

# TIDINGS



**August 2025**

**Newsletter of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church Danville, CA**

As I return from my sabbatical, I want to offer my deep gratitude to you, the people of St. Timothy's, for the gift of this time away. Your generosity, prayers, and steadfast commitment to our shared ministry have been a blessing. In Hawaii, Wyoming and Texas, I was given space to step back, pray, study, and take naps. This was not just a personal gift but a gift for our whole community, for I return renewed, with fresh eyes and a heart eager to walk with you now. Thank you for shouldering the daily work of ministry, for supporting one another, and for allowing me this sacred time apart.

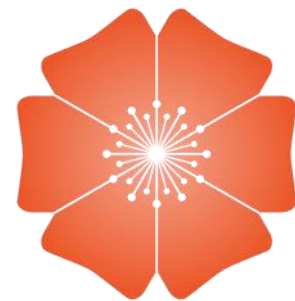
Sabbatical is rooted in the biblical practice of Sabbath, the holy rhythm of work and rest. God rests on the seventh day not out of weariness, but to delight in creation. In the same way, rest is not a pause from "real life," but part of life itself—an opportunity to remember who we are and whose we are. Renewal comes when we step aside long enough to notice God's presence already moving in us and around us. My prayer is that the rest I have received will ripple into our life together, and that each of you may also find moments of Sabbath in your own lives: spaces where God restores your soul, refreshes your spirit, and reminds you that you are deeply loved.



Looking ahead things are getting back in gear at every level. The Bishop is coming, confirmation is happening, deanery youth is returning, convention is happening, and a new strategic vision for the diocese is being celebrated in October.

## **Deanery Youth**

September 14	Resurrection, Pleasant Hill
October 12	St Paul's, Walnut Creek
November 9	St Timothy's, here
December	none
January 11	St. Stephen's, Orinda
February 8	Grace, Martinez
March 8	St. Anna's, Antioch
April	none
May 10	off campus party



## **Youth Mini-Immersion Trip**

I will be working with a small group of parents for a mini-local-immersion trip this fall for middle and high school students.

## Fruits of the Harvest (FOTH)

Saturday, September 6th

### Confirmation / Reception

September 21 - one 10am service only with Bishop Austin



### Before the visit

August 31 We take a break for labor day weekend.  
September 7 I lead an applied ethics class at 11:15am.  
September 14 We will have a short rehearsal ahead of the bishop's visit.

If you want to *reaffirm*  
(you're an episcopalian, but want to re-up)

If you want to be *confirmed*  
(you're coming from a church like a presbyterian, baptist, etc).

If you want to be *received*  
(you're coming from ELCA Lutheran, Roman Catholic, or Orthodox)...

**Your Diocesan Strategic Vision** Committee has been working for many months. I want to share with you the latest vision that will evolve over time. This is based on mountains of feedback.

### Rooted in Christ, Bearing Fruit for the Healing of the World

#### *Our Vision:*

A diverse and connected Bay Area and wider world — alive and transformed in Christ.

#### *Our Purpose:*

To follow Jesus, as a community that embodies God's justice, love, and mercy for all and to equip our congregations, institutions, and leaders with the support and resources to effectively pursue our vision in partnership with the communities we serve.

#### *Our Values to Build Trust:*

Mattering, collaborating, collectively empowering, sufficiency, and belonging

For more information on the Diocese of CA Strategic Vision, go to <https://www.diocal.org/strategic-vision-process/svc-reports/>

Much more to come, including stewardship season in October. Talk to me!

Todd



## REMINDERS OF FAITH: *TREE AND CROSS*



Summer brings its rhythm of heat and cool, ripening tomatoes and the wonders of peaches, apricots and sunflowers. Sometimes summer is called a generative time because we have the resources of rest, long days, and the beauty of a green and an explosion of color in a watered garden.

When the heat is too much and the sidewalk parched and the dust lies still because there is no air to move it, we can too find ourselves parched, unable to tend the wilted spirit, cut out of the soft greens, purples and reds of leaves, over-spreading lantana, and heavy-laden crepe myrtle blossoms. Our breath can feel labored like a dog too long in a burning sun. Yet, we have breath, the shallow breath of the spirit in a moment of faith.

How do I answer the inner call to pause when the sorrow is deep? I find my breath in those moments is heavy in my chest; closing my eyes cannot change the incongruity of abundant wellness of the summer in the welcome shade covering me and the knowledge of not being right with my body and soul in God's creation. A cry for justice and mercy wrests its way out of my tightening throat. In a gesture familiar and unconscious, I touch the cross around my neck or a tiny reminder in my pocket, look around me, and breathe—it is the breath of the Spirit that reaches deep into my heart with a breeze my face cannot feel.

When I notice the dead leaf litter and the already changing colors of the maples pointing toward the failing light of winter I exhale--recognizing I have been holding my breath. The spiritual seasons of our lives do not always match the seasons of our spinning earth. So much happens, to us, to the people we love, to our neighbors, nearby and far away. Christ the power that heals, in the winter too, is here. Beneath the ground last year's acorns are changing, growing, nourished by leaves composted in another season.



I know you see me O Christ, help me to see to you. Help me to be present to your abundance however it comes. Help me to Love as I am Loved.

Peace be with us.

*Susan+*

## STITCHING GROUP

The St. Timothy's Stitching group meets every second and fourth Wednesdays at 10 am in the Overby Conference Room.

Please join us for lively conversation and tips on knitting, crochet, embroidery and quilting. *You don't actually have to be working on anything to be part of our group.*

# FRUITS OF THE HARVEST (FOTH)

## 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Fruits of the Harvest Fundraiser for Outreach Ministry Partners and Events

**Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup> 4 to 8 pm**

It's only one week away! We hope you have already bought your ticket. It's not too late to join the 100 people who are coming.

We have a full, fun night planned for you. Don't be late because the silent auction closes at 5:20. Register and get your name badge, bidding stickers and your place card to reserve your dining seat in the parish hall. Get a quick drink of your choice at the bars and an appetizer on the patio. Start viewing and bidding on all the silent auction items, new raffle punch game, and Mystery Boxes. Your mystery surprise box will be filled with special items created by the sponsor of the box.

It is guaranteed to have at least \$100 worth of something special. Time goes quickly and the silent auction will start closing down. Procedures for the bidding: Play nice. No elbowing. Don't cross out anyone's bid. No writing bids after the auction table closes down. **DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR CALENDAR IN CASE YOU WANT TO BID ON AN EVENT EXPERIENCE ITEM WITH A FIXED DATE.**

Dinner is at 6:00 pm. Tania Hanson DeYoung has organized a delicious buffet catered dinner by Simple Elegance Caterers:

### **SUPER FOOD MENU**

*Mediterranean Chicken with Artichokes, Sundried tomatoes & Olives*

*Fresh Salmon in a Lemon Butter Dill Sauce - Rice Pilaf*

*Fresh Roasted Vegetable Medley with Balsamic Glaze*

*Spinach Salad with Pears, Pecans, and Goat Cheese*

*Focaccia Bread*

*Lemon Blueberry Cake made by our favorite*

*Super Baker Extraordinaire: Judy Kerns*



**Guest Speaker** - Our special guest speaker will be the President of Contra Costa Interfaith Council, our own Tania Hanson De Young. We look forward to hearing more about the work this organization does to help newly housed individuals.

**Prize for the best costume:** Winner will be chosen by loudest applause. Come as a Super Hero from Marvel Comics, Avenger or the movies, or come a super hero who has influenced your life, or as a superhero who has influenced the world.

**Super Hero Bingo:** Kathleen Murphy will be sponsoring our game. \$25 for 5 cards, and we will play two games with prizes for the winners.

**Drawing for Reserved Parking Spot**

### ANNOUNCING WORK PARTY DATES

It will take a small army to put this all together. Please give us a hand and get to know some new people. Please sign up on the FOTH website link or just show up.

#### **Sunday, August 31st:**

In Parish Hall, after the last service at 11:15 - assemble balloon chandeliers

#### **Tuesday, September 2nd:**

In Parish Hall, **10:00 am** to as much time as you can give - Bring a sack lunch and a drink. Workday to assemble table centerpieces; put up the big wall scene backdrops.

#### **Friday, September 5th:**

In parish hall and patio. **Major set-up day for FOTH**

10:00 am for as long as you can stay - Lunch will be provided, set up all tables indoors and outdoors; hang bar sign; decorate scene setters; bring piano to stage; kitchen helpers; bring items from the container to the parish hall; set up tech; portable screen on stage, and more.

#### **Saturday, September 6th - DAY OF EVENT:**

Dress all tables; Set up the auction on the patio; Set and test all microphones, tech sound system, Practice run of Bingo Game; Wall of Wine setup; Kitchen helpers; bankers set up; pizza & salad lunch will be served; Bars setup and more. You will be sent home by 1:30 to get your superhero costumes on, or come as yourself at 4:00 pm.

**For questions:** [foth@parishsainttimothysdanville.org](mailto:foth@parishsainttimothysdanville.org)



# BACKPACK DRIVE



**Our best backpack drive yet!**  
**We did it—532 backpacks collected and delivered!**

Thanks to your generosity, our students are now equipped with the tools they need to thrive this school year. We're deeply grateful for the support of so many in our community! Thank you, Saint Timothy's, for sending donations totaling \$1,572.80.



# ST TIMOTHY'S HELPS WITH TINY HOUSES BUILD



Three members of St Timothy's joined 20+ other volunteers from around the Diocese in working on the Tiny House development in Richmond. We had a great day painting the houses inside (Sally) and out (Lisa) and working on the planter boxes that will bring some green to

this treeless lot that was vacant. The project was very well organized with leadership from the Diocese and veterans of Habitat. Bill (shown with Sally above) and his daughter, Susie are also from a family with family ties to Habitat for Humanity. Both my father and my brother have worked on Habitat projects. Bill remembers helping his father rehabilitate a house. The drive to the project was easy early on Saturday morning and there was parking on site. The temperature in Richmond was much better than in the San Ramon Valley. To read more about the project, go to <https://www.tinyvillagespirit.org/projects/richmond>.

# OPTIONS RECOVERY SERVICES UPDATE

## **Friday, September 19 at 4:30pm**

Donor Appreciation Night at Veterans Building in Berkeley. The event is free to donors which includes anyone from St. Timothy's. Register on Options Recovery Services website. We hope to see you there to celebrate 29 years of service to community.  
Peg and Bob Miller and Patty Farris

**On September 28th**, George Smith who is the Director of the Academy of Hope (Transitional Housing for OMCP graduates) will join us at both services. A 5 minute video will be shown during worship about this part of Options Recovery Services. George and other OMCPers will be available for questions during coffee hour following both services.

# CONFIDENTIAL PRAYER

Do you or someone you know need special prayers? Our Confidential Prayer Team is honored to pray for you. Let us know your need, and a group of pray-ers will pray for the next few weeks (or longer if needed) for you or your loved one. Just send an email to [prayers@sainttimothysdanville.org](mailto:prayers@sainttimothysdanville.org) Contact: Helen Coleman

## VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

**August 20, 2025**

The Vestry met on Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at 6:30pm in Grace House.

### MOTIONS:

- The Vestry unanimously approved the minutes from June 18th Vestry Meeting, the reports and documents submitted by the treasurer, and several submitted rector and commission reports submitted prior to the meeting.
- The Vestry unanimously approved to endorse the Social Justice and Affordable Housing resolutions to be presented to the upcoming Convention of the Diocese of California by our delegates.

### Financials

#### **St. Timothy's Danville Treasurer's Report**

August 20, 2025

#### **Financial Summary for the Seven Months ending July 31, 2025**

	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$651,991</b>	<b>\$461,476</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>\$501,220</u></b>	<b><u>\$518,282</u></b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>\$150,771</b>	<b>(\$56,806)</b>

### Comments

- St. Timothy's continues to be in decent financial condition through July 2025.
- Following a very strong income in the first four months of the year, income in May and June was down by about \$23,000 each month.
- July income was positive, by over \$15,000, a reversal of the losses in May and June.

### **FYI**

- Continued negotiations are taking place with Building Kidz.
- Bishop Rios is scheduled to visit St Timothy's at the 10:00 service on September 21<sup>st</sup>.
- The sewage line at Grace House broke because the concrete path above it subsided. Initial bid to correct was \$40,000.

Parish members are welcome to attend Vestry meetings. The next meeting is on Wednesday September 17, 2025, at 6:30 in the Conference Room in Grace House.

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

Respectfully submitted by Kris Manning

# ST. TIMOTHY'S MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

In Danville and surrounding areas, we recognize many people experience grueling work schedules along with significant duties of raising families and/or caring for aging parents.

The culture places a high value on performance and over-achievement which can lead to a myriad of physical and mental health problems. We want to offer an alternative, an oasis, which springs from our faith. Put another way, we want to demonstrate to our culture that it's ok to take time out and rest and even that one's worth is not based on achievement.

This spans generations as youth in our area are often under enormous pressure to get top grades, participate in myriads of activities, all to get into the best colleges in the country.

Accordingly, we have the following general goals:

- Cultivate rest and renewal in a busy culture.
- Support mental health
- Address loneliness
- Encourage listening to one another as a means of support.

## CONTACT US

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**Pastoral Care Line**  
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