

RECTOR'S ARTICLE

Happy September everyone,

I have sort of lost track of time, feeling uncertain about the day and month. Today feels like “Maypril, on a blursday, the thirtyteenth.” Throughout the blur, we have accomplished so much as a community: Noah’s Ark is open, Outreach has been on overdrive, and our worship has become a center of enormous creativity and community bonding.

Regarding Sunday worship, I want to thank the ‘tech vergers’ Don, Rand, Ryan, Lisa and Emma. A huge thank you goes to Jacque, Jeanette, Cathy for all of the behind the scenes support. Thank you goes to the intercessors and readers for helping us feel connected beyond the boundary of the church. Darita and Susan are awesome, but you knew that. I want to also thank the wheelchair. What?...we use a repurposed wheelchair to make much of the video magic happen. When church opens again, the wheelchair will go back to its original job.

Right now, we are pushing toward opening campus by Welcome Back Sunday (September 20th). We may **not** be actually be open for worship by then. We just don’t know. However, we are preparing as if it’s all-systems-go by the 20th. If campus is not open, we will keep doing YouTube worship. We do want to have a **car parade at 11:15am after church on September 20th** either way. We’ve had some practice at this with Nancy and Michelle’s wedding.

As I write, Don and Michael are working diligently on all the physical infrastructure and “guts” to make the live stream happen on campus. Things are progressing nicely.

If you remember, your \$61,000 of livestream generosity is supporting the hardware, technical upgrades, and security improvements to make Sunday morning happen on campus, and in your home at the same time.

Outreach continues in September. You will see inside this Tidings the Fruits of the Harvest update. The short story: you raised over \$51,000 to support our outreach partners. Also, we were able to send a check for just under \$3000 to Hope Solutions for student backpacks. There is more detail in this Tidings.

See you one way or in the other in church!
Todd



CHILDREN, PRAYER AND BIBLE STORIES

This fall we will gather for a short children's time on Zoom following Sunday worship on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. We will begin Sunday, Sept 13th! Our time together will not emphasize screen time; it will be a moment to pray, do a short project and even sing together. This time will be designed for our younger children because we cannot gather for Children's Worship yet--all are welcome!

More to come! Want more information? sgeissleroneil@sainttimothysdanville.org

Children and Chalk! (and Grown-ups too)!

Come decorate the parking lot in anticipation of Sept 20th! Do you have a message of God's care?

We will provide the chalk and plan to decorate the week of Sept 13th. We will set up times after school! There is plenty of room! Bring your ideas, your masks and enthusiasm!

FRUITS OF THE HARVEST – COFFEE TALK



The poster features a white coffee cup with a dark beverage and foam on the right side. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout. The top section has the title 'Coffee or Tea Talk' in a brown, cursive font. Below this is a dark brown horizontal band with the text 'Fruits of the Harvest 2020 FOTH Re-imagined' in a light green, sans-serif font. The bottom section is white with black text providing a thank-you message, information about the FOTH website, and contact details for Leslie Firth and Sally Shea Potts.

Coffee or Tea Talk

Fruits of the Harvest 2020
FOTH Re-imagined

Thank you for joining us at our two Zoom coffee hours and for contributing to the Outreach fundraiser. We are so grateful for all your generous donations that have come in to support the beneficiaries. To date, you have donated over \$51,250! We will be thrilled to send grants in the near future to all the Outreach Ministries to help them do the amazing work they are doing.

The FOTH website is retired, but anyone wishing to contribute may still do so by mailing a check with "FOTH" on the memo line to Saint Timothy's.

Thank you to the Outreach Committee for all their work on FOTH.

For information, contact Leslie Firth, lesliefirth@comcast.net, or Sally Shea Potts, sallyspotts@gmail.com.

Made with PosterMyWall.com

If you have not had a chance to see the new Outreach Ministries video, please enjoy with this link. <https://youtu.be/Lp8oyOfAlrl>

BACKPACK DRIVE RESULTS

The Backpack Drive for 400 students went very well. Hope Solutions (formerly CCIH) achieved 82% of their goal of \$13,000. From checks received by us for Hope Solutions, and with the public donations from our parishioners to the backpack website, Saint Timothy's was extremely generous in sending them \$2,874. That doesn't even include those donations that our members sent directly to Hope Solutions that we don't know about. Thank you very much for helping a child begin school with supplies to help them succeed.

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRIES 2020 - 2021

EFM is a safe and inquisitive environment to explore the history and traditions of our Christian faith. We will meet virtually via Zoom on Tuesday evenings to encounter the Old Testament, New Testament, 3,000 (not a typo) years of Christian History as well as spiritual discernment. There are 36 sessions per year in which we engage in theological reflection, prayer and community building. The program is open to all.

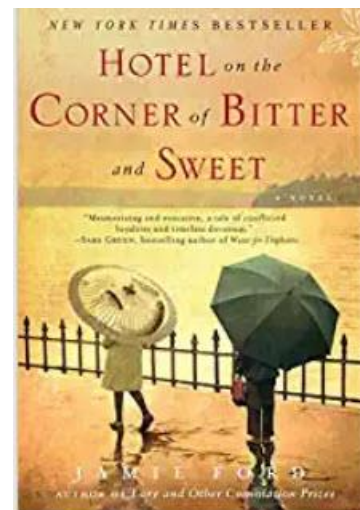
If you, or anyone you know, are interested in learning more about EFM, please contact Lisa Guevara Perry Lisa@PMCAp.com or 925-785-8015.

ST. TIMOTHY'S BOOK GROUP

The St. Timothy's Book Group will meet on Thursday, September 3rd at 2:00 pm to catch up on what we have been doing and on Thursday, September 17th at 2:00 pm to discuss the *Hotel at the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*. Please contact Sally Shea Potts (sallyspotts@gmail.com) to receive an invitation to our Zoom meeting.

In the opening pages, Henry Lee comes upon a crowd gathered outside the Panama Hotel, once the gateway to Seattle's Japantown. It has been boarded up for decades, but now the new owner has made an incredible discovery: the belongings of Japanese families, left when they were rounded up and sent to internment camps during World War II. This takes Henry back to the 1940s, at the height of the war, when young Henry's world is a jumble of confusion and excitement, and to his father, who is obsessed with the war in China and having Henry grow up American. While "scholarshipping" at the exclusive Rainier Elementary, where the white kids ignore him, Henry meets Keiko Okabe, a young Japanese American student. Amid the chaos of blackouts, curfews, and FBI raids, Henry and Keiko forge a bond of friendship—and innocent love—that transcends the long-standing prejudices of their Old World ancestors. And after Keiko and her family are swept up in the evacuations to the internment camps, she and Henry are left only with the hope that the war will end, and that their promise to each other will be kept.

Forty years later, in the hotel's dark dusty basement Henry begins looking for signs of the Okabe family's belongings. Now a widower, Henry is still trying to find his voice— words that might bridge the gap between him and his modern, Chinese American son; words that might help him confront the choices he made many years ago. Set during one of the most conflicted and volatile times in American history, *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* is an extraordinary story of commitment and enduring hope. In Henry and Keiko, Jamie Ford has created an unforgettable duo whose story teaches us of the power of forgiveness and the human heart.



OPTIONS RECOVERY SERVICES UPDATE

Update on Options Recovery Services, an Outreach Supported Ministry

During the Covid pandemic, Options has remained committed to the people and communities we serve by providing high quality substance use disorder outpatient, intensive outpatient, testing, and housing services.

Dr. David Coady founded Options on the premise that people and their families who suffer from substance use disorders who need our help are never turned away or forgotten, that our doors are always open, and that people must get the help that they need, when they need it most. The pandemic does not separate us from these values. In response to the virus, Options:

- transitioned to telehealth services, providing video and audio conferencing at both individual and group levels by skilled counselors and clinicians
- remained open for new referrals and intake of new clients, including clients released from prisons and from other organizations forced to curtail or limit their own services
- implemented preventative and precautionary measures including health screening at intake and at all residences and clinical settings
- continued to provide treatment, drug testing, and recovery residence services throughout northern Alameda County.

Options residents sheltered in place, receiving telehealth services and direct support at the houses. Options clients who screened as potentially virus infected were quarantined and referred for medical treatment when necessary. Through strict protocols and preventative efforts, the virus has been kept largely at bay.

Over the past year Options has begun offering addiction recovery services in Alameda County's Santa Rita Jail, and has expanded its reception center programming to three California prisons. Due to the success of Options in-prison services, Options has been contracted by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to expand its Offender Mentor Certification Program to seven prisons through the state. And the California Board of State and Community Corrections has awarded Options funds to serve reentry clients as they return to society from prison.

The California Arts Council funds Options Reentry Through the Arts program. Options client Samuel M. rediscovered his own art through the program, creating a graphic arts calendar to illustrate the 12 steps of his recovery. Samuel graduated from Options, became our intake coordinator, and teaches art classes for the clients. "The recovery journey can build on more than drugs and alcohol," he says, "but on finding a new way to live." Samuel is now enrolled at the California Institute of Integral Studies pursuing a master's degree in Arts Therapy.

Options takes this opportunity to thank St. Timothy's for your continuing support, and to invite you to join with us in celebrating nationally recognized Recovery Month this September by participating in these events:

September 4: Options Graduation Celebration - During the pandemic, Options has implemented a Zoom-based graduation ceremony, broadcast live on Facebook and on Options' website (www.optionsrecovery.org). St. Timothy's Church is the official sponsor of the event, and is recognized in the proceedings. Options graduates tell their moving stories of transformation as they have pursued their sobriety and remained free of drugs and alcohol for over one full year!

September 13: St. Timothy's Sunday Services – Options Executive Director Thomas Gorham to speak.

September 20 – St. Timothy's Welcome Home Sunday... see Options at the site or on Zoom.

September 27 – St. Timothy's Sunday Services – Options representative to speak.

THE GRETTA FOUNDATION UPDATE



In collaboration with the Africa Action Network, The Gretta Foundation will be purchasing close to 4,000 face masks for distribution to nursing and midwife personnel at United Catholic Medical Bureau in Kampala, Uganda. UCMB provides nursing and midwife education to Gretta Foundation scholars in Uganda.

The masks are currently being produced by KIU Nurses and Midwives Student Association and should be delivered within the next couple weeks. This also provides a much needed source of income for students.

There were a couple bumps in the road, but due to great cooperation and communication we were able to get things done. These are in addition to masks sent earlier this year.

The Gretta Foundation is a St. Timothy's Outreach grant recipient. Liaison is Tania Hanson-De Young

HELPING HANDS

Brian Leong from Troop 805 has built a new "L" bench on the patio as part of his Eagle Scout project. He is one of five Scouts who will be removing the old benches and replacing with new redwood benches to earn their Eagle award. Thank you for your work.

Bev Mastunaga



THANK YOU

Rob Wilson for replacing the flagstone in the Columbarium. He also installed 4 sanitizing dispensers in the preschool to meet Community Care Licensing COVID-19 requirements.

Bev Matsunaga

VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

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

The vestry met in via Zoom on Wednesday, August 19th and Tuesday, August 25th

MOTIONS:

MOTION: Vestry approved changing the current church insurance to enable coverage of the new live-stream equipment under our current property and liability policy. Passed unanimously.

MOTION: The vestry accepts the proposed gift by an anonymous donor of approximately \$65,400 to continue the renovations of the parish hall. Passed unanimously.

MOTION: The vestry Approved the minutes of the vestry meetings in June, July and early August, the treasurer's report and documents and the reports submitted by the Rector, Worship Commission and the Property Commission.

MOTION: Vestry voted to approve the new contract with Comcast for improved Internet service (faster) and new phones for Grace House. Included in the motion was the allocation of \$3,326.40 from the donated Live-Stream funds to pay for the increased Comcast Internet & phones contract cost for the new 2 years.

OTHER INFORMATION

Vestry members will be calling parish members over the next month to find out how they are doing.

As of Thursday, August 27th, the FOTH-2020 Reimagined Outreach campaign has raised \$51,300 for donation to the charities we work with. The FOTH-2020 Reimagined campaign runs through August 31. The Outreach Committee will meet this fall to propose allocation of the funds which will then be reviewed by the Vestry.

Currently Contra Costa County plans to use the St. Timothy's parish hall as a voting site.

Food Drives for Monument Crisis Center are scheduled for Sundays, September 6 and September 20.

Parish members are welcome to attend Vestry meetings. The next meeting is on Wednesday, September 16, 2020.

Contact Sally Shea Potts for an invitation to the Zoom meeting.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

August 19, 2020

Financial Highlights

- Financial results through July are positive overall though slightly negative in terms of income. There is an underrun in Pledge Income due mainly to pledges that have not made any payments to date and an underrun in Expenses reflecting a decrease in expenses due to shelter in place rules.
- Pledge income in our approved budget for 2020 is based on 159 pledges and includes an assumption that at least 6 additional pledges for at least \$13,400 will be received. As of the end of July, 3 additional pledges for \$1,980 have been received. Our budget included a revenue shortfall of about \$58,400 (\$13,400 more pledge dollars assumed and a projected deficit of \$45,034). The hope was that additional new pledges would be received during this year, as in 2019, to help close the deficit.
- 12 pledges for \$40,000 have not made any payments yet in 2020. Last month this number was 13 pledges for \$40,200.
- 30 pledges are paid in full for \$135,751. Last month it was 28 for \$133,051.
- Year to date budget vs actual results, adjusted for amortizing "pledges paid in full" in the current year, are:

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Pledge Income	\$384,196	\$358,294	\$(25,902)
Other Income	\$ 40,690	\$ 40,679	\$(11)
Expenses	\$451,621	\$410,412	\$ 41,209
Net Income	\$(26,735)	\$(11,439)	
Income			

The Pledge Income difference reflects about \$23,333 for pledges that have not made any payments yet through the first 7 months of 2020. Had this money been received our pledge income would have been about \$2,569 under budget through July.

Other Income difference due to:

Loose Plate \$(4,180) and Facilities Cost Sharing \$(2,935) under budget offset by Contributing Income about \$7,440 above budget due primarily to two large gifts several months ago.

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

Personnel expenses \$15,391 under budget

Altar Guild expenses \$1,549 under budget

Children & Youth Ministry expenses \$2,016 under budget.

Fellowship expenses \$1,910 under budget.

Administrative expenses \$4,519 under budget.

Facilities expenses \$11,179 under budget due to campus and rectory maintenance being under budget offset by utilities being over budget. Utilities over budget was due to an extended, undetected leak in the water pipe to Grace House \$(832).

Finance expenses \$786 under budget due to timing of stewardship expenses \$(1,400) and timing of payment for campus property taxes \$(5017) offset by timing of payment of property & liability insurance premiums \$5,017.

Contingency expenses \$2,572 under budget.

- Livestream capital fund drive through 8/11
 - 60 donors have made commitments
 - Totaling \$61,005
 - Have received \$46,100
 - 14 donors still to complete their commitments

Neal Matsunaga

Contact Us

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