TIDINGS

October 2026
Newsletter of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church Danville, CA

October Stewardship

Look at the life of St. Timothy's right now:

Someone

is making phone calls to a person who hasn't been to church in a while.
is preparing a room so that a child feels welcome.
is helping build a youth gathering.
is engaging the voting process for the sake of the whole community.
is prepping for Rise Against Hunger.
is giving time to the search for our next Associate Rector.
is tallying up the generosity of our annual FOTH gala to be given to our partners.
is setting up, cleaning up, teaching, organizing, praying, singing, and welcoming.
is giving money with incredible generosity.

These are the ways we take what God has entrusted to us and put it to work for the life of the community. That is really what our stewardship season is asking us to consider:

What am I willing to give myself to?
How do my dollars support the mission?
What kind of community do I want to help create?

Stewardship is our response to the fact that we have received something worth caring for. We have inherited this community, but we are also responsible for handing it on. What we give now becomes part of what St. Timothy's will be able to offer to the people who come through these doors next.

Stewardship Season

We are kicking off our annual Stewardship season. It gives us a chance to reflect on how we use our time, energy, and financial resources to sustain the work God is doing here. The first mailing will be "stuffed" on October 4, and we have Ingathering Sunday and lunch on October 25 after the 10am service (no 8am service on Oct 25th).

Thank you to the Stewardship Team
Ron T (chair), Scott J, Eon N, Laura C (speakers)

Batting order for speakers at both services

Lead off	10/4	Eon
Two-hole	10/11	Laura
Three-hole	10/18	Scott

Care Calling
As the month has unfolded this team has been essential for our community to stay connected to member who can't come to church as well as those we want to connect with more deeply. Thank you Sue K, Diane C, Jacque C, Mike O, Rob & Debbie K, Sally SP, and Barbara M

Associate Rector Search Update
We are live! Pray for the search and give thanks for Gillian H, Eileen C, Anne L, Russ N and Cathy H on the team. Huge thank you to Jim and Helen C for their wonderful gift to support the search.

Children's Liturgy Facilitators
It has been a delight working with Wendy B, Kris M, Margaret B, John G, Judy K, Peg M. I am really pleased with how the children's liturgy is going and how beautiful the space is. I / we cleaned out not only the liturgy room, but also nursery to make it as inviting a space as possible.

Youth
We had our first meeting to think about High School Deanery Youth. The consensus was HS gathering on the First Sunday of month. Starts Oct 4th.

4th-8th Grade Deanery youth continues on the Second Sunday of the Month. The next youth club will be on Sunday, **October 11** at St. Anselm's.

Finally, **October 4th** is an exceptionally full day:

- 8am Church with stewardship speaker
- 10am Church with stewardship speaker
- 11:30am League of Women Voters
- 1pm High School bowling (Sun Valley Mall, Concord)
- 5pm Pet Blessing and commemorations on the labyrinth.

(Pet Blessings for the last couple of years have been wild card events – sometimes nice and sometime unbearably hot. So, I want to try something different.

We will be gathering around the labyrinth when the sun has gone down a little bit. IF it is still too hot, we will gather in the bell area of church (the tables will be moved.)

FRUITS OF THE HARVEST (FOTH)

29th FRUITS OF THE HARVEST (FOTH) 2026
Fundraiser for Outreach Ministry Partners and Events

What a great night! The parish hall was swathed in a red background with "chandeliers" overhead of red and black ribbons hanging from above. Volunteers worked that week to get the silent auction, raffles, and Mystery Boxes ready, set up signage, decorate the parish hall, made flower arrangements, put up wall decorations, prepared food and the delicious cake, setup the bar, set up the bank and registration, and got the audio and video ready for the night. It all came together with a huge army of volunteers.

THANK YOU ALL for your great generosity with monetary donations, silent auction items, Mystery Boxes, raffle items, gift cards and certificates, the Wall of Wine bottles, and wine for the bar donations, and flowers for the decorations.

Our theme and purpose for the night: Show love by opening our hearts and contributing to send funds to our beneficiaries for their important work to help people in need, and also by working with our hands-on volunteering.

Great Success! - We had the most successful results we have ever had in 29 years. *I'm gob smacked!* ...a good British exclamation. Our ballpark net for the night has risen with more donations this week to $92,000! Last year we netted $71,500. The Fund-A-Need made $34,925. Last year it was $22,225.

Grants - In October the Outreach committee will meet and review the grants that will go to each of these organizations. The church budget allocation of $15,000 is added to this amount with any rollover and donations to determine the final amount given to beneficiaries.

In addition, St. Timothy's church budget also supports three organizations with an additional $3,000 to reach out for the health of the Episcopal Church: Church Divinity School of the Pacific, School for Deacons, and Interfaith Council of CCC.

Our 2026 FOTH Video - Big thanks go to Carolyn Bried who made our seventh FOTH wonderful video this year. People commented that it was the best ever and it reflected our theme for the event. Its emphasis was to show not only what our beneficiaries and our church projects do, but how much we have supported them with grants over the years. It had me smiling throughout the whole video, and it felt joyous.

Special Guest Speaker – Maureen Wright, Executive Director from The Respite Inn, showed a video explaining this home resource designed like a "bed and breakfast" inn where an adult child or relative with developmental disabilities can stay for a short period to give restorative time of respite for caregivers. We also heard from delightful Shay Shay, a guest from the Respite Inn. Our donations have supplied them with special items to enhance their health and enjoyment of their time at the Inn.

Volunteers – A huge debt of gratitude goes to Co-Chairs Sally Shea Potts and Kimberly Bryant. They are really talented, organized and fast. This event would not happen without them. Sally is in charge of entering all the data into our event software that records attendees, donations of everything, tickets sold, funds received, printing of all signage and name badges, registration, the Fund-A-Need, banking, organizing and much more. Kimberly worked on the graphics and invitations, descriptions and bid sheets, the event booklet, all registration materials, weekly announcements, produced a preview of the auction items, and so much more. She, Alison Hill, and Lauren Mason, organized all the auction and raffle items and displays. Fantastic people. John Hager deserves a medal for all the things he helped with for the event. He took care of all the tech with the video and music, along with Kari Doolittle. He helped with a big Costco run for beverages and purchases, and getting last minute items for the bar. Thomas Hager was a great helper in many areas. Barbara Avolicino and Nancy Malcolm helped everywhere. Volunteers for the Wall of Wine: thank you for setting up the wine, Karen Parnell, and thank you to the attendants at the WOW, Chris McLain and with the corks at registration, Suzanne Walsh. Thank you to all the runners at the Fund-A-Need: Landen Anderson, Teresa Centeno Kim, Sean Potts, Lindsay Firth, Allison Geraci-Novy and Thomas Hager.

Food – Tania Hanson-De Young did a masterful job of handling the food and servers for the event. The caterer was Havana Catering in Concord and we have heard nothing but compliments on how delicious the Cuban food was. The many helpers in the kitchen were Teresa Centeno Kim, Zoe Davies, Allie Geraci-Novy, Linda Miller, Chris, Barbara and John Avolicino, Susan Lukito and Chelsea De Young. Judy Kerns and her cousin helped with baking of the *Tres Leches* Cake and special cookies for dessert. Thank you, Judy and Bruce, for donating all the supplies for the cakes. Thank you, Holly and Ron Tsung for making and donating the croissant chicken sandwiches and salad for the volunteers on Friday, and to Dick Firth for the pizzas on Saturday.

Bar – Our Head Bartender, Mike Brown, with his band of renown bartenders Isabel Brown, Russ Novy and John Avolicino did a great job of keeping us all hydrated with the Sangria, Cuba Libres, wine and non-alcoholic beverages. Thank you for all the hard work and donations.

Decorations: Thank you, Joann Hansen, for generously donating the glass vases and flowers for the table centerpieces. They looked great on the red tables. The flowers were arranged by a fun group: Caryle Voss, Wendy Brainerd, Carole Austin, Jan Smith, Sue Peters, and Cindy Mathis. Many thanks to Ginger Johnson for donating and delivering a huge number of bouquets of tropical exotic flowers and palms for arrangements for the food tables and on the piano. She delivered these from the San Francisco Flower Market. It added a special touch. These were made by Leslie Firth and Caryle Voss. A big thank you to the Stitching Group for cutting many ribbons needed to make the ribbon chandeliers for the parish hall ceiling. Helpers also cutting ribbons were Wendy Brainerd, Helen Coleman, Margaret Batesole, Cathy Hager, Holly Tsung, and makers of the ribbon chandeliers were Teresa Centeno Kim, Caryle & Kevin Voss, Alison Hill, Kathy Wills, and Scott Jokerst. It took a village to make these. I have to thank the hard working and creative people who put up the red wall covering in the parish hall. It was installed by the team of Kevin Voss, Carol Locicero, Leslie Firth, and John Hager and what a job it was. Please take the time to look at the pictures and inspirational quotes.

Bank of Action – John Geraci, head banker, along with Cathy Hager, Sally Shea Potts, Ken Anderson, and helper Thomas Hager have set up a very efficient system and did a great job. Thank you for all you do for this event. Carleen Carns works behind the scenes keeping our FOTH funds recording in check

for our Outreach banking and on our website. Thank you, Carleen. You have our backs and you can always find the answers to the banking questions.

A huge debt of thanks - goes to Rev. Todd Bryant for support for the whole event and working behind the scenes.

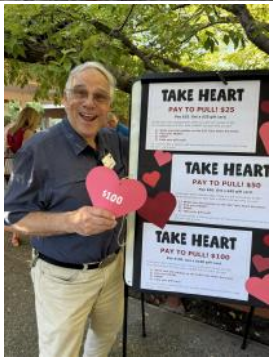
Thanks to all of you for making this event such a success and for all the help that was so generously given to make it so. Please forgive me if I forgot anyone.

We love and appreciate all of you.

Leslie Firth - Outreach Commission

ti amo

BE THE
CHANGE


TAKE HEART
PAY TO PULL! $25
TAKE HEART
PAY TO PULL! $50
TAKE HEART
PAY TO PULL! $100
$100

Jim
Coleman

RISE AGAINST HUNGER

Meal Packaging Event

Saturday, October 10, 2026
9:00 am - Noon
Fun for a Good Cause

Thank you to everyone who has already signed up and/or donated to the Meal Packing Event!

If you are planning to volunteer, please sign up soon. We need to provide the volunteer and donation numbers to Rise Against Hunger before the event.

Register & Donate

Registration will also be available on Sunday
Make checks out to St. Timothy's, put Rise Against Hunger in the memo line.

Contact: Joann Oliver, joannmarieoliver@gmail.com

TOILETRIES DRIVE FOR OPTIONS

FOR
OPTIONS RECOVERY SERVICES

TOILETRIES Drive

OCTOBER 11 - 25

As the holidays approach, Saint Timothy's is taking part in providing much needed hygiene toiletry kits for Christmas packages for the clients at Options. Other churches are taking part in providing other needed items for the gift packages.

This year, Options is requesting regular sized items since the small toiletries run out very quickly. It is very easy to purchase these items by shopping the wish list on Amazon for the Toiletries drive. Just scan the Amazon QR code and the items are all listed. These will be shipped to St. Timothy's.

Supplies needed for the 75 men and 40 women housed by Options

Male Kits: Body Wash, Deodorant, Shampoo/Conditioner, Lotion

Female Kits: Body Wash, Shampoo, Conditioner, Lotion

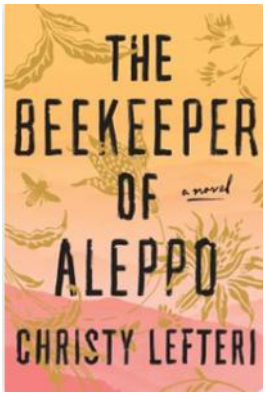
Options greatly appreciates the generosity shown by St. Timothy's for the donations provided to our clients during the Christmas season. Thank you for helping make the holidays brighter for those in need.

more info, contact Peg M.
Pegeatonmiller@prodigy.net

[Click HERE to view our Amazon Wishlist!]

OCTOBER BOOK GROUP

Sunday, October 18
"Beekeeper of Aleppo"



You are invited to join the members of the St Timothy's book group in reading "The Beekeeper of Aleppo" by Christy Lefteri. The beekeeper is Nuri, a resident of the Syrian city of Aleppo. When the book opens, he is living in Aleppo with his wife, Afra, an artist. War comes to their part of Syria and Afra goes blind after seeing a horrific event. We follow the journey of Nuri and Afra through Turkey and Greece toward their goal of joining Nuri's cousin and business partner Mustafa in England, where he is raising bees. Not only do we learn about the obstacles that Nuri and Afra encounter on the journey, but we find out how the impact of war can change and enhance relationships.

COFFEE HOUR & FELLOWSHIP

We're looking for Hosts following the 10 am services on 11/29 and 12/20.

Can you help set up, provide goodies, etc.? We know that everyone enjoys coffee/tea and treats following the 10 am service. We are looking for people to help in this very valuable fellowship time. Volunteer to be a host and bring goodies; it's simple. Host as a family, with a friend, or with your St. Timothy's groups. Make a commitment to be part of fellowship in our church. And there's always someone willing to show you the ropes. View the Sign Up Genius or scan the QR code.

WHOLE LIFE PLANNING GUIDE

Loving thanks to Pastor Susan who worked on updating the Whole Life Planning Guide which can be found on our website under Worship -> Funerals. Or Click HERE.

The Whole Life Planning Guide contains:

- Funeral Planning Guide
- Scriptures - samples
- Columbarium - Information, Forms and FAQs
- Forms to be completed with information to help your loved ones navigate the funeral process
- Powers of Attorney – sample forms

Please take some time to review the information and consider what information and preparations would be best for you and your family. Pastor Todd is always available to help you through this process.

CCIC BEDDING PROGRAM

Can you help the CCIC bedding program? Donations need to be sorted, sometimes laundered, and tagged with the size. The location is in downtown Danville and volunteers help as they can and also “take work home”. Delivery to your door is an option if you live near downtown. Contact Tania at taniahd@comcast.net.

ADOPT-A-FAMILY BIKES

Adopt-A-Family Bikes is losing their donated space in Alamo and are looking for a new location.

WINTER NIGHTS SHELTER CLOSURE

We were sad to learn that the Winter Nights Shelter non-profit is shutting down and will not be opening this season. Winter Nights began in 2004 as a grassroots program of the Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County. St. Timothy’s has participated in the program since the beginning.

Each year, with the help of St. Timothy’s and Beth Chaim volunteers, we opened the Parish Hall to become a shelter hosting families with children. We provided breakfast, lunch, and dinner; laundry services; showers; assistance with homework; space for play and relaxation. Transportation, counseling, and other services to help families move into stable housing was provided by the Winter Nights program. Approximately 150 families have been served through St. Timothy’s and Beth Chaim’s generosity and commitment.

The Winter Nights Board of Directors has concluded that the program no longer has the combination of reliable revenue, organizational infrastructure, staffing capacity and administrative support necessary to operate in a sustainable manner.

The St Timothy’s Outreach Committee would like to thank the congregation for your generous support of Winter Nights over the last 20+ years. Your compassion has helped families remain together, find safety and move toward stable housing.

To read the Closure Statement from Winter Nights Board of Directors, click HERE.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS PRESENTATION

Thank you to the League of Women Voters for their presentation – Fact vs. Fiction on September 8th.

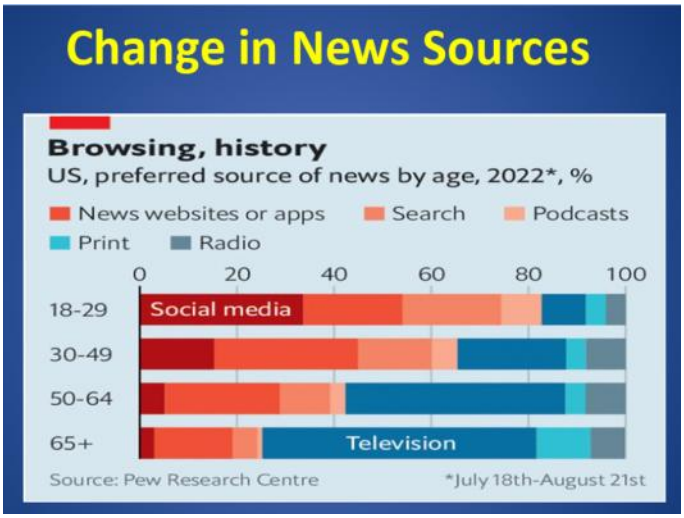
We look forward to their presentation on the Ballot Propositions on October 4th at 11:30am. They will cover 14 state-wide ballot measures and a local regional transportation measure. This is important work, please join us in-person or on-line for this non-partisan information opportunity.

The League of Women Voters of Diablo Valley is -

- Nonpartisan – and does not support or oppose and political party or candidate
- A political organization - advocating for equitable voting access and working on issues of concern to its members and the public
- Not neutral – "When democracy is under threat, when voter access is restricted or when disinformation spreads, we have a responsibility to speak out – clearly and forcefully."

<u>Here are some of the important points from the Fact vs. Fiction presentation</u>

- We are in an Attention-Driven Media Environment fostered by Extremism, Outrage and Performance. It gets more clicks - is shared more often - makes more money for the media source.
- Propaganda – Information, especially of a Biased or Misleading nature, used to promote a political cause or point of view
- Misinformation – a statement that is untrue
- Disinformation – a statement intentionally presenting information that is either not true or distorted
- Certain groups consume information from different sources.
- 6 Media Giants control 90% of what we read, watch or listen to.
- Where does your New Source fall in the Left, Right, Center on the Bias Chart?



Fact Checking Resources

Content

FactCheck.org
PolitiFact.com
OpenSecrets.org
Snopes.com

Images

TinEye.com
Images.Google.com

New Sources that Fact Check

BBC	bbc.com/news/bbcverify
NPR	npr.org/sections/politics-fact-check
Reuters	reuters.com/fact-check
AP	apnews.com/ap-fact-check
NYT	nytimes.com/spotlight/fact-checks
WAPO	washingtonpost.com/politics/fact-check/
Ground News	ground.news

Identify Mis and Dis Information and Propaganda

- Check the Source
- Apply Critical Thinking
- Identify Reliable News Sources

STOP False Information

- Don't click or share
- Don't engage, except to share accurate information
- Do block users you don't know who share mis/dis-information

VOTE

June 2nd Primary
Results for Contra Costa County –

only 44.8% turnout
302,497 Voted by Mail
24,850 In Person

VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The Vestry met on September 16, 2026, in a hybrid in-person and Zoom Meeting.

We approved the following items – We approved the minutes from the August 19th Vestry meeting, Financial Report for September, the updated Outreach Calendar Events calendar, Property Commission Report and 2027 Benefit Plan renewal.

Financial Summary for January through August 2026

	Actual	Budget
Total Income	**$624,577**	**$593,225**
Total Expenses	**$579,837**	**$598,034**
Net Operating Income	**$44,740**	**($4,809)**

1. Strong financial results continued through August. Pledge income dropped compared with budget for the month of August ($29,240 actual vs. $69,502 budget), but all other income (e.g., plate offerings) remained strong at $9,475 actuals vs. $4,651 budget. August tends to be a lower pledge month.
2. Expenses remain lower than budget YTD and were lower than budget for the month of August ($70,897 actual vs $74,754 budget).
3. Our net operating income for the first 8 months of 2026 was $44,740 compared with the budget of ($4,809). We should have some tailwinds for the remainder of 2026 as the Associate Rector search gets underway.

- FYI
  - The Women's restroom in the Education Building has been inspected. There are several issues that need to be resolved. Construction is expected to finish during the week of 21- 25 September.
    - There are several other improvements and major work that still need to be scheduled.
  - Property Spruce up. There will be a property cleanup planned in the next few months. In addition, Kimberly B. and Monika M. (Facilities Manager) want to clean up the various storage closets and get rid of items.
  - It was asked and confirmed that the people doing the Children's Liturgy on Sunday Mornings are Safe-Church trained or are just completing the training and requirements.
  - Rev. Todd is asking for a contribution to his Retirements Savings Plan (addition information included).
  - Associate Rector Search. The final touches of the job placement announcement has been sent to the Diocese who will be posting the announcement very soon (September 17th).

Parish members are welcome to attend Vestry meetings. The next meeting is on Wednesday October 21, 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 by John Hager, Clerk

Vestry Update: Supporting Rev. Todd's Retirement Planning

Earlier this year, Rev. Todd attended the Credo Conference, which includes a full review of clergy well-being—physical, spiritual, vocational, and financial. During this process, he identified a gap in his long-term housing security, since the Ackerman residence is owned by St. Timothy's and does not provide him with equity.

Credo's financial advisors recommended that Todd begin contributing to the Episcopal Church Retirement Savings Plan (RSVP), a 403(b)(9) designed for clergy and offering important tax advantages for housing in retirement.

The Vestry values Todd's leadership and wants to support his long-term stability, and they are proposing annual contributions from St. Timothy's to Todd's RSVP. This is a commitment that will be finalized after congregational feedback and a second vote.

Comments and questions are welcome—please speak with any Vestry member or email **treasurer@sainttimothysdanville.org**.

CONTACT US

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

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

Monika Miller - Facilities
Facilities@SaintTimothysDanville.org

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

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

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

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

Pastoral Care Line
(925) 837-4993 x120

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/