



Early Lent 2020

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

Early Lent Tidings

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Lent is almost here, and we have a wealth of information on our website for you. If you haven't visited the site in a while, check it out. The website has the [Lenten Lectionary](#) well as all that is going on from [Ash Wednesday to Easter](#). Furthermore, you can find our [sermon archive](#), [newsletters](#), and [calendars](#). We hope you find it easy to use and helpful. Go to our [homepage](#) for the rest.

If you haven't received your "[Ashes to Easter](#)" brochure in your home mailbox yet, we don't have your latest mailing address. Can you please send an email to parish@sainttimothysdanville.org if there are any corrections you would like made to your contact info?

Prayer for Lent

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, study, fasting and self-denial, and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word.

For some of us Lenten observance means taking something out of our lives — "giving something up". For others, it means adding a spiritual practice or discipline. For all of us, it is a time to reset and return to God. Throughout the forty days of Lent, return often to the well of grace that your church offers.

Annual Meeting and Thank you

Thank you for Sally who always keeps the trains running on time and will continue as clerk in 2020.

Thank you to our incredibly clear treasurer Neal, who did an excellent job at Annual Meeting of making complex financial information accessible. He will continue to be our treasurer in 2020. Even with our financial gap to bridge, he is helping us chart a great path forward this year.

Thank you to Tom who saved us the big bucks as Jr. Warden! He helped us find a great contractor to work on the rectory, roofs, and parish hall and continues to help us pinch pennies.

Thank you to Dick our Sr. Warden. He deserves a medal for listening to all my ideas and collaborates with me so graciously.

We had some staff changes. I am thrilled to have Jeanette as parish administrator and Steve as bookkeeper on the team. I continue to be grateful for Susan and Darita's ministry.

Thank you to our outgoing vestry Lisa, Cathy, and Allison for a great three years of service.

Thanks you to Scott and Rayne coming onboard for vestry. Scott will be the commissioner for fellowship and Rayne is the commissioner for children and youth.

Thank you to Bev, Carleen, Joann and Jacque who work tirelessly behind the scenes.

Thank you to Susan, Sally, Neal, Kathy, and Alison for being a crack HR team who helped us find and hire Jeanette.

Thank you to Mike and his stewardship work and his passion for St. Timothy's.

Sad new for St. Timothy's

Cynthia Chavez, our director of Noah's Ark will be leaving her role this summer. Noah's Ark is in good shape and she is only leaving to devote more time to her family. A newly

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constituted search team and your vestry are working hard to find the best person to fill these important shoes.

Where is my last name!?

I have received an enormous amount email traffic about over my decision to remove last names from much of our online and written communication. I did not make this decision lightly. This move was only motivated by the flood text and email scams coming from thieves targeting our community. Online scamming is our reality now, but I do not want to give them any extra ability to fake intimacy and knowledge of us in order to scam. That was the only reason for the removal of last names. I know it has caused some of your pain, and for that I'm sorry. Your privacy and security is my chief concern. Now — have a holy lent!

Todd

Wednesday Evenings in Lent

Wednesday Evenings in Lent: Adults at 7:00pm

I asked Rob K because he walks and “Flies his faith” all over the country. I asked Lauren M because she has a deep, un-flashy commitment to faith through her regular work as well as her liturgical service. Joann O lives her commitments and serves through Winter Night Shelter, Rise Against Hunger — not to mention the multitude of other ways she serves. Suzanne M’s commitment to systemic change as well as making a difference through micro-loans needs to be heard more. Teresa R recently jumped into the life of St. Timothy’s. The priest from Foster City speaks so highly of her, I’d be silly not to ask her to share her story about how faith and practice has been portable.

These slots might change a little bit and we have back ups if they do. But the latest is:

Rob K, March 4

Pilot with a purpose. Faithfully walking with God through a complex life.

Lauren M, March 11

Quiet dedication. Connecting serving at the Altar with serving at work.

Joann O, March 18

Serving the margins through winter nights shelter and rise against hunger.

Suzanne M, March 25

Breaking the margins through political activism and small loans.

Teresa R, April 1

Wherever you go there you are. Portable faith practice.

Wednesday Evenings in Lent: Children

Children 4 years old to 5th grade 5:30pm to 6:45pm
March 4th, March 11th, March 18th, March 25th, April 1st

5:30pm - 6:30pm

4 years old to 5th grade - craft, songs, and teachings led by Pastor Todd.

6:30pm—6:45pm

Light refreshments in Grace House entry hall

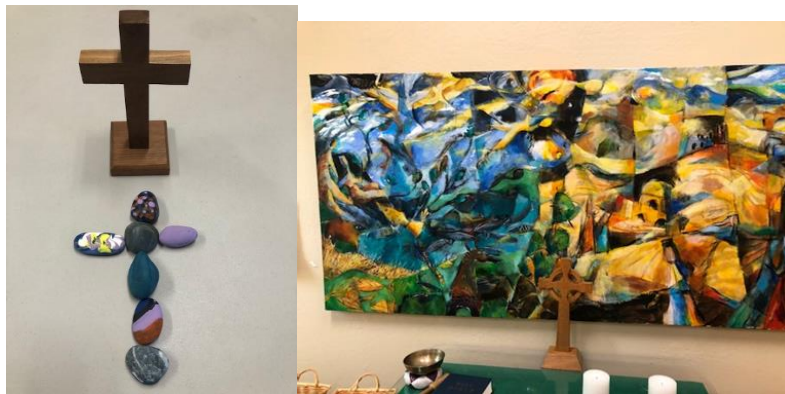
SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHILDREN'S LITURGY

During Lent March 1st – April 7th we will have Sunday School for our older Elementary School children grades 3-5 (older or younger children are welcome). We will have lessons telling the story of Jesus and some special activities that support our Bible stories. Our young people will participate in the Palm Sunday Liturgy. This a special unit for our older elementary youth!

Join us for faith and fun!

Children's Liturgy for our younger children with Lenten focused activities will continue and we will all move to Grace House, including nursery care, during Warm Winter Nights, March 15 and March 22 when families are here at Saint Timothy's in the Parish Hall.

Growing in faith at all ages!



THURSDAY EVENINGS IN LENT

Thursdays
6:00pm– 7:00pm

Contemplation/Meditation
prayer, candles, and some music in the church
In Holy Week on Wednesday, April 8th

6:30pm– 7:30pm
Contemplation/Meditation
prayer in the same form as the Thursday evening
experience. (note Wednesday time change)

TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE

Taizé Prayer Service, March 6th, 6pm
Mercy Center, 2300 Adeline Drive,
Burlingame, CA

This is wonderful and contemplative evening
of shared prayer and song. We will leave St.
Timothy's at 6pm to go to the service, which
starts at 8pm.

Contact: Eric Soderstrom
d4dolphin1833@gmail.com

STATIONS OF THE CROSS ON FRIDAYS

Fridays at 12pm during Lent outside
February 28th
March 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th,
April 3rd and 1pm on Good Friday, April 10th

WINTER NIGHTS SHELTER



“The minimum requirement for a dream is a safe place to lay your head.”

Olu Timehin Adegbeye – Writer, Activist

St. Timothy's and Beth Chaim Congregation are once again co-hosting the Winter Nights Shelter from March 9 – 23.

How we help: With the help of the parish and Beth Chaim volunteers, St. Timothy's will open the Parish Hall and kitchen to become a Winter Nights Shelter serving approximately 35 guests. St. Timothy's parishioners will be responsible for the first week and Beth Chaim will take the second week. Set-up and break-down of the Shelter will be a joint effort among Beth Chaim and St. Timothy's volunteers. We will provide breakfast, lunch, and dinner; laundry services; showers; assistance with homework; space for play and relaxation and other needed services. Transportation, counseling, and other important services are provided by Winter Nights Shelter program.

To learn more about the various volunteer opportunities and to sign up online go to the [St. Timothy's website](#) or click on the links below. Signups will also be available between services.

[Setup & Takedown](#)

[Meal Teams](#)

[Monetary Donation](#)

[Weekend Coverage](#)

[Overnight](#)

[Food Donations](#)

[Children's Activities & Homework Help](#)

[Supply Donations](#)

[Wash Family Towels](#)

The Need: On any given night there are almost 7,000 homeless people in Contra Costa County, including 1100 families with minors. Unfortunately, there is not enough shelter space in Contra Costa County.

What is Winter Nights Shelter? Operated by the Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County, the Winter Nights Shelter program is a rotating homeless shelter that uses the facilities and helping hands of over 17 faith organizations to provide shelter for homeless families from October through June. Those served by the program move every two weeks from one congregation to the next during this period. The program serves those most at risk in the cold weather: families with children and seniors.

For more information contact Joann Oliver at 925-808-8810 or joannmarieoliver@gmail.com.

For more information about the Winter Nights Shelter and the Interfaith Coalition of Contra Costa County go to <http://www.cccwinternights.org/>



MINI CRAFT FAIR

Sunday 29 March, 2020

In Grace House Conference Room 8:am-1:00 pm

The Fair will feature craft items from our vendor AFRICAN TEAM MINISTRIES (ATM)

ATM was founded in 1984 by Bishop Festo Kivengere of Uganda. It is a Christian ministry working as an intermediary between African and American Churches. The support received is sent directly to partnering Bishops and provides funding for orphan and refugee relief missions and evangelism in East Africa.

This Ministry also provides school fees, tuition, books and uniforms which ensures that children receive an education. ATM currently has children registered for sponsorship in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Rwanda. Through your support we give the gift of HOPE.

Currently the President is Keith Jesson and his wife Susanne located in Monrovia California. I am connected with them from the General Convention of our church and other conventions and church gatherings.

Please plan to do your spring shopping during our Mini Craft Fair!

Coffee Hour/ Gathering will also be in Grace House on Sunday March 29th

For further information Contact, Mary Louise Gotthold, globetrottinglady@sbcglobal.net

RESULTS OF SHARE THE WARMTH SOCK DRIVE

YOU SHARED THE WARMTH!!!

Thank you Saint Timothy's for your warm hearts and for all the donations of warm items, plus 8 bags of toiletries that were shared with **Loaves & Fishes and Trinity Center**. They were delivered and are so appreciated by those who received them. We collected 245 pairs of socks (WOW), 13 pairs of gloves, 23 knitted scarves, 11 knitted hats, 17 jackets, and 2 throws. **Your generosity is awesome!**

February 2020 TRINITY CENTER REPORT



A new program, "Safe Parking" is offered in conjunction with St John Vianney Catholic Church in Walnut Creek. Trinity Center is managing the Safe Parking program that supports those of our neighbors who are living in their vehicles. The Church allows the program to use their parking lot off of Ygnacio Valley Rd over night and Trinity Center vets the participants and funds the security guard that makes for the safe parking. This is the first year for the program and even though it is new there are some significant victories for the programs far:

One participant housed.

A new participant who exhibited mental health issues on intake, but after a nights of safe uninterrupted sleep has now landed two jobs.

A participant who spent one night in the program and with counseling of the Trinity Center staff has entered a substance abuse program.

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 coffee and fellowship. We always need more help! Here are the dates that still need to be filled:

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29



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

SAVE THE DATE – FRUITS OF THE HARVEST

FRUITS OF THE HARVEST (FOTH)

Saturday, MAY 16, 2020



Fundraiser for all Outreach Ministries

Our theme: ***“CIAO, ITALIA! Come tour and taste.”***

We’re going to Italy for the night as tourists. Don’t forget your cameras and passports.

This is our 23rd year of raising funds for grants to all the Outreach Ministries we support. Over 22 years we have raised almost \$700,000 for this purpose.

Because of you, we were able to give grants of over \$62,450 to support 15 ministries in late 2019. These organizations are changing lives by preventing

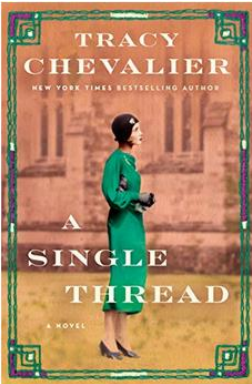
homelessness, alleviating hunger, providing low-income housing, offering crisis counseling, offering drug and alcohol recovery, helping the LGBTQ community in Danville, giving respite help and services for mentally impaired, providing The Comfort Cubs as therapy, providing nursing scholarships in Uganda, helping to eradicate AIDS in Malawi, and providing needed services to all of the above.

FOTH not only raises money of those in need, it brings the whole parish together for fun and fellowship. We hold our annual event with a different theme every year and some of us even dress to match the theme. We have done Western, Star Wars, Mexican, Hawaiian, Pirates, Back to the 60’s, Under the Sea, Hollywood, Oktoberfest and more. We have a catered dinner, silent auction, raffles, Fund-A-Need, Wall of Wine, free childcare, surprises, and fun. **This is a great opportunity for newcomers to become involved and to get to know people.** It’s a huge undertaking and we hope you will all join in and help put on this party with a purpose...and our purpose is to help our brothers and sisters better their lives.

LOOK FOR US to take FOTH public on THE LAST SUNDAY IN MARCH, the 29th. We will have invitations out by then. We will also have the FOTH rolling bulletin board out front or in the parish hall after services with sign-up sheets on one side to volunteer for the many jobs, and on the other side there will be signup sheets to donate auction items for the silent auction. We will have a website where you may purchase tickets or make donations online and get the latest information. Watch for articles in future e-blasts, Tidings, the 411 online newsletter, and the Sunday Bulletin for current news on FOTH.

For info, contact: FOTH@saintimothysdanville.org, or email Leslie Firth, lesliefirth@comcast.net, or Sally Potts, sallyspotts@gmail.com

BOOK GROUP MARCH 15TH



Book Group – March 15th – “A Single Thread” by Tracy Chevalier

Join the St. Timothy’s Book Group on Sunday, March 15th to discuss “A Single Thread” by Tracy Chevalier, author of “The Girl with a Pearl Earring” and listen to the stories from the ladies of St. Timothy’s who made the kneelers we use here, the kneelers in Grace Cathedral and other projects in the Grace Cathedral sewing room.

Amazon description of “A Single Thread”:

1932. After the Great War took both her beloved brother and her fiancé, Violet Speedwell has become a "surplus woman," one of a generation doomed to a life of spinsterhood after the war killed so many young men. Yet Violet cannot reconcile herself to a life spent caring for her grieving, embittered mother. After countless meals of boiled eggs and dry toast, she saves enough to move out of her mother's place and into the town of Winchester, home to one of England's grandest cathedrals. There, Violet is drawn into a society of broderers--women who embroider kneelers for the Cathedral, carrying on a centuries-long tradition of bringing comfort to worshippers.

Violet finds support and community in the group, fulfillment in the work they create, and even a growing friendship with the vivacious Gilda. But when forces threaten her new independence and another war appears on the horizon, Violet must fight to put down roots in a place where women aren't expected to grow. Told in Chevalier's glorious prose, A Single Thread is a timeless story of friendship, love, and a woman crafting her own life.



Rocky Railway VBS June 15-19



Jesus' power helps us do hard things.
Jesus' power gives us hope.
Jesus' power helps us be bold.
Jesus' power lets us live forever.
Jesus' power helps us be good friends.

Hang on tight—more info to come!

Contact Pastor Susan Geissler-O'Neil sgeissleroneil@sainttimothysdanville.org

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2020 ANNUAL MEETING

Highlights of the 2020 St. Timothy's Annual Meeting – Sunday, January 26, 2020

Pastor Todd announced the Dick Firth had agreed to serve as **Senior Warden**

The meeting approved the nominated **new vestry members**: Scott M & Rayne D

The meeting approved the nominated **Convention Delegates**: Jim Coleman, Betty Davis, Mary Louise Gotthold, Cecilia Oduwole, Mike Oliver, and Jerry Vallery.

The **Treasurer, Neal Matsunaga** discussed 2019 and the 2020 budgets:

- Regarding the 2019 budget: 13 pledges were received after the budget was finalized in January 2019. In the 2019 budget, expenses were projected to exceed income by \$24,066. In 2019, income exceeded expenditures by \$7994.95
- Regarding the 2020 budget: Income is projected to be about the same as in 2019 but the number of pledges has increased. Expenses have increased. The vestry approved budget deficit of \$40,000.
- Based on the 2018 Maintenance Study our facility maintenance expenditures may exceed the budget and the available (unallocated) maintenance reserves (\$70,000)

The **Rector, Pastor Todd** reported the following:

- The average Sunday attendance increased in 2019 compared to 2018.
- The biggest driver of church growth is a personal invitation from a member to others.
- Pledges as of the Annual Meeting in 2020 are higher than at the same time in 2019. The average pledge amount is down due to the departure of older members.
- The summer youth trip this year will probably be to San Diego or Nevada.

The **Senior Warden, Dick Firth** thanked the following:

Staff	Treasurer – Neal M
Stewardship - Mike O	Pledge Analyst - Carleen C
Endowment – Jim P	Facilities – Bev M
Clerk – Sally Shea P	Liturgical Art – Kathy W and Leslie F
Rectory bathroom project - Tom L, Sandy V	
Parish Hall upgrade and Parish Hall and Breezeway roof repairs - Tom L, Ed L	
Coffee setup, campus plant watering, office help and so much more! - Jacque C	
Parish Admin Search Committee – Kathy W, Neal M, Alison H, Susan O, Sally P	

We are one of the biggest Outreach parishes in the diocese. Thank you to everyone.

Pastor Todd and Dick Firth recognized and thanked the **outgoing vestry members**:

- Allison F – Rector's warden in 2019 and worship on vestry in 2019
- Cathy H – Children & Youth and Noah's Ark board on vestry, rector's search committee
- Lisa Marie P – Adult Formation and EFM

QUESTION: Why aren't last names of those serving in the Announcements

ANSWER: To reduce the volume of scam emails to parish members and avoid identity theft.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's Report February 19, 2020

Financial Highlights

- January actuals too early to accurately determine if there are any trends yet.
- Pledge income of \$658,621 is based on 159 pledges. 1 pledge for \$480 was received after the budget was approved. 19 pledges for \$94,944.28 have been paid in full and 46 pledges for \$192,240 have not made any payments yet.
- 2020 budget vs actual results, through the end of January, are:

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Pledge Income	\$54,885	\$ 46,073	\$(8,812)
Other Income	\$ 5,880	\$ 6,425	\$ 545
Expenses	\$64,517	\$ 68,241	\$(3,724)
Net Income	\$(3,752)	\$(15,744)	

Income

Pledge Income under budget due primarily to about \$4,200 from pledges that have not made any payments yet.

Other Income difference due to:

Facilities cost sharing \$517 over budget.

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

Personnel expenses \$(791) under budget

Altar Guild expenses \$1,133 over budget due to December flower bill paid in 2020.

Administrative expenses \$753 over budget due mainly to quarterly postage meter lease paid in January.

Facilities expenses \$(873) under budget due to no EBMUD payment due to bimonthly billing due next month.

Finance expenses \$4,352 over budget due to quarterly \$7,743 insurance bill paid in January.

VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – January 2020

St Timothy's Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting Highlights – January 2020

The vestry met in Grace House on Wednesday, January 15, at 6:30 pm, on January 26 after the Annual Meeting and during the Vestry Retreat on January 31st.

MOTIONS:

- On January 15th, the vestry approved the Finance Committee recommendation to allocate the 2019 budget surplus (\$7994.95) to the Facilities and Maintenance Reserve account.
- On January 15th, the vestry approved the revised Letter of Agreement (LOA) for Pastor Susan which corrected an error in her earlier LOA related to her sabbatical and the LOA addendum for each staff member specifying their pay and benefits during 2020.
- On January 15th, the vestry approved the revised 2020 budget submitted by the Treasurer – with an anticipated deficit of \$44,534.
- On January 15th, the vestry approved the motion to have 11 parish approved members in 2020. In 2019, there were 12 parish approved members.
- On January 26th, the vestry approved the nomination of Tom L as Junior Warden.
- On January 26th, the vestry approved the corrected budget with a deficit of \$45,034. This is the budget that was printed in the Annual Report for the Parish meeting.
- On January 26th, the vestry approved the signers for the several church accounts. There were no changes from the signers in 2019.
- On January 31st, the vestry elected Neal M as treasurer for the coming year.
- On January 31st, the vestry elected Sally Shea P as vestry clerk for the coming year.
- On January 31st, the vestry elected Kari D and Rayne D as vestry members of the Noah's Ark board and Cathy H as one of 2 parish members of the board. A second parish board member will be elected at a subsequent date.

Parish members are welcome to attend Vestry meetings. The next meeting is on Wednesday, March 18, 2020. The minutes of the vestry meetings 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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Carleen Carns – Pledge Secretary (Volunteer)

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