

TIDINGS



November 2024

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

It's been a whirlwind month of parties with a purpose, jamming to food packing, questing for creepy crawlies, stewardship celebrations and a month + of diocesan activities.

Parties and Outings

As many of you know, some of the most popular items offered at our annual FOTH outreach fundraiser are the experiences donated by our St. Timothy's family (i.e., events, outings, dinners, get togethers, etc.) Last month, we included photos and a summary of the amazing NASA Ames tour donated by Rob Koteskey. Now we tell you about another FOTH sign up party - Dinner at the rectory with the new Bishop.

Dinner at the Rectory with Bishop & Mrs. Rios

We had a wonderful night with Bishop and Mrs. Rios (aka Austin and Maleah). They graciously came to the rectory for this dinner that had been actioned as part of FOTH's fundraiser. Half of the dinner's proceeds went to FOTH and the other half went to Bishop Rios's discretionary fund. I say this with embarrassing earnestness: Bishop Austin is a wonderful man, gifted pastor and the leader we need right now.



Tarantula Hike

Wally put on his metaphorical docent hat to take a full complement of parishioners up the canyon to look for tarantulas. This year was inordinately hot which suppressed arachnid activity. Even without a lot of tarantulas, we learned a lot, had a good hike and enjoyed each others' company.



The Blessing of the Animals

It was small and mighty. Even though the oppressive heat forced us off the patio into parish hall, the sense of community was strong as families gathered to celebrate and honor God's creatures. Each animal received a personal blessing, making it a special day for the dogs and their owners. I don't think it was a special day for Richard's cat - but still got the blessing.

Stewardship

Thank you to our stewardship team, especially John Yow for taking the lead as our chair. Thank you Kathleen, Tania, Charlie and Rena for sharing with us as our stewardship speakers. It was a wonderful Covenant Sunday worship service, followed by a great lunch (thank you Cesar!) and fellowship on October 20th. Y'all seemed to be having a lot of fun.

League of Women Voters

Thank you NEW women for bringing the League of Women Voters to St. Timothy's. You can go to our [videos page](#) if you want to see any unbiased information while you are planning on filling out your ballot.

Convention

Your delegates, Liz, Kari, Mike, and John, as well as your clergy gathered at Grace Cathedral on October 26 to elect diocesan positions and make canonical changes. All of the resolutions passed handily. The spirit of the meeting was officious and joyful. We talked about our hopes and dreams for the future in small groups and jammed to some good guitar music as well as excellent cathedral music.

Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing Event

Thanks to the hardworking effort of the volunteers and donors, we were able to package a total of 15,000 meals. That's enough to feed 70 children for an entire school year. Since we started hosting the event in 2016, St. Timothy's has packaged 150,396 meals for Rise Against Hunger.

Since we are located in the Bay Area, the meals are likely to be sent to Southeast Asia to areas of food insecurity, orphanages and schools. Rise Against Hunger is also focusing on



distributing meals to Ukrainian refugees displaced by war. We'll provide an update when we know exactly where our meals were sent.

This international service project will make a difference in many lives. On behalf of the Outreach Ministries Committee, thank you for answering the call to serve. We hope you all so had some fun in the process!

Todd

MESSAGE FROM OUR STEWARSHIP CHAIR

Our Stewardship Drive is off to a strong start. Covenant Sunday was a great reminder of the strength of our community, and our initial numbers show that many of you have chosen to prioritize St. Timothy's in 2025.

**At the moment, we have 103 pledges totaling \$616,000.
Our goal is 150 pledges totaling \$850,000,
so we do hope to keep up the momentum.**

For any of you considering a pledge, we ask you get it in as soon as possible as we are already working on next year's budget. Please reach out to me if you have any questions and I look forward to seeing you on Sunday!

John Yow, Stewardship Chair

FALL OVERVIEW

For more information on these events, keep flipping through this edition of the Tidings and watch for the weekly Thursday email.

All Saints' Sunday

November 3 Sunday
Necrology at both services

HiCap Presentation

(Health Insurance Advocacy Program)
November 3 Sunday
11:30am (Church and livestream)

Election Day

November 5 Tuesday
St. Timothy's Parish Hall open for voting

Rice & Beans Packing

November 10 Sunday
After 8am & 10am worship, Parish Hall

Men's Lunch

November 16 Saturday
12pm, Parish Hall

FriendsGiving Interfaith Potluck

November 24 Sunday
5 - 6:30pm, St. Joan of Arc

Deanery Youth Group

November 17 Sunday
1 - 3pm at St. Timothy's

Advent Begins!

December 1 Sunday

Christmas Box Packing

December 7 Saturday
(Parish Hall or offsite)

St. Nicholas and Photos

December 8 Sunday
During and after services
(Church, Parish Hall, Patio)

Christmas Tea with a Visit from Santa

December 14 Saturday
2 - 4pm, Grace House

Christmas Eve Schedule

December 24 Tuesday
3pm and 7pm

Christmas Day Schedule

December 25 Wednesday
10am

STEWARDSHIP UPDATES

Have I Paid My Pledge?

This is a common question asked at this time of year. If you need an answer, it's easy to get.

Option 1: For people who use Breeze, just log in, click on your profile, make sure you are looking at the head of household, then click Giving (along the left) and then Pledges (above the list of your donations). You will see your pledges for each year and the amount paid towards those pledges.

Option 2: Send an email to PledgeS@SaintTimothysDanville.org requesting your current pledge status, and Carleen Carns will gladly send you a reply with that information.

Attention Online Giving Donors

As you make your pledge for 2025, be sure to log in to Online Giving and set up your payments for the 2025 General Fund (use the drop-down menu to select 2025). Need help? Contact Carleen Carns at PledgeS@SaintTimothysDanville.org.

COVENANT SUNDAY LUNCH



SABBATH TIME

Our liturgical calendar invites us to enter into the stories of the Bible and the stories of Jesus yearly. Our readings from scripture on Sundays are part of a 3-year cycle with Saints Days and Holy days to remind us that our walk with Christ is a journey that is always changing. We are called to pause and pray and reflect as we act. We could call those moments—mini-Sabbaths—time set aside to rest and be attentive to God in our lives while walking, praying, painting, listening or... Our attentiveness opens our hearts, minds, and bodies to God's time, slowing down our racing minds and rushing bodies. Attentiveness or mindfulness can return us to Christ's presence even as we manage our election anxiety.

All Hallows Eve, All Saints' Day and All Soul's Day are all unique times to remember all the saints who are in God's nearer presence. When we take the time to walk and pray in God's presence, we may sense the past, present, and future all at once. This is what we mean by the Communion of Saints. Those who have gone before us, ancestors of our faith are still with us, the faith of those we do not know and the people we know are with us, and future saints God holds in God's own being, they are all in a moment we call a mystery. Celtic spirituality calls these times a veil between this world and the next world or a time of thin spaces when we experience the power of the holy in the present. Richard Rohr writes,

“Living in the communion of saints means that we can take ourselves very seriously (we are part of a Great Whole) and not take ourselves too seriously at all (we are *just a part* of the Great Whole) at the very same time.”

Taking time for a mini-Sabbaths might mean not taking seriously commercial time that rushes us from Halloween into Thanksgiving and Christmas, with all its hurry and anxiety. It could mean attentiveness in this moment allows us to remember, grieve, celebrate, praise, forgive, hope, dream and rest as God is calling us in this moment. May the gratitude of our hearts include all those who have gone before us and who are part of our journey.

Susan +



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



The last few weeks during the Season of Creation we have celebrated God in the world and all things growing! We read the creation story, read Psalms and remembered the power of the Spirit in the world and in our lives. We continue to remember the seasons of the Church and to light candles that remind us of the light of Christ in the world. We grew spider plants and saw that putting the limp plants into water enabled the plants to grow roots which grew and grew!

In the next few weeks, we will learn about Saints and talk more about prayer and Jesus teaching us the Lord's Prayer and wants us to always talk to God.

YOUTH MINISTRY



NOVEMBER 17
at St. Timothy's, 1 - 3pm
Deanery Youth Group

We are going to get crafty for youth group. Our regular monthly meeting of Deanery Youth will be at St. Timothy's in November. We will have food and build stuff!

Often times during the summer immersion trips, our youth need more skills than they currently possess. We're going to teach them some basics like measuring, sawing, hammering, turning in screws. (We will not be using electric saws.) We've been shopping and are ready to build with the youth!

If all goes well, each church will leave with a prayer box they can take back to their church or their youth room.

SAVE THE DATE

NOVEMBER 17 AT ST. TIMOTHY'S
JANUARY 19 AT ST. ANSELM'S, LAFAYETTE
FEBRUARY 16 AT TBD
MARCH 16 AT ST. ANNA'S, ANTIOCH
MAY 18 AT TBD - END OF YEAR PARTY

INTERFAITH FRIENDSGIVING

Interfaith
FRIENDSGIVING
Celebration

**HARMONY
THANKSGIVING
GRATITUDE**



**FOOD
LIVE MUSIC
FRIENDS**

**NOVEMBER
24**

5:00 - 6:30 PM

at St. Joan of Arc

THE I-SRV (INTERFAITH-SAN RAMON VALLEY) COMMUNITY WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO A FAMILY FRIENDLY CELEBRATION OF FRIENDSHIP & GRATITUDE.

RELAXED EVENING, REFLECTION & NOURISHING THE HARMONY AMONG US. WITH LIVE MUSIC!
BRING A SAVORY OR A SWEET TO SHARE.



I-SRV

**2601 SAN RAMON VALLEY BLVD
MEET IN THE MULTIPURPOSE ROOM.
LOOK FOR THE CANOPY.**

LITURGICAL ART FOR THE CHANGING SEASONS

The new liturgical year begins with Advent. We will be installing liturgical art for the seasons to beautify the sanctuary and to enhance your worship experience.

Helpers are needed to install the banners and to bring the big ladder. Please let me know if you can lend a hand for about an hour and a half. No special skills are needed. Just following Leslie's directions is all it takes. The schedule dates for installing are below.

For the change to Advent

Help needed on **Sunday, November 24th**, after the 10am service

Help need to install Advent hanging above altar and 6 panels on the side pillars. Freshen up Christmas wreaths, put blue ribbons on, and hang on side panels.

For the change to Christmas

Help needed on **Sunday, December 22nd** after the 10am service

Help needed to install the star above the altar. Red bows go on the Christmas wreaths. Poinsettia display will be assembled on the 22nd and 23rd.

For the change to Lent / Ash Wednesday

Help needed on **Sunday, March 2** after last service on March 2nd 5th.

Help need to Install Crown of Thorns banner.

For the change to Easter Sunday

Help needed on **Saturday, April 19th** at 11:00am

Help need to take down Crown of Thorns banner and install Circle of New Life Banner for the Vigil that evening

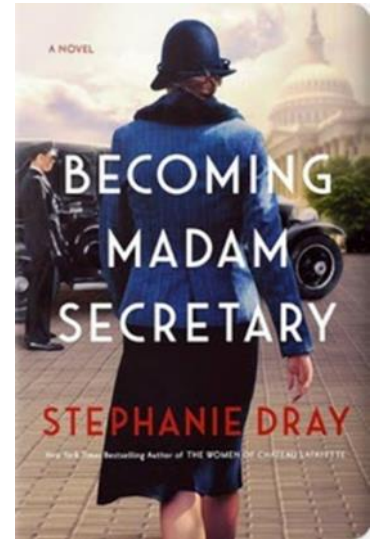


Contact: Leslie F. lesliefirth@comcast.net

NOVEMBER BOOK GROUP

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17 “BECOMING MADAM SECRETARY”

How did the daughter of a stationary shop owner from Maine become the first female cabinet secretary? Join the members of the St. Timothy’s book group to learn about Frances Perkins who was the Secretary of Labor for FDR and fought for the reforms in labor regulations in New York and the nation before and during the depression and World War II and persuaded FDR to fight for Social Security. Not only did she fight for social reforms, but she was an Episcopalian (she converted in 1905, and her feast day is May 13) and combined an active work life with family and motherhood. The life of Frances Perkins touched those of so many famous American politicians and writers – Eleanor Roosevelt, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Sinclair Lewis, Al Smith, President Teddy Roosevelt.



This book is not a dry history of a historical character. The author, Stephanie Dray, has brought other women to life including Eliza Hamilton, wife of Alexander Hamilton, Martha “Patsy” Jefferson, and Adrienne Lafayette, wife of the Marquis de Lafayette. Dray does meticulous research for each of her books and really brings her characters to life in the pages.

Join us to discuss this book after the 10 am service on Sunday, November 17th.
Questions – send email to Sally Shea Potts – sallyspotts@gmail.com

RISE AGAINST HUNGER RECAP



Transformation Starts with a Meal!

On Sunday, October 27, we packed 15,000 meals in just two hours. That’s enough to feed 70 children for an entire school year. The meals will be distributed through Rise Against Hunger’s international partners to orphanages, schools and areas of food insecurity.

Thank you St. Timothy’s!





ST FRANCIS CELEBRATION & BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



FOTH AUCTION ITEM: DINNER AT THE RECTORY WITH BISHOP AUSTIN & MALEAH



TARANTULA HIKE AT MITCHELL CANYON WITH WALLY D



FOTH 2024 & OUTREACH GRANTS FOR MINISTRIES

HOWDY! We had a good time at our 27th annual fundraising event, **“The stars at night are big and bright, deep in the heart of Outreach.”** We even had line dancing. We netted \$57,318.00! The annual allocation from the church Operating Budget and carry-over funds from prior years were added to the proceeds and this gave us \$76,090.00 available for grants.

This is the best Outreach meeting of the year because we sent these funds to all these organizations and are helping them do the good works they do to help people in need. We couldn't do it without all the volunteers who worked hard to plan and make this party fun with community and fellowship. To the members and friends of St. Timothy's who partied and donated so generously and to those who prayed and played with us:

THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH!

2024 Outreach Grants

Agency	Granted	Notes
Contra Costa Interfaith Coalition	\$7,500.00	
Discovery Counseling Center	\$3,500.00	
GAIA Global Health	\$5,800.00	
Habitat for Humanity	\$2,000.00	for St. Tim's build team
Hope Solutions	\$6,000.00	
Loaves and Fishes	\$9,500.00	
Monument Crisis Center	\$8,000.00	
Options Recovery Services	\$5,500.00	
PFLAG	\$800.00	
Rise Against Hunger	\$2,000.00	for our packaging day
Shelter, Inc.	\$5,500.00	
The Comfort Cub	\$3,000.00	
The Respite Inn	\$2,890.00	
Trinity Center	\$10,000.00	
Church Divinity School of the Pacific*	\$1,000.00	
Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County*	\$1,000.00	
School for Deacons*	\$1,000.00	
Episcopal Relief & Development	\$1,000.00	for East coast hurricane relief
allocated		
\$75,990.00		
* funds designated in the church budget for specific organizations		

More information about our Outreach program is available on the church website at: <https://www.sainttimothysdanville.org/what-outreacis.html>.

The Vestry Outreach Commissioner is Teresa Centeno Kim.

RICE & BEANS FOR CHRISTMAS FOOD BOXES

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 10

**On Sunday, November 10,
join us in the parish hall after both morning services
to bag rice and beans.**

QUESTION: *Who can help with this activity?*

EVERYONE – We will scoop rice or beans out of big bowls on the table and put them into a quart zip lock bag. The bags are zipped closed and put into a bucket. When Christmas Food Boxes are filled at church or by parish members, we add 1 bag of rice and one of beans to each box.

QUESTION: *Why do we add bags of rice and beans to the Food Boxes?*

Several years ago, the staff looked for a way to involve the children in the parish in the Christmas Food Boxes Outreach activity. Lori Robinson came up with the idea of bagging rice and beans and adding it to the boxes. We have continued to do that since then.

QUESTION: *Why rice and beans?*

Rice and beans is a dish made from a combination of staple foods in many cultures around the world. The grain and legume provide several important nutrients and many calories, and both foods are widely available. Rice and beans are vegetarian and make up a complete protein. An 1-cup serving of rice and beans has 32 percent of an adult's daily intake of energy-providing, complex carbohydrates. (*Wikipedia*)

Contact: Sally Shea Potts sallyspotts@gmail.com or Cathy Hager cathager@comcast.net



CHRISTMAS FOOD BOXES

November is almost here and that means it's time to prepare for our annual effort to make the holidays a little brighter for our friends who are clients at Monument Crisis Center (MCC). Each year since 2011, St. Timothy's has supplied food for MCC clients. **Last year, we were able to donate 201 boxes. This year our goal is to donate 200+ boxes.**

Great News: San Ramon Safeway will again deliver our grocery order so we can **FILL BOXES ON SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 7!**

MY-OWN-BOX – Families can shop themselves using the list from Monument Crisis Center and donate \$25 to cover the cost of the box, rice and beans and the \$20 grocery gift card. Sign up at church, or online or send an email to Sally or Cathy Hager.

Cost: **\$25 per box**
Deadline to Sign Up: Sunday, December 1
Drop off Dates: Sundays, Nov. 24, Dec. 1, Dec 8
Signup Link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/CFB24MyBoxFill>

FILL-MY-BOX - You can sign up on-line or at church on Sunday or send an email to Sally to have us fill your box for you. The \$95 covers the food, box and a \$20 grocery gift card (We will purchase it for you).

Cost: **\$95 per box**
Deadline to Sign Up: Sunday, November 24 (Sunday before Thanksgiving)
Deadline for Payment: Sunday, December 1.
Signup Link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/CFB24FillMyBox>

RICE AND BEANS – On **Sunday, November 10** after both the Sunday morning services, come to the Parish Hall to help us fill 400 1-quart bags with dried beans and rice. Every St. Timothy's Christmas Food Box gets a little extra something! Everyone can help. It's easy!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – Sign Up links are on the St. Timothy's Outreach – Christmas Food Boxes page

- **Sunday mornings** – Help sign up participants
- **Sunday, November 10** – Bag Rice and Beans (no sign up needed)
- **Saturday morning, December 7** – Fill-My-Box in the Parish Hall

St Timothy's Episcopal Church, packs

**CHRISTMAS FOOD BOXES FOR
Monument Crisis Center**



Monument Crisis Center is giving food to more and more people in Contra Costa County. Let's do our part to make their holiday season a little brighter.

Contacts:
Sally S Potts sallyspotts@gmail.com
Cathy Hager cathager@comcast.net

TOILETRIES DRIVE

for **OPTIONS RECOVERY SERVICES**

November 10 to December 1, 2024

TOILETRIES DRIVE

We hope to make the holidays a little brighter for the clients at Options by gathering toiletry items to be put into gift bags for them. The main request is for small toiletries, but any small stocking stuffer item would be a nice addition to the bags and would be appreciated.

These holiday bag presents are for the 40 women, 10 children, and 79 men in Options Recovery Housing. (St. Timothy's is not the only contributor to the gift bags.)

SUGGESTIONS FOR DONATIONS:

- Toiletries of all kinds for men and women
- Make-up, costume jewelry, playing cards, stocking stuffers
- Knick-knacks, men's cologne, perfume, re-gifted new items you can't use

COLLECTION BOXES LOCATED HERE ON SUNDAYS:

- Parish Hall entry under the bulletin board
- Grace House entry until 11 am on Sundays; and during weekday office hours
Tues.- Thurs. 10 to 3

For more info, contact Peg M., pegeatonmiller@prodigy.net

VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS October 16, 2024

The Vestry met on Wednesday, October 16, 2024, at 6:30pm Via Zoom.

MOTIONS:

- The Vestry unanimously approved the September Vestry meeting minutes, 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 approve the proposed outreach grants.

1. Rector

- Monika Miller has been hired to be the part-time facilities person. Karen is working with Monica on getting to know the facility
- Karen A., Liz K., and Kris M. are going off the vestry. They will become the nominating committee for 2025. Scott M. Has agreed to join the vestry as the junior warden.

2. Treasurer

- Income is still running ahead of budget. Dick would like to hold a parish meeting in November to discuss the financial needs of the parish.

3. Outreach

- Teresa Kim shared Outreach proposed grants to the vestry for approval:
allocated 75,990.00
funds available 76,090.02
remainder 100.02

MOTION: It was moved by Cathy W, seconded by Karen A, and unanimously approved by the vestry to approve the proposed grants.

Parish members are welcome to attend Vestry meetings. The next meeting is on Wednesday November 19th, 2024, 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.

Notes taken by Sally Shea Potts

QR CODES

Let's make life easy! If you are new to QR codes, see instructions below. To use a QR code, you can scan it with your phone's camera and follow the instructions that appear on your screen:

1. Open your phone's camera app
2. Point the camera at the QR code
3. Tap the notification or banner that appears on your screen
4. Follow the instructions on your screen to finish the process



**Parish
Calendar**



**2025 Pledge
Form**



Giving
(St. Timothy's
via Breeze)



Volunteer
at
Loaves &
Fishes



**Fill MY
Own Box**
Christmas
Food Box for
MCC



**Fill a Box
FOR Me**
Christmas
Food Box for
MCC

CONTACT US

The Rev. Todd Bryant - Rector
(925) 837-4993 x114
Rector@SaintTimothysDanville.org

The Rev. Susan Geissler-O'Neil -
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(925) 837-4993 x113
Sgeissleroneil@SaintTimothysDanville.org

Myles Ellis - Director of Music
(925) 837-4993 x115
MusicDir@SaintTimothysDanville.org

Monika Miller - Facilities
(925) 837-4993 x111
Facilities@SaintTimothysDanville.org

Steve Zimmerman - Bookkeeper
(925) 837-4993 x116
Bookkeeper@SaintTimothysDanville.org

Dick Firth - Treasurer (Volunteer)
(925) 837-4993 x117
Treasurer@SaintTimothysDanville.org

Kimberly Bryant - Parish Administrator
(925) 837-4993 x110
Parish@SaintTimothysDanville.org

Carleen Carns - Pledge Secretary (Volunteer)
Pledges@SaintTimothysDanville.org



THE DIOCESE OF
CALIFORNIA
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE BAY AREA

To subscribe to DioCal News, Events &
Resources Newsletter:
[https://www.diocal.org/news-events/
past-diocesan-newsletters/](https://www.diocal.org/news-events/past-diocesan-newsletters/)