TIDINGS

November 2026

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

Closing out our October stewardship drive always brings a welcome moment of transition and reflection. Stewardship Sunday almost always leads to All Saints' Sunday where, at least in my preaching life, goes from an invitation to stewardship into a reflection on the power of our ancestors. Please bring your pictures and mementos for inclusion in both services on November 1st.

Both Stewardship Sunday and All Saints' underscores our essential faith, community, calling, and the trust we place in God's future. By offering our time, hearts, and resources, we keep preparing rich ground for all that St. Timothy's is growing into next and by remembering my grandma (among others) we find strength for that future.

I am so grateful for those who stepped up for children's liturgy. Our associate search team continues to receive names and beat the bushes for candidates, and our pastoral care has gone above and beyond to keep our most isolated members connected.

Rev. Todd

THE ROAD AHEAD

NOV 1 SUNDAY	TIME CHANGE **All Saints' Sunday** Necrology at both services **Bring a momento or picture of a loved one to display in the services.* High School Ice Cream Pilgrimage, 1-2:30pm (Lotties, WC)
NOV 8 SUNDAY	**Rice & Beans Packing (for Christmas Food Boxes)** Packing after both services, in Parish Hall Christmas Food Box Drive begins!
NOV 15 SUNDAY	Book Group at 11:15am Middle School Deanery Youth Group, 1-3pm at St. Paul's (Walnut Creek)
NOV 26 THURSDAY	**Happy Thanksgiving!**
NOV 27 FRIDAY	Blood Drive, 10am - 3pm in Grace House
NOV 29 SUNDAY	**ADVENT begins!** Family Candle Lighting at 10am services during Advent **Advent Adult Formation**, 11:15am in the Church
DEC 4 FRIDAY	St. Nicholas Cookie Making in Parish Hall Kitchen, 9am
DEC 5 SATURDAY	Christmas Food Box Packing, 9:30am in Parish Hall
DEC 6 SUNDAY	**St. Nicholas Visit** (10am service) & **Selfies** (after both services) Christmas Food Boxes DUE and truck packing **Advent Adult Formation**, 11:15am in the Church **Rector's Open House**, 5:30-7pm at the rectory
DEC 13 SUNDAY	Middle School Deanery Youth Group - Caroling (Location TBD) **Advent Adult Formation**, 11:15am in the Church
DEC 20 SUNDAY	**Advent Adult Formation**, 11:15am in the Church
DEC 24 THURSDAY	**CHRISTMAS EVE** **3pm**: Children's pageant, Christmas carols and Eucharist **5pm**: Christmas carols, Eucharist and candles with "Silent Night" **7pm**: Christmas carols, Choir, Eucharist and candles with "Silent Night"
DEC 25 FRIDAY	**CHRISTMAS DAY** **10am** Worship

DIOCESE OF CALIFORNIA CONVENTION RECAP

Todd and your delegates went to SF for convention Saturday. Todd, John, Kari, and Ade were able to brave the I-80 shut down with Lisa, Mike, and Jim following the livestream.

Theme: *Love Beyond Our Doors: Justice, Mercy, & Witness*).
Friday, October 23, 2026 (Online) & Saturday, October 24, 2026
(In-Person at Grace Cathedral, San Francisco).

Key Highlights: Reports from the Strategic Vision Implementation Team and Assessment Formula Task Force, admission of St. Columba's (Inverness) as a parish, celebration of St. Dorothy's Rest (125 years)

Executive Council Officers:

Chair: The Rev. Todd Bryant (outgoing)
Vice Chair: Sarah Lawton
Secretary: Br. Shawn Anderson

Kerstin Magary, John Lerner and The Rev. Kevin Deal were elected to EC.

Standing Committee:

The Rev. Jane Stratford (outgoing president), and The Rev. Pamela Stevens (incoming president). *Debbie Veatch, **Ted Budach's daughter** was elected to a full term and Don Miller reelected to partial term.*

Canonical Changes & Resolutions

Updates cover Assessment Appeals, Executive Council Oversight, Governance Term Lengths, Deacons/Archdeacons, Gender-inclusive language, Licenses to Officiate, and Hybrid Convention rules.

Resolutions

Task Force on Artificial Intelligence
Stand Up Against Hate
Shareholder Strategy to Address AI Data Centers

Financial & Budgetary Summary

2027 Budget & Assessments: Includes the Treasurer's Report, Corporation Sole financial position, proposed 2027 Diocesan Budget, new assessment formulas, and mandatory minimum clergy compensation schedules.

CHRISTMAS FOOD BOXES

The Season of Feeding is upon us! I mentioned that in Bible Study as something I am grateful for, and Todd said I should write about it. I think I need to clarify that this is the Season for mass feeding. Many of us already help feed the hungry all year round. Between Rise Against Hunger, where we packaged 15,000 meals, and the Holiday Food Box drive for Monument Crisis Center where we can provide around 5,000 meals, our community does so much to do what Jesus asks us to feed the hungry.

For those familiar with what we do, take a look at our schedule and cost. You can begin to plan and shop accordingly. For those not familiar with this outreach program, continue reading past the schedule so that you can understand the process and get excited about joining us in any way possible.

SCHEDULE

MY-OWN-BOX – Families can shop themselves using the list from Monument Crisis Center and donate $30 to cover the cost of the box, rice and beans and the $25 grocery gift card. Sign up at church or online or send an email to Cathy Hager.

Cost:	**$30 per box**
Deadline to Sign Up:	Sunday, November 29th
Drop off Dates:	Sundays, Nov. 15, 22, Nov. 29, and Saturday Dec 5
Signup Link:	St Timothy's Episcopal Church: I-Will-Fill-My-Box-2026

FILL-MY-BOX - You can sign up online or at church on Sunday or send an email to Cathy to have us fill your box for you. The $120 covers the food, box and a $25 grocery gift card. (We will purchase everything for you.)

Cost:	**$120 per box**
Deadline to Sign Up:	Sunday, November 22 (Sunday before Thanksgiving)
Deadline for Payment**:**	Sunday, November 29.
Signup Link:	St. Timothy's Episcopal Church - Fill- My -Box- For -Me 2026

We will gather in the Parish Hall on **Saturday morning, December 5** to fill 100+ boxes sponsored by St. Timothy's families. Participants need to be over age 10 and able to stand for about 2 hours. Link to volunteer: Fill Holiday Boxes December 5 2026

PROGRAM DETAILS

The Holiday Food Box drive provides boxes of prescribed groceries, a bag each of rice and beans, and a Safeway gift card in a small moving box to families served by Monument Crisis Center (MCC). We start with packaging rice and beans in quart zip-lock bags. Please note that we will package rice and beans in the Parish Hall on November 8 after each service. This is a fun project, and everyone is welcome. We will provide rice and beans, baggies, gloves, and containers to put filled bags.

For the Holiday Food Boxes, there are two ways to fill the boxes and both will get the boxes to MCC. The first is called Fill "My-Own-Box". For $30 a person buys a box (we have the boxes to use and it includes the cost of a $25 gift card), assemble the box, shop the prescribed list, and fill the box. It will probably cost you $75 - $90 or so to fill the box. These boxes are due back to church by December 5 at the latest, but any time from November 15 forward is wonderful and appreciated. Once these boxes come back, we will add the rice and beans, and close, but not seal the box. These boxes will live in the Parish Hall on the stage until December 6.

The other option is called "Fill-My-Box". For $120, which includes the box, gift card, rice and beans, and the prescribed groceries, we will assemble the box, fill the box, add rice and beans, and close it. For both options, the gift cards are added at Monument Crisis Center. The scouts will be making the boxes on December 3, and we will be filling the boxes as teams on Saturday, December 5. It is fun and so rewarding. All are welcome.

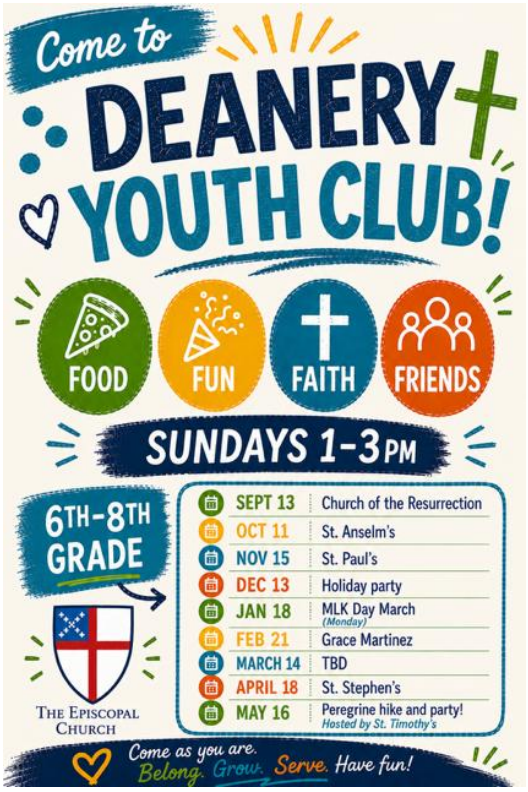
On Sunday, December 6, we will be loading a U-Haul with all of the boxes. On Monday, December 7, we will take them to Monument Crisis Center. Last year we delivered over 250 boxes. MCC was just blown away. Last year, they distributed over 1,100 boxes.

Beginning November 8, there will be sign-ups after each service for Fill My Own Boxes and Fill My Box. Payment can either be made by check or online. You can also sign up to help fill boxes on December 5. We need to know how many hungry bodies to feed!
Sign Up Genius Link

If you have any questions, please contact Cathy and John Hager at johncathyhager@gmail.com.

The group after last year's box filling, before being loaded onto the truck.

YOUTH NEWS



October Bowling

CHILDREN'S NEWS

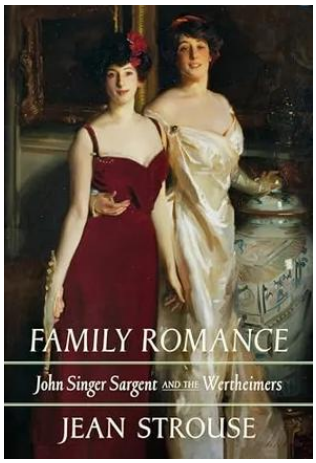
Join Our Children's Liturgy Team!
We are excited to share that our Children's Liturgy space has been freshly cleaned, refreshed, and is completely ready for a wonderful new season! While we are blessed to already have a dedicated and strong team in place, we are always eager to welcome new faces and fresh energy. Serving in Children's Liturgy is simple and completely stress-free; your lesson plan is sent to you in advance, so all you need to do is show up at 9:55 AM ready to have fun with the kids!

Your support makes a meaningful difference in nurturing our youngest parishioners' faith. You don't need prior teaching experience, just a warm heart and a willingness to share God's Word in an engaging space. If you have been looking for a flexible, fulfilling way to serve, we would love to have you on board!

There are some specific requirements for safeguarding children that will need to be in place before you can join fully. Please reach out to Rev. Todd.

BOOK GROUP

Family Romance: John Singer Sargent and the Wertheimers



You are invited to join the members of the St Timothy's Book Group on Sunday, **November 15** after the 10 am service in the Overby Library of Grace House to discuss *Family Romance – John Singer Sargent and the Wertheimers*. American painter John Singer Sargent is best known for his large portraits of the wealthy – many in England. Sargent was born in Florence, Italy and educated in Europe. Starting in the late 1880's he made his home in England. His largest commission was a series of portraits for the German-Jewish Wertheimers family – the parents and the 10 children who survived childhood. In this book Jean Strouse explores both the lives of Sargent and the Wertheimers and through them the lives of the newly wealthy members of the English upper class as well at the Wertheimer's connections to the Habsburg court in Vienna and the fascists in Italy in the 1930's. Both the paintings and the subject are fascinating.

EMBROIDERY AS MEDITATION

November 22, 2-4pm at San Damiano, led by Shelley Wells
$40 - Space is limited

During our time together will focus on designing a simple piece of embroidery. Using a small set of tools provided in class – a pencil, a ruler and a circle template, you will have the time and space to create a design that you can take home with you to continue to stitch throughout the season of Advent.

Everything you need to get started on the project will be supplied, including the base fabric, multiple colors of embroidery thread, needles, and a small pair of embroidery scissors. Please bring magnification (reading glasses), if needed.

We will be using the basic running stitch. If you can thread a needle and run it through a piece of cloth, then this project will be perfect for you. By keeping things simple, we can focus more on the process of stitching than on learning new techniques.

This approach to needlework is known as slow stitch, or meditative stitching. There is something in the motion, in the rhythmic rocking of the hand, that calls to something deeper in ourselves. It is a bit hard to describe, actually. Sometimes it is called something like flow. Knitters talk about this, too.

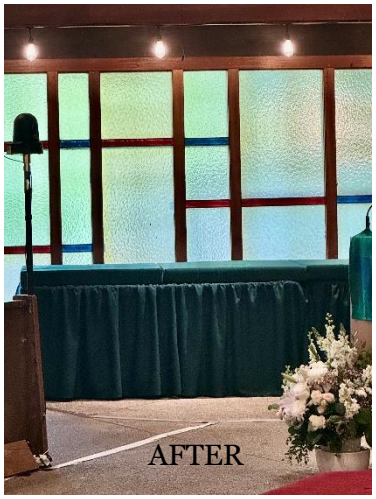
Stitching by hand is not a fast process. By acknowledging the truth of it and letting go of the need to get something done quickly, there is a space to relax. It is in this place that there is space to breathe, to be, to pray. And also to wait. This is the call of Advent.

It is interesting to note that St. Clare of Assisi was also a master embroiderer and is the patron saint of needleworkers. Clare, a woman who dedicated herself to a life of prayer, what might she have known about this deeper place? We'll take time to explore the question.
Come, let's spend time together. And stitch.

BELL CHOIR TABLES

Sitting in church on Sundays, I could see the green skirts on the bell choir tables were constantly messy because they were about a foot too long. Those who know me know I'm a bit of a nut for visual order or VO, as I call it, and want to make everything beautiful. After looking at these every Sunday, and even folding them under myself quite a few times, they just never stayed that way. I could no longer take it and asked permission to get this fixed, but I don't sew. I asked the Stitching Group if anyone could take on this project, and Carleen quietly did the whole thing. The results are so nice. They look lovely. Many thanks to Carleen Carns for taking up the skirts on the green tables. Leslie Firth

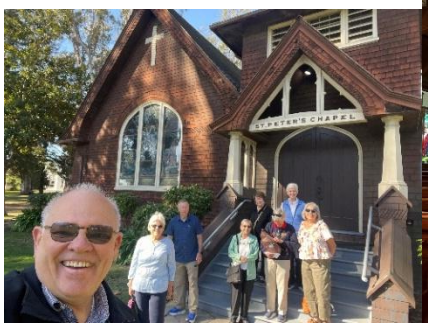
BEFORE


AFTER

TOUR OF MARE ISLAND CHAPEL AND BASE

ST TIMOTHY'S MEMBERS TOUR CHAPEL AND NAVAL BASE AT MARE ISLAND

On Saturday October 17, 8 members of St. Timothy's who successfully bid for the event toured the chapel on the Mare Island Naval base and the surrounding area with Dave Campion, a guide with the Mare Island Historical Foundation. Dave talked with us about the building of the base by Commander (later Admiral) David Farragut in 1854. In 1901, Chaplain Adam McAlister oversaw the construction of St Peter's Chapel, the first interdenominational chapel in the armed forces. St. Peter's chapel is now the oldest military chapel in the United States. The chapel has an impressive collection of over a dozen Tiffany Studio windows. After the chapel the group visited the cement bunkers, Officer's row housing, the park where trees from around the world are planted, the memorial to the submarine Vallejo and the dry dock where ships are still repaired. Following the tour, the group retired for a delicious lunch at the Mare Island Coal Shed brewery on the docks where the ships from the San Francisco Maritime Museum are temporarily docked.
Tour information is available at: https://mihpf.org/open-chapel



OPTIONS TOILETRIES DRIVE – THANK YOU!

Thank you, St. Timothy's! Your generosity is amazing!
As of Sunday, October 25, you have contributed -

- 68 of 75 men's bodywash
- 64 of 75 men's deodorant
- 51 of 75 men's lotion
- 44 of 75 men's shampoo/conditioner combo
- 30 of 30 women's shampoo
- 30 of 30 women's conditioner
- 51 of 30 women's lotion
- 5 of 30 women's bodywash
- 4 of 30 women's deodorant

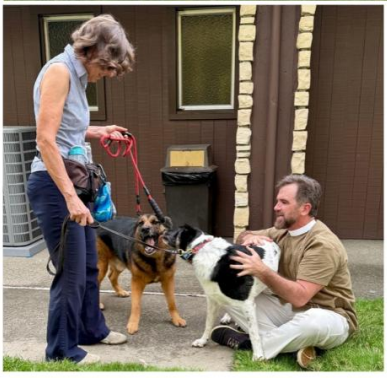
And there are still items arriving in the office!
You have also donated over $1000!

RISE AGAINST HUNGER – THANK YOU!

Transformation Starts with a Meal!

On Saturday, October 10 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!

PET BLESSING PHOTOS



VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

The Vestry met on October 21, 2026, in a hybrid in-person and Zoom Meeting. We approved the following items: minutes from the September 16th Vestry meeting, Financial Report for September, the updated Outreach Calendar Events calendar, Property Commission Report

St. Timothy's Danville Treasurer's Report
Financial Summary for January through September 2026

	Actual	Budget
Total Income	**$661,975**	**$667,378**
Total Expenses	**$658,634**	**$672,788**
Net Operating Income	**$3,341**	**($5,411)**

Comments

1. Pledge income continued to come in lower than budget for the month of September ($32,006 actual vs. $69,502 budget), and all other income (e.g., plate offerings) was slightly favorable at $5,392 actuals vs. $4,651 budget.
2. Expenses remain lower than budget YTD, although they were higher than budget for the month of September ($79,043 actual vs $74,754 budget).
3. Our net operating income for the first 9 months of 2026 was $3,341 compared with the budget of ($5,411). We need to continue our focus on increasing pledge income and controlling expenses to end the year ahead of budget.

- FYI
  - The work in the Women's restroom in the Education Building has been completed. There are 2 working toilets in the restroom, with the ability to add a 3rd. The Property Commission has decided to create a Handicapped Stall in that area. Work to be done by Commission members. Cost should be minimal.
  - Kimberly B. and Monika M. (Facilities Manager) have cleaned up the various storage closets. There are items which were in question that have been put on the Parish Hall stage area for claiming.
  - The Outreach Committee met and have determined this year's allocations to the various Charities that we support. We raised $23,000 more than year. New Charities include Kate C. Jail Ministry, Episcopal Relief Fund for Gaza Hospitals and setting aside $3200 for emergency funds for later in the year.
  - Vestry approved making contribution to Rev. Todd's Retirement Savings Plan.
  - Associate Rector Search is on-going. Not many applications at this time.
  - New Vestry Members. We've identified a couple of possible candidates for next years slate. Vestry is discussing increasing the number of members from 9 to 11 if we can identify enough people.

Parish members are welcome to attend Vestry meetings. The next meeting is on Wednesday November 18, 2026, 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, John Hager, Clerk.

BLOOD DRIVE AT ST. TIMOTHY'S

Give Thanks by Giving Back:
Thanksgiving Weekend Blood Drive!

As we celebrate the season of gratitude, put love into action by giving a gift that costs nothing but means everything. Join us the day after Thanksgiving for our American Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Timothy's. It's a powerful, tangible way to count our blessings and directly help save lives in our community. Bring your family, bring a friend, and start your holiday weekend by making a life-saving impact!

Blood Drive
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

conference room
1550 Diablo Rd
Danville, CA 94526

Friday, November 27, 2026
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

How to Register: Sign up today! Scan the QR code or go to the St. Timothy's website (www.sainttimothysdanville.org) to find a link or click HERE.

CONTACT US

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Liz Knape - Treasurer (Volunteer)
Treasurer@SaintTimothysDanville.org

Kimberly Bryant - Parish Administrator
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Carleen Carns - Pledge Secretary (Volunteer)
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Pastoral Care Line
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THE DIOCESE OF CALIFORNIA
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE BAY AREA

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