

### RECTOR'S ARTICLE

Lent is upon us!

During Lent, our live stream services will continue as always. When we reopen the campus, don't worry, livestream will continue. On page 2 and 3, there is more detail about reopening.

Ash Wednesday, Feb 17th livestreamed at 12pm

Join us for an ashless Ash Wednesday. Susan and I have developed a traditional Ash Wednesday service that captures the spirit of this holy day and supports the beginning a holy Lent. Because of COVID concerns, we won't be doing drive thru ashes. You can certainly make your own ash for home practice. See "Ashes at home" on the website for a home-based liturgy.

During the noon service, we have a prayer that uses a stone instead of ash. We ask that you get a stone or rock for this liturgy. It does not need to be a special stone, just something you can find in your yard or wherever you happen to encounter stones and rocks. We also have some smooth stones at the entrance of the church that you can pick up.

The stone will serve as a tangible, liturgical reminder of how brief and fragile human life is. We think it will help you make a right start to a holy lent. Tune into the livestream, where we will worship and pray together.

Ash Wednesday @ 8pm

Later, at 8pm on Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> Join us for a brief (under 15 minutes)  
Ash Wednesday worship service supporting Hope Solutions.

to support Hope solutions:

Venmo: @PeaceJourney-PeaceLutheran

PayPal direct: PayPal.me/PeaceJourneyPeace

PayPal app: @PeaceJourney-PeaceLutheran

or write a check with "Ash Wednesday Evening" to either church. All donations from this service will go to Hope Solutions. Peace Lutheran will manage the virtual donations of both churches.

Ash Wednesday at your own pace

If you are tired of screen time, we have a printable, self-pace liturgy that you do anywhere here

Lenten Lectionary (February 18 – April 3)

The lectionary will remain on the front page of the website for the duration of Lent.

Lenten Formation (February 21 – March 21)

via Zoom, links will be on the homepage

9am on Sundays Children's' Formation (starts February 21)

Join us on Zoom for pre-k and elementary formation. We will check in with each other and have Kahoot! Session. It will be about 20 mins and a lot of fun. Zoom links will be on the website.

For the protection of children, there will be a "waiting room" on the Zoom session. If we don't recognize your name, we won't let you in.

So, if you are new please email me to join [rector@sainttimothysdanville.org](mailto:rector@sainttimothysdanville.org).

This is open to the families of children and their relatives only.

10:30am on Wednesdays Bible Study (starts on Feb 24)

Psalms: We will reflect on Lenten lectionary readings of the Psalms

6:30pm on Wednesdays Adult Formation (starts February 24)

Way of Love: a group discussion that will be facilitated by lay people along with the clergy. We might have a second group too, stay tuned.

Children's Lenten Packets and Instructions for a Home Altar

After Ash Wednesday, we will have Lenten packets. There are plants to grow; scripture to pray, and love to learn. These are for your children (and for children at heart). The packets will be available outside of Grace House; let us know you want one, and we will put your name on the packet. Contact Susan for questions [sgeissleroneil@sainttimothysdanville.org](mailto:sgeissleroneil@sainttimothysdanville.org)

Reopening

Your leadership team decided that we would not reopen on-campus worship until we were in the yellow tier for two weeks. I think we're in a holding pattern at the moment, but I also don't want you to be surprised when yellow comes more quickly than we think. We've already done much work to think about strategies and protocols, and I'm very happy with the plan. Please go to the website to look at the yellow section of the homepage which addresses top level questions and relevant issues. This section will be updated as things change. This is a moving target, but we are ready to respond when the time is right.

We are aware of the recent Supreme Court decision and will be looking to the diocese for our local guidance. We are more accountable to the Diocese than we are to the Supreme Court.

After two weeks in the "Yellow Tier,"

We will have two socially distanced worship experiences on Sundays.

When Contra Costa County moves to the Yellow Tier, we will be open for limited, in-person, socially distanced, and on-campus worship. The YouTube worship you have grown to love will continue. We don't want anyone who is vulnerable to feel pressure to come on campus. Whether you are at 1550 Diablo, in your home, or in Singapore on Sunday morning, we are in this together. Hosted groups inside our buildings like TOPS, AA, and Scouts as well as book groups, bible studies and the like won't return until 90 day after the resumption of on-campus worship.

Schedule

8am

Parish Hall (not on YouTube)

no music

10am

Sanctuary (on-campus and livestreamed simultaneously)

pre-recorded music that will be deployed during worship

### “Safer” worship note

We will be following all appropriate sanitation practices to keep you safe, but we cannot guarantee zero risk.

### Preparing to come on Sunday

The week before Sunday worship, we will have a sign-up genius available for you to reserve a spot. You don't want to deal with sign up genius? That is fine. Please call or email the office by 2pm the Thursday before the Sunday in question to assure that your spot is reserved. There is a series of medical conditions that by signing up, you will affirm that you do not have things like coughs and sniffles, as well as not testing COVID positive in the last 14 days.

### Connecting through Worship

We are profoundly aware of how isolated some of you feel from your church home. We are eager to be with you, worship with you, and celebrate our life together.

### How Sunday will feel on campus.

- Our usher or greeter will be scanning your temperature with a touchless thermometer.
- You can sit (all masked) with your family in a social bubble. People not in your household will need to maintain 6ft social distancing. We will arrange the space to make that easy.
- There will be no distribution of communion at any service.
- We will not pass the plate, but a touchless offering plate is available.
- You can say corporate prayers like the Lord's Prayer since we will be masked for the duration of the service.
- No paper bulletins, the entire bulletin will be projected.
- For now, we will not have the nursery open.
- We will not be having coffee or sharing food, but we can chat and say hello to each other!

### Note on Food and Singing

Snacks and singing will be the last things to resume in this safer worship context. No date has been set when food; in person choir; and congregational singing will return.

See you on-campus when it is safer, and on YouTube now.

## CHILDREN, PRAYER AND BIBLE STORIES

### Sunday School during Lent

Beginning Sunday, February 21st

Sunday school will meet on Zoom at 9:00 for our children –pre-K -5th grade!

We will have time to say hello, hear a brief Bible story, pray and then play Kahoot! Most children know how to play! It's easy, fun and will bring a smile to our faces! Then take a break and join us for live-streamed worship at 10:00!

## LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Lenten Bible Study will meet Wednesdays at 10:30 and we will look at Psalms that are chosen in our lectionary for Lent. Join us on Zoom. Each week, prior to Bible Study you will be able to reflect on the Psalm at home. When we gather Wednesday morning, we will wonder together about the ways we hear the scripture today. You do not need to attend every week. Grab a cup of tea, a bible and come and see! Questions? [sgeissleroneil@sainttimothysdanville.org](mailto:sgeissleroneil@sainttimothysdanville.org)

## WORSHIP AND LITURGY REPORT

As a new vestry member, I am blessed to be the Worship and Liturgy Commissioner. As we look forward to more hopeful days ahead in terms of opening our doors to worship, I would like to share some thoughts. I encourage all of you to visit our Saint Timothy's website and scroll down to the "Yellow Tier" which gives you an overview of the next steps in our worship.

As restrictions become less, I am hopeful of training more youth and adults as acolytes (8 years and older), meeting with Rayne Devlin (Vestry Commissioner of Children and Youth) to discuss how we might include even the younger children to serve as ministers at the altar, and scheduling families to serve on a given Sunday.

If you have questions or suggestions, please let me know your thoughts.

Blessings,  
Jacque Chiavini  
[jchiavini@gmail.com](mailto:jchiavini@gmail.com)

## NOAH'S ARK NEW

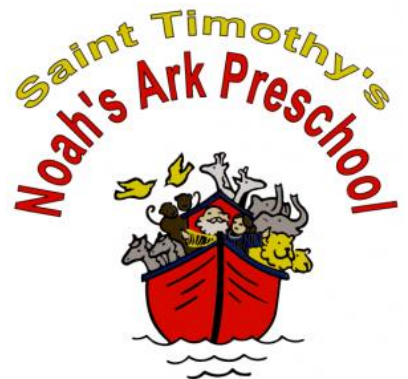
Love is in the air! The month of February reminds us of Valentine's Day, Hearts and Love.

There is a lot going on at Noah's Ark right now. Children have been busy making crafts for Valentines. We had Valentine cookie parties where children decorate the cookies provided by the school and our wonderful room parents donated frosting, sprinkles and themed paper products.

Children are going to be introduced to "The Heart." in science, learning about this muscle, listening to the heart beat and finding out how it works. Thinking about our heart also reminds of the connection to the emotional well being, kindness, caring for ourselves and others.

Following along the theme of love and kindness, all of us at Noah's Ark are also making a kindness chain and "kindness matters" heart tree to celebrate the month of love.

We are also exploring new math concepts such as "sets", learning about shapes and very soon will begin exploring numbers. Children will have hands-on experience with those numerals by counting, tracing, serialization and finally creating a Pizza book or having a 10 item buffet for snack to celebrate and show their new understanding of math concepts involves much more than simply being able to count from one to ten!



## MONUMENT CRISIS CENTER FOOD DRIVE



St Timothy's Episcopal Church will resume hosting food drives for the clients of Monument Crisis Center.

WHEN: 2ND and 4th Sundays of the month

WHERE: Front parking of the church at 1550 Diablo Road,

WHAT TO BRING:

|                               |               |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Tuna                          | Peanut Butter |
| Canned vegetables, fruit      | Canned beans  |
| Canned meals (chili, ravioli) | Pasta         |
| Rice, beans, oatmeal          | Cereal        |
| Soups (canned or dry)         | Baby Food     |
|                               | Pet food      |

Diapers

Paper or plastic bags with handles

PLEASE: No glass or sweet items

OR: Write a check to Monument Crisis Center and we will deliver it.

Drive into the parking lot, pop your trunk & we will do the rest. We are following good Covid protocols.

## ST. TIMOTHY'S BOOK GROUP

### St Timothy's Book Group – February 2021

The St. Timothy's book group meets twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Thursday afternoons at 2:00 pm via Zoom. On Thursday, February 4, we will check in with one another to find out what we are reading and who has gotten their COVID vaccine shot and anything else that interests us. On Thursday, February 18th, we will meet to discuss "The Vanishing Half: A Novel" by Brit Bennett.



Amazon has this description of the book. "The Vignes twin sisters will always be identical. But after growing up together in a small, southern black community and running away at age sixteen, it's not just the shape of their daily lives that is different as adults, it's everything: their families, their communities, their racial identities. Many years later, one sister lives with her black

daughter in the same southern town she once tried to escape. The other secretly passes for white, and her white husband knows nothing of her past. Still, even separated by so many miles and just as many lies, the fates of the twins remain intertwined. What will happen to the next generation when their own daughters' storylines intersect? Weaving together multiple strands and generations of this family, from the Deep South to California, from the 1950s to the 1990s, Brit Bennett produces a story that is at once a riveting, emotional family story and a brilliant exploration of the American history of passing. The Vanishing Half considers the lasting influence of the past as it shapes a person's decisions, desires, and expectations, and explores some of the multiple reasons and realms in which people sometimes feel pulled to live as something other than their origins."

## SUNDAY ZOOM COFFEE MARCH 7TH



Join us at 11:00 for a Zoom coffee hour on Sunday March 7th and visit your Saint Timothy's friends following Sunday worship. It is a Lenten come as you are affair and bring BYO coffee or tea!

## ST TIMOTHY'S 2021 ANNUAL MEETING – SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2021

We did it! St. Timothy's had their annual meeting on Sunday using Zoom with lots of people attending. There were 88 squares containing 1, 2 or 3 people. We estimate that there were about 115 people attending. We voted using polls, the chat, raising a hand and waving hands in the Zoom screen.

What did we do:

- Elected 5 new members of the vestry – Ade A, Jacque C, Gabel C-H, Cecilia O, and Steve O
- Elected 5 people to represent us at Deanery meetings and the Diocese Convention – Jim C, Mary Louise G, Ellen Clark N, Cecilia O and Mike O.

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

- Neal Matsunaga talked about the financial results of 2020. We balanced the 2020 budget despite only 2 ½ months of on-site church services and income from outside groups using the facilities because expenses were less (programs and administration), and we had a PPP loan from the federal government.
- Neal also talked about the 2021 budget approved by the vestry in January. Due to reduced pledges and less anticipated "other income" and slightly expenses that exceed our income it will only almost balance using the rest of the PPP funds and the pledge reserve.
- Neal shared his on-going concerns regarding our financial health and campus maintenance due to these deficits.

### **Rector's Report Highlights – MANY, MANY THANK YOUS**

- The Live Stream Committee has done a FANTASTIC job in putting together the necessary infrastructure and technology to broadcast the Sunday Services. THANK YOU TO: Rand M, Ryan M, Mike O, Don P, Lisa P and Kari D who made it happen.
- Live Stream Contributors – They gave \$60,000+ to help make this happen.
- Outreach Contributors who helped the Committee raise a record amount for Outreach this year.
- Parish Hall Financial Contributors and the Property Commission chaired by Tom Linari who managed the project to upgrade the Parish Hall windows, floor, wall colors, carpet, doors and sound.
- Altar Guild, Liturgical Art and Jacque C. for making the church beautiful and herding the cats.
- Darita Seth – incredible music under extremely difficult circumstances
- Pastor Susan – for sharing the sermon, liturgy, children's time and parish support responsibilities
- Senior Warden Dick F. – tireless and patient support and counsel through the year (and cigars)
- Bev Matsunaga – managing the grounds and facilities

### **Senior Warden Report Highlights**

Thank you to the new vestry members for agreeing to serve.

Thank you to the retiring vestry members for their service over the past 3 years – Nancy A (worship and stewardship), Kari D (administration, live stream and social justice), Alison H (Outreach), Tom L.(Property)

Senior Warden for 2021 – Linda C.



## VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### St Timothy's Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting Highlights – January 2021

The vestry met on Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 6:30 pm and on January 31 after the annual meeting via Zoom

MOTIONS: The following motions were approved during the meetings:

- At the January 31 vestry meeting
  - o Scott M. was elected as Junior Warden for 2021
  - o Neal M. was elected Treasurer for 2021
  - o Sally S P. was elected Vestry Clerk for 2021
  - o Changes were made to the check signing authority for the several St. Timothy's bank and investment accounts to add Linda C. (Senior Warden) and Scott M. (junior warden) and to remove Dick F. and Tom Li.
- At the January 20 vestry meeting:
  - o The revised 2021 budget was approved as recommended by the Treasurer and the Finance Committee. The budget was revised from the version approved in December to reflect the updated pledges for 2021 and some changes to the allocated of pledge payments received in 2020. The budget will be discussed by the Treasurer.
  - o Letters of Agreement (LOA) for the staff for 2021 were approved documenting the increase approved in the 2021 budget. An Addendum are added to each employees LOA for any change to their pay or hours. Per a discussion with the bookkeeper, Steve Z., the 2021 budget reduces his hours to 5 per week. He informed the treasurer that this was sufficient to get the job done.
  - o The vestry voted to cap the number of vestry members in 2021 at 11 – matching the current number.
  - o The minutes of the December 2020 vestry meeting and treasurer and other reports were approved .
  - o The vestry welcomed the 2021 vestry candidates to the meeting. They are:  
Ade A, Jacque C, Gabel C H, Cecilia O, and Steve O

Dick Firth thanked the retiring vestry members for their service. Retiring members are:

- Tom L – Junior Warden and Property
- Nancy A – Stewardship
- Kari D – Administration and Justice Advocacy
- Alison H – Outreach
- Dick F – Senior Warden

Discussion Items:

- Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 31 after the 10:00 am service using Zoom. Vestry nominations must be solicited from the attendees.
- Property – Tom L. reported we have a potentially expensive problem with the storm drain system for Grace House. The first segment of the storm drain system has been compromised by tree roots. We have received one bid and anticipate a second bid. Church Insurance has been contacted and will reimburse the church \$2500 for the damaged pipe. Tom also reported that three breaks in the Parish Hall hearing loop have been located and fixed. Additional breaks will be worked on and the loop tested by someone who uses hearing aids.
- The vestry agreed that the 2022 vestry retreat will be on Saturday morning, February 6.

Parish members are welcome to attend Vestry meetings. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, February 17, 2021 but may be changed to a training meeting. The vestry will meet on Wednesday, March 17, 2021

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

Submitted by Sally S P, Vestry Clerk

## St Timothy's Episcopal Church, Danville, CA Vestry – 2021

| <u>Commission/Position</u> | <u>Name</u> |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| Senior Warden              | Linda C     |
| Junior Warden (Property)   | Scott M     |
| Adult Formation            | Mike O      |
| Administration             | Steve O     |
| Children and Youth         | Rayne D     |
| Communications             | Ade A       |
| Noah's Ark Board           | Steve H     |
| Outreach                   | Gabel C     |
| Pastoral Care              | Trudy M     |
| Social Justice/Advocacy    | Cecilia O   |
| Worship                    | Jacque C    |
| Treasurer (non-voting)     | Neal M      |
| Clerk (non-voting)         | Sally S P   |
| Fellowship (non-vestry)    | Rob K       |



# TREASURER'S REPORT

January 20, 2021

## Financial Highlights

- Financial results through December are negative overall due to a shortfall in income and an underrun of expenses.
- Year to date budget vs actual results, adjusted for amortizing "pledges paid in full" in the current year, are:

|               | Budget     | Actual     | Difference |
|---------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Pledge Income | \$658,621  | \$630,053  | \$(28,568) |
| Other Income  | \$ 70,558  | \$ 65,203  | \$( 5,355) |
| Expenses      | \$774,208  | \$740,978  | \$ 33,230  |
| Net Income    | \$(45,029) | \$(45,722) |            |

Pledge Income difference due to:

Underrun of about \$11,550 due to additional pledges that were expected during the year but did not occur and underpayments on a number of pledges.

Other Income difference due to:

Loose Plate \$(8,680), Facilities Cost Sharing \$(13,484) and Altar Flower Donations \$(741) under budget offset by Contributing Income about \$17,070 above budget.

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

Personnel expenses \$23,457 under budget  
Altar Guild expenses \$3,080 under budget  
Christian Formation expenses \$1,219 under budget  
Children & Youth Ministry expenses \$3,269 under budget  
Fellowship expenses \$3,660 under budget  
Administrative expenses \$11,676 under budget  
Facilities expenses \$(9,094) over budget  
Finance expenses \$(8,384) over budget  
Contingency expenses \$3,318 under budget

Neal M.

## **Contact Us**

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