised money to purchase supplies and in one Saturday morning 90 volunteers packaged over 16,000 meals which



were eventually sent to orphanages and schools in the Philippines. It was a fun, fast paced and rewarding morning and we are bringing it back by popular demand.

We need donations to purchase the supplies and volunteers to package the meals. Volunteers package the meals through an assembly-line process that combines rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables, flavoring and vitamins.

When: Saturday, September 21 Time: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Who**: Volunteers of all ages.....there is a job for everyone!

(Children under 13 must come with an adult.)

**Contact**: Joann Oliver, joannmarieoliver@gmail.com

Go to the St. Timothy's website for more information and the link to register online: https://www.sainttimothysdanville.org/meal-packaging-event-2019/

## "Life's most urgent question is: What are you doing for others?" Martin Luther King Jr., Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

Rise Against Hunger is an international hunger relief agency that has been working to end hunger for more than 15 years. Every 6 seconds a child dies of hunger. Providing a hot meal during school gives parents an incentive to send their children to school. By receiving a primary school education, the cycle of poverty can begin to be broken. For more information go to:

www.riseagainsthunger.org











## Contra Costa Interfaith Housing - THANK YOU!



The following is an excerpt from a letter sent by Deann Pearn, CCIH Executive Director, to you:

Thank you, Saint Timothy's, for a very successful Backpack and School Supplies Drive. You gave CCIH such generous gifts of \$2,250 from multiple donations, 59 backpacks, some filled with supplies, and many bags of assorted school items. These resources equip formerly homeless and very low-income students with tools necessary for a successful school year. The rising cost of living has made purchasing school supplies a strain on these

families. Thanks to you, children will be prepared and ready to learn this fall.

Your partnership is essential in making an impact to end the cycle of poverty and homelessness in our community. Permanent, affordable housing is just the start. Support services such as case management, after school Homework Clubs, mental health counseling, employment support, and parenting classes simultaneously come together to create greater self-reliance, a new experience for many CCIH families.

Research shows that children living in poverty are more likely to have developmental delays and learning disabilities that lead to higher drop-out rates and continue the cycle of homelessness. However, poverty-impacted students at CCIH receive robust academic support, which includes assistance with homework, life skills, and a variety of additional academic enrichment. Students are exposed to a culture where education, autonomy, and creativity are valued. They are surrounded with after school volunteers who instill confidence to achieve academic success and build a brighter future.



We are truly grateful for your partnership in helping formerly homeless and working poor families realize their dream of a stable home and healthy community.

Saint Timothy's has been a member of a coalition of 33 faith communities that support CCIH in its mission to provide affordable permanent supportive housing since its founding in 1996. They have a thriving community at Garden Park Apartments in Pleasant Hill, where 28 formerly homeless families, some with disabilities, now have a permanent home. CCIH also has 64 units of scattered site housing with services, and it is one of four intake centers in Contra Costa County for homeless services.

CCIH provides after school Homework Club in three locations for over 150 children. Liaison: Leslie Firth

## St. Joan of Arc Grief Workshop

## October 1 thru November 12, 2019 7 to 9 p.m.

The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Whether the death was sudden and tragic, or one with warning and preparation, the reality of death leaves most of us in a state of shock, confusion and sadness. Grieving people need time and space to honor their grief. Each person's grief journey has its own path and its own timeline. Although there is no right or wrong path, there are stepping stones that are part of each journey...

Join us and let us accompany you on your journey of healing...

**LOCATION**: St. Joan of Arc Church 2601 San Ramon Valley Blvd. San Ramon, CA 94583 in the Lower Church Conference Room, under Jesus window

**DATES & TIMES**: Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and Nov. 5 & 12 7:00pm to 9:00pm

PROGRAM INFO: Pre-registration is REQUIRED

For more information or to register by phone call: Susan@ (925)830-1737 Carol@ (925)735-7611

This workshop is open to ALL regardless of religious affiliation

# UPDATE ON OPTIONS RECOVERY SERVICES, AN OUTREACH SUPPORTED MINISTRY

Over the past year, Options Recovery Services continued outpatient drug and alcohol addiction treatment in two Berkeley locations and two Oakland locations and opened a new outpatient treatment site in San Leandro. Options served over a thousand outpatient clients last year and is now planning to open a site in West Oakland. Options also served over two hundred clients in its safe and drug free



recovery residences in Oakland and Berkeley, and opened its first perinatal residence program for up to a dozen pregnant or newly delivered moms and their infant children.

Options has recently purchased a former convent (Casa Vincentia) in East Oakland and plans to renovate and then utilize that site for housing and services. Tom Gorham, Options' Executive Director says, "We go where the need is." As Tom approaches retirement he plans to write about his amazing life (ten years under the freeway overpass to now Executive Director at Options) and also about the story of Options, in the hope that others can follow the Options model of breaking the cycle of addiction that causes crime, homelessness and broken families.

It has been more than a year since Tom's wife, Options' founder Davida Coady, passed away. Much has been published about Dr. Coady since her death, including her own memoir (The Greatest Good, available at www.hesperian.org ); obituaries in the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post, and the San Francisco Chronicle; and a chapter in The Caring Heirs of Doctor Samuel Bard, by Peter Wortsman, Columbia University Press. In the Journal of Health and Human Experience an article was published written by Rabbinic Pastor De Fishler Herman entitled: "Davida Coady, MD: Maverick, Organizer, Altruist." He wrote: "In every age of human history, heroes arise who inspire society's citizens with the best of what it means to be human. The lives of such heroes often are marked with extraordinary self-sacrifice. Such was the life and person of Davida Coady. A pediatrician and public health leader who worked extensively with the poor and needy across the globe, Dr. Coady tirelessly worked for social justice and human rights. She always preferred enriching others before enriching herself. Her inspiring life story ignites the imagination and one' sense of purpose and mission in life. Dedicated to bringing healing to all those in greatest need, both in the United States and across the globe, Dr. Davida Coady is a true hero for our time. Her story challenges individuals and society in general to work with greater self-sacrifice and creative generosity for the healing and well-being of those who are in need."

Options hopes that you will join in the celebration of Dr. Coady's life and the miracle of recovery this September, nationally recognized Recovery Month, by participating in the following events:

**September 6**: **Options Graduation Celebration** – Peg Miller and St. Timothy's Church will host the meal after Options Graduation at 1931 Center Street, Berkeley, from 4:30 to 6 pm. If you want to join Peg, please come to the graduation and help serve the graduates, their guests and community supporters after the graduation. Expect to be moved to tears as you see the remarkable transformations Options' graduates make in just one year.

**September 8: St. Timothy's Ministry Fair** – stop by the Options Recovery Services table and meet Porter Sexton, the Development Director of Options, and Samuel McFarland, Development Officer. Check in to see all that is happening at Options and how you might be able to volunteer your services and/or contribute.

**September 15**: **St. Timothy's Sunday Services** at both 8:30 am and 10:00 am – Tom Gorham, Options' Executive Director and husband of Davida, will give the sermon. Again, expect to be moved to tears by his story and his life of service in loving and empowering others, in the streets and all the prisons of California.

September 22: The Davida Coady Walk for Recovery and Options Barbeque – come to the Veterans Memorial Building, 1931 Center Street in Berkeley. Beginning at 11 am, docent led walks through downtown Berkeley will highlight significant events and places in the growth of Options as a significant force in combating addiction. Beginning around 12:30 pm, a delicious barbeque will feature further tributes to Dr. Coady, entertainment, raffle drawings, and items for sale. Come for the walk, come for the bar-b-q, or come for both! Options' second annual walk for recovery is a celebration that will continue Dr. Coady's vision of reaching out to the poor and imprisoned in finding the path to life-affirming sobriety and service. by Porter, the Development Director

## Treasurer's Report - Neal Matsunaga

#### **Treasurer's Report**

August 21, 2019

#### **Financial Highlights**

- 2019 budget of \$608,416 was based on 144 pledges. An additional 13 pledges have been received since the budget was approved, for a total of 157 pledges and \$640,206.
- As of 7/31
  - 30 families have fully paid their pledges for a total of \$118,427.
  - 15 families have not made any payments on their pledges of \$41,420. About \$5,820 of this amount might be at risk and the remaining \$35,600 is usually paid in Q4.
  - Adjusted or canceled pledges for -\$5,920 (including \$3,500 that is also counted in the previous comment of \$5,820 pledges that may not be received).
- 2019 budget vs actual results, through the end of July, are:

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Pledge Income	\$354,909	\$347,358	\$(7,551)
Other Income	\$ 74,041	\$45,732	\$(28,309)
Expenses	\$445,148	\$424,522	\$ 20,626

Income – Pledge Income difference due to:

Pledges received after budget was prepared \$18,544 over budget.

Pledges with no payments through July \$(24,162) under budget.

Other Income difference due to:

Contributing income was \$31,862 under budget of \$53,083. Estimate about \$54,600 under budget for the year.

Expenses – Operating expense difference is the sum of several small over and under budget items, with main ones being:

Personnel expenses \$3,142 under budget

Children & Youth Ministry program \$1,131 under budget

Fellowship program \$2,144 under budget

Administrative expenses \$1,186 under budget

Facilities expenses \$4,911 under budget

Contingency expenses \$6,194 under budget

## June and July Vestry Highlights

St Timothy's Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting and Action—June and July 2019
The vestry met in Grace House on Wednesday, June 19, at 6:30 pm.
There was no formal vestry meeting in July but there were 2 vestry electronic votes in July.
The next vestry meeting is Wednesday, August 21 at 6:30 pm in the Grace House Overby Conference Room.

#### **MOTIONS:**

- The following people were reappointed to the Columbarium board: Neal Matsunaga, Jim Enes, Steve Oki, Sally Shea Potts
- The deficit Noah's Ark 2019-2020 budget was approved as proposed by the Noah's Ark board. The 2018 -2019 budget was also a deficit budget. Noah's Ark completed the 2018-2019 year with a surplus. They have sufficient money in their reserve funds to cover the current projected deficit. A full pupil enrollment should enable them to balance their 2019-2020 budget.
- The vestry voted to approve the proposed expenditure to repair and upgrade the fence and gates around the Noah's Ark playground.
- The vestry voted to approve an electronic vote on a new door between one of the Noah's Ark classrooms and the current science room once the estimates of the cost including the necessary Town of Danville permits are available.
- The vestry voted to reverse their May 2019 decision to transfer funds to the Endowment Fund after we were informed by the Diocese of California that the funds were sent to us in error.
- The minutes of the May 2019 vestry meeting, the Treasurer's reports and the submitted commission reports were approved a submitted.

#### Other business:

- Pastor Todd briefed the vestry on the activities to find a replacement for the parish office administrator.
- He is recruiting a group to find and do the initial interviews for the position before he meets the candidate.
- A large cache of clothing with the St. Timothy's logo was discovered during a recent cleanup. They will be available for sale this fall.
- In July, the vestry voted electronically to approve the expenditure of \$4500 to install a new door between the current Noah's Ark science room and the adjacent room. Half of the funds will come from the parish maintenance reserve and ½ from the Noah's Ark reserves.
- Also in July, the vestry voted electronically to approve the expenditure of \$68,000 -\$84,000 to replace the roofing over the breezeway and the flat parts of the Parish Hall.
   The range is due to the uncertain cost of repairing any dry rot discovered after the existing roofing is removed. The work is scheduled to begin in September.

Parish members are welcome to attend Vestry meetings. The next meeting is on Wednesday, August 21, 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

### **Contact Us**

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