

Dear friends,

I am sitting at home early Thursday morning working on my sermon for this coming Sunday, praying for all of you, and giving thanks for the vibrant Gospel proclamation which emanates from St. Timothy's. I hope to see a big crowd in church on Sunday (and every Sunday! ;)

These three days have been filled with incredible meetings with staff, wardens, parishioners, and visitors to our parish. Please know that remembering names is not my greatest gift, and so I ask your forbearance as I stumble along trying my best! Ernesto the housekeeper at John Muir Walnut Creek and I played a game for a month or so, trying not to look at each other's name tags as we learned each other's names. I hope that you will join me in lighthearted fun about this. Thank you in advance! One note: I have poor hearing in my right ear: I lost the hearing suddenly one day about seven years ago and have struggled to make peace with a hearing aid. Now that I have, I call myself a hearing loss evangelist...what else does the preacher do?

Finally, many of you have asked what I like to be called. I prefer Stacey, and will share with you as we go along why I believe Father and Mother are not helpful to today's church. Of course I have many colleagues who disagree! I am also happy to have children address me by my first name, although I learned in my last parish that there is some wisdom these days in asking children to address me a bit more formally, as they might a teacher at school. So Rev Stacey is how I address myself to children, and seems to work just fine.

Three things of note:

Welcome Home Sunday is Sunday, September 13, and that day we will worship once at 10 am, hopefully outside. I can't wait!

Because school starts in August these days, I am also aware that church attendance begins to pick up in the waning days of August. This Sunday I will be introducing The Children's Time, which is a way I have found engages both children and adults in an interactive theological discussion in the liturgy. I can't wait!

Please know that our wonderful staff members Lori, Pat and Bea and I will be going off campus for a one day retreat, hopefully the week of August 10, so that we can have some concentrated time on schedule, program year, administrative responsibilities, and ways that we can work as a team to serve God and the congregation. For now, you can find a general schedule of our hours outside Bea's office. More about that soon!

Love, Stacey

Stacey's general work hours:

Sunday: church and pastoral visitations

Monday: 10-6

Tuesday: 10-6

Wednesday: 10-6

Thursday: Sermon/Admin day working from home in Marin

Friday: Sabbath day of rest

Saturday: flexible and open to what is needed

Taizé - Monday, August 3 - 7:00 in the Sanctuary

The Taizé meditative and ecumenical service is designed to help us enter into the mystery of God's presence through live music, (simple, repetitive songs), short scripture/poetry readings, profound silence and soft candlelight.

In this atmosphere of simplicity, service, and deep prayer, the Christ light shines very brightly. We invite you to join us!

"Words can so often divide us, but in the simplicity of song and silence we find that we can meet in trust at the heart". Brother Roger

Email me with questions: mjeancrane88@gmail.com

St Timothy's Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting Highlights – July 2015

The vestry met in Grace House on Thursday, July 9 at 7:00 pm. There were no guests at the meeting.

- The Rev. Stacey Grossman will be the interim rector starting on Monday, July 27, 2015.
- The interim stewardship campaign was a great success! The campaign generated an additional \$31,000.00 in new pledged income for the period July – December 2015. The loss of clergy pledges and a family move reduced the net revenue to an increase of \$11,000 in revenue for the July through December 2015 period.
- During a review of the campus with a representative of EBMUD, it was mentioned that water rates will rise by 33% effective July 1st . 25% of the increase is temporary while we are in a Stage 4 drought. Water use by St Timothy's in 2015 is lower than in 2014.
- A representative of PG&E has also visited the campus and recommended billing and other changes that should result in cost savings
- The status of the church finances and the revised 2015 budget are discussed by the Treasurer in another article in Tidings.
- A motion was approved to move \$100,000 of the Ohmen bequest money from Heritage Savings account to Episcopal Church Foundation Endowment account,
- A motion was approved to resurrect the Endowment Committee. Sally Jess will chair the committee.
- The Noah's Ark Preschool 2015-2016 budget with an annotation from the Finance Committee was approved.
- The vestry approved compensating the Rev. Patricia Pearson for pastoral care as needed during July.
- The revised 2015 Budget submitted by Joe Cunningham was approved.
- Parish members are welcome to attend Vestry meetings. The next meeting is on Thursday, August 13th at 7:00 pm.
- 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 UPDATE

Revenue and Expenditures for June met expectations, with revenues currently exceeding projected receipts by \$31,000. We drew \$60,000 of the approved \$90,000 loan from the diocese to help cover the Rector's severance expense. Our June 30th year to date operational shortfall is only \$29,292, significantly lower than the projected \$88,005. The lower shortfall has improved our current reserve picture for the budgeted 2015 year.

The Vestry approved a revised 2015 Budget for July – December 2015. This budget is the one presented to the parish in May. We are anticipating a balanced cash flow each month for the remainder of the year. This is the result of significant reductions in expenses plus the substantial increase in member income. The Vestry is very appreciative of the Parish's continued financial support.

We as a parish should only feel good and very thankful to God for the good work being done by all. There is new energy and sense of oneness with one another, together with the Holy Spirit working at St Timothy's.

Joe Cunningham
Treasurer

2015 Youth Immersion Trip: Huh? Tell them again Jesus!



Thank you for supporting the youth of St. Timothy's in their commitment to service, spiritual discovery, teamwork and fun!

What are we doing? August 2-10: Working on the wooded and mountainous grounds of [St. Dorothy's Rest](#). Building 2 cob pizza ovens, building a timber framed structure; peeling some logs, notching and some basic carpentry. Also: working the vegetable and herb garden, clearing campsites and lollipopping trees.

Our theme, "Huh? Tell 'em again Jesus!" is based on parables from Jesus. He teaches us much through agricultural examples and we will explore several of them.

Stay in touch: You can follow us on Tumblr and YouTube:

<http://stdotsimmersion.tumblr.com/>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/mchalesd>

We look forward to delivering sermons and telling you about our trip on Sunday, August 16th. Thank you! Allen Abbott, Claire Keeshen, Katie Keeshen, Nina Patel, Ellen Vila, Sam Vila.

VBS - Peace Around the World

Reflections

This summer at VBS, campers, counselors and adult volunteers explored the theme of peace through the lens of six faith traditions: Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, Christianity, Judaism and Native American spirituality. We learned that there are many common elements that tie these faith traditions together includes a version of the Golden Rule and sacred items such as a light, water, oil, incense and prayer beads.



Each day of camp, we learned about a different tradition with the help of a guest storyteller and we were fortunate to have wonderful volunteer presenters:

Hinduism	Shipra Rastogi, - one of our Noah's Ark preschool teachers
Islam	Nora Talebi - a member of the Islamic Networking Group
Buddhism	Nora Hudson – a parishioner who spent time in a Buddhist monastery
Christianity	Audrey Miskelley – our interim rector through June
Judaism	Heidi Benson – a member of the Beth Chaim congregation
Native American	Gloria Rousseau – a parishioner of Native American descent

As is our VBS tradition, campers rotated to different stations each day: story, music, crafts, snacks and lawn games. The crafts related to each faith tradition and camper created rangoli designs, prayer beads, prayer mats, prayer candles, peace flags, a mezuzah and a talking stick. In the music rotation, campers and counselors learned peace songs with Pat Parr. And each day we explored practices to help us be peaceful within ourselves because that is where peace always begins.

This special week was designed to honor the very best of the major faith traditions and to honor the peace which these faith traditions hold as sacred. Using peace as our common desire, we sought peace within ourselves and peace around the world.

Thank you to EVERYONE who makes VBS so special year after year. And may God's peace, which is God's deepest desire for the world, be with you all!

Lori Robinson
Associate for Family Ministry





WHAT! NO PARISH MUSICAL???

I continue to be asked the question "What will be the Parish Musical this year?" so I have decided to address this via Tidings.

As most of you know the staff's hours were cut to 20 hours a week with the provision that during special seasons like Christmas and Easter, which will require more than 20 hours, we will be paid overtime.

As anyone who has worked on one of the Parish Musicals knows, it can take 50 - 60 hours a week in rehearsals, pulling costumes, building and painting sets, etc. for a period of 6-8 weeks. As a full-time employee I was able to devote those extra hours, The simple reality is that as a part-time employee I simply cannot give away that time and the Parish is not in a position to pay the overtime that would be required. I am truly sorry that the Parish Musical will now become a thing of the past. I saw it as a great inter-generational community builder, enjoyed both by those who participated and those who came as audience members.

Pat Parr
Associate for Music Ministry

SAVE THE DATE for MUSIC ON THE PATIO

Remember a few summers ago when we had "Music on the Patio" where people brought picnic dinners, wine, etc. and a bunch of St. Timothy's musicians performed for fun. Well, we're doing it again.

Saturday, August 29 from 6 - 9 (or when it gets too dark to see) Craig, Pat, the Kanazawas, the Wraiths and Adam Linari are setting up to jam.

Please come and have fun for free on the patio at St. Timothy's

WHO CARES?

We Are Care-Givers, God Is the Cure-Giver



Are you a trained Stephen Minister? Did you attend the training for Community of Hope? Do you listen, empathize, encourage, pray, and provide emotional and spiritual support to hurting people for as long as the need persists?

God works in and through us to bring hope and healing. If you are feeling lonely, experiencing a crisis, struggling through a difficult time, or simply find yourself stressed by everyday life, do you wish for care?

Those who are continuing in Pastoral Care need support and continuing education.

Joan Evens, Jane Butterfield and Bob Carns are putting together a group of people who would like to talk about where we are going and about support for others who are caring.

Join us on Thursday, August 13 and 27 at 7:00 p.m., in Grace House. We look forward to seeing you.



Thank you

We appreciate the time and talent shared by the following parish members on July 11

Frances Stephenson, Sally Pots and Betty Davis – painted copper pipes in the restrooms in the Ed Wing

Barbara Monsler – painted 3 benches and freshened the exterior walls of the breezeway and Ed Wing

Bob Marquardt – removed two flowering cherry trees on the patio

Rand Mahoney moved the fire pit to the container, cleaned the covers on the lights in the breezeway and pruned several trees on the patio

Neal Matsunaga cob webbed the exterior of the parish hall, Ed Wing, and church. He also cob webbed the interior of the church.

Sharyn Mitzo leveled sand in sandbox in play yard in anticipation of Garrison Kanazawa adding more sand on July 13.

All tasks on the list were completed. Yeah!!

Bev Matsunaga at 837-4993, Ext. 11

WATER USE UPDATE

- EBMUD visited the campus last Tuesday and conducted a water use audit. The representative focused on water use inside our buildings. In addition to checking faucets and toilets, he also installed flow restrictors on all faucets, that should reduce water use by 50% or more.
- Effective July 1, EBMUD raised their rates 33% -- 25% for buying water to supplement usual sources and 8% for improvements on their system.
- In the last billing cycle, we reduced our water usage by 60% compared to 2013. This was accomplished by reducing the irrigation of the turf. This reduction in water reduced our EBMUD bill by over \$1,400 compared to the same period last year and about \$1,300 compared to the same period in 2013.
- Everyone's help is needed to watch how much water is used when washing hands or doing dishes.

Bev Matsunaga
837-4993 Ext. 11, bkmats@aol.com



New Episcopal Women (NEW)

The New Episcopal Women will be holding a sushi making workshop on Wednesday August 19th in the Parish Hall at 6:30 p.m. Fees are \$5.00. This includes 1-2 custom made sushi rolls, a sushi roller and recipes for rice seasoning and sushi dips. The class will be taught by St. Timothy newcomer Cindy Kawamura. Please bring a cutting board to class. If you have any questions please contact Nora Hudson (925) 838-5610 kenogiro@att.net

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRIES (EFM)

will begin its 2015-2016 session in early September. EFM is a program designed for lay Christians to explore and develop their relationship with God. It is for all who seek to hear God's call and want to say "Yes". For more information please contact Lisa Perry Lisa@PMCAp.com or 925-785-8015.

DELVING INTO THE WORD SUMMER BREAK

The Delving into The Word group will be taking a summer break until September. The group will reconvene in September depending on continued interest within the Parish.

BIBLE STUDY

The Monday Noon Bible Study will recess for the summer and reconvene on September 14th. When we start-up again we will continue our study of the letters of Paul and how their teachings apply to our lives and the formation and development of our faith. We will resume our discussions reflecting on the controversial sayings contained in First Corinthians 11. All will be welcome. Please contact Gil Jardine at gjl@leadercompetency.com for further information.

Stop Hunger Now – Meal Packaging Event



Last year, St. Timothy's Parishioners hosted a Stop Hunger Now (SHN) Meal Packaging Event in the Parish Hall. During one Saturday morning, 95 volunteers packaged 20,000 meals which were sent to orphanages and schools, and to locations needing emergency relief. Volunteers package the meals through an assembly-line process that combines rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables, flavoring/vitamins. It was a fun, fast paced and rewarding morning and we are bringing it back by popular demand.

What: Stop Hunger Now - Nutritional Meal Packaging Event
Where: Parish Hall
When: Saturday, September 19
Time: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Who: Volunteers of all ages.....there is a job for everyone!
(Children under 13 must come with an adult.)

We need donations to purchase the supplies and volunteers to package the meals. Registration forms will be available on Sundays and online. Information, contact Joann Oliver, joannoliver@sbcglobal.net.

Stop Hunger Now is an international hunger relief agency that has been working to end hunger for more than 15 years. Every 6 seconds a child dies of hunger. Providing a hot meal during school gives parents an incentive to send their children to school. Through receiving a primary school education, the cycle of poverty can begin to be broken. For more information go to: <http://www.stophungernow.org/>.

Calling all God's Hands Volunteers
Saint Timothy's is seeking volunteers to assist Habitat for Humanity
East Bay/Silicon Valley with its Build Days on August 15, 2015
at the Muir Ridge Homes in Martinez.

Many of you know of Habitat for Humanity and all the good work it does to help families in need. Since 1986 Habitat for Humanity East Bay/Silicon Valley has served over 6,000 individuals in Alameda, Contra Costa, and Santa Clara counties by providing affordable homeownership opportunities to low-income families looking for a safe, decent place to live. For thousands of families in the Bay Area, a safe, decent, and affordable home is a dream. Along with volunteers from all faiths, your help can change the life of a family for decades.

After the successful ***Building on Faith Framing Blitz*** on June 6, this summer Saint Timothy's has the opportunity again to join other volunteers to help complete the construction of these houses at Muir Ridge, the new 20-home Habitat for Humanity development in Martinez. No building experience is necessary, although all volunteers must be ages 16 and up.

- * **Build Day [August 15](#)**
- * Participation is a full day commitment, [7:30 am to 5 pm](#)
- * Breakfast and lunch are provided

Saint Timothy's Outreach contributed \$1,000 from FOTH proceeds to support the Habitat for Humanity Muir Ridge Homes.

How to Volunteer

Sign-up [all that is needed is your name and email address] at the God's Hands red bulletin board. Saint Timothy's has **ten (10) spots in their volunteer roster for Saturday August 15.** If you any questions, please contact David Kutrosky at kutroskyd@gmail.com.

F.Y.I.: There is now a "ReStore"

Renovating? Remodeling? Make ReStore Concord your first stop. Opening in August at 1500 Monument Boulevard in Concord, you will find a large selection of home improvement treasures: designer appliances, antiques, furniture, kitchen cabinets, unique lighting and de'cor and building materials at 75% off of retail. This merchandise comes from local donations made by businesses, home stagers, contractors, and homeowners **who want to help support Habitat for Humanity.** **Proceeds of every sale go directly into helping build homes for working families.**

CONTRA COSTA INTERFAITH HOUSING (CCIH)
2015 SCHOOL
SUPPLIES DRIVE
July 19th through August 10th

Please drop off supplies in the entry at Grace House by no later than Aug. 10th.

Help prepare students for the upcoming school year by ensuring they have all the tools they need to be successful. With your help, CCIH hopes to provide every Homework Club student with a backpack filled with school supplies. We will not be trying to fill backpacks with supplies here at St. Timothy's. Anything on the list is welcomed and distributed.

There is a copy of the wish list in the July & August Tidings, and the 411, or you may find copies at the **God's Hands Red rolling bulletin Outreach board** out front after Sunday services and at coffee hour. There are also wish lists in the mailbox in the Grace House office.

We also welcome monetary donations. Please make out checks to *Contra Costa Interfaith Housing, CCIH School Supplies Drive*, and put them in the designated mailbox in the office or hand them to Leslie Firth.

CCIH's mission is to provide permanent, affordable housing and vital support services to homeless and at-risk families and individuals in Contra Costa County.

To find out more about the supportive services that they provide at the Garden Park Apartments in Pleasant Hill, and at their other after-school programs in Concord, Baypoint and Pittsburg, please check out ccinterfaithhousing.org.

Let me know if you would be able to help drive collected school supplies up to CCIH offices in Pleasant Hill. For more information, contact: Leslie Firth, lesliefirth@comcast.net, or 925-314-3044.

See next page for list!



2015 SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE for CCIH

Contra Costa Interfaith Housing

NOW TILL AUG. 10

It's time again to give children the tools to learn. We are collecting supplies for CCIH for about 120 low-income students and formerly homeless children in their three locations in Pleasant Hill, Bay Point and Pittsburg. By providing school supplies we ensure that the children have what they need to succeed throughout the academic year. We believe that education helps interrupt the cycle of poverty and homelessness.

Bring your donations to the entry of Grace House no later than Monday, Aug. 10th. We will be taking them up to CCIH early on Tuesday, the 11th. We also welcome monetary donations. Make checks out to *Contra Costa Interfaith Housing - CCIH School Supplies Drive*, and put them in the designated mailbox in the office or hand it to Leslie Firth. Thank you in advance for your support and generosity! Everything gets distributed.

WISH LIST

Elementary School (61 boys & 35 girls)

- Backpack
- Large pink erasers (2 pack)
- Plastic Pencil box
- #2 Pencils (box of 12)
- Package of lined paper (wide-ruled)
- 3 Notebooks (wide rule)
- Medium box of crayons (Box of 24)
- Pkg. of 8 washable colored markers
- Package of glue sticks (3 pack)
- Pencil sharpener that catches shavings
- Kid scissors
- 12" Ruler
- Colored pencils (12 count)
- Water color paints (Basic 8 color set)

Middle School (34 boys & 19 girls) & High School (9 boys & 9 girls)

- Backpack
- 2 – 1 inch 3 ring binder
- 1 set of tabbed dividers (1/6th cut)
- 6 Clear Report Covers with sliding bar
- 4 - folders with fasteners and pockets
- 2 Composition notebook
- 5 Notebooks (College Ruled)
- Pack of Lined Paper (College Ruled)
- 3 x 5 index cards (2 pkgs.)
- Poster board (large)
- Graph paper
- 2 pkg. Index cards
- **Scientific** calculator
- Protractor & rubber tip compass
- Large pink erasers (2 pack)
- Pens (3 blue, 3 black, & 3 red)
- #2 Pencils (box of 12)
- 2 Mechanical pencils and replacement lead
- Colored pencils (24 count)

- Pencil sharpener that catches shavings
- Pkg. of 8 skinny washable colored markers
- 3 Highlighters (variety of colors)
- glue sticks (3 pack)
- Post it notes

Supplies for Homework Club and College Prep Program

- Mechanical Pencils and Lead
- 3 Expo dry erase markers
- TI-89 Calculator
- White Board markers
- Printer Paper
- Computer paper
- Graph Paper
- Poster Boards
- Electronic pencil Sharpener
- USB Flash drives (4 GB or higher)
- Post-It Easel pads
- Water colors
- Multi-color tissue paper (school projects)
- Re-stickable easel pads
- Math Manipulatives – toys & objects that develop counting and organizing skills (example: www.learningresources.com)
- Paper plates and cups
- Disposable spoons and forks

Additional needs

- AAA batteries
- Lakeshore gift cards for learning materials
- Safeway Gift cards for after school snacks
- Target Gift cards for unexpected items
- \$5 gift cards to Starbucks and Jamba Juice for good report card incentives

For more info, contact Leslie Firth, 925-314-3044
leslifirth@comcast.net

DEADLINE for September Tidings is August 25

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SaintTimothysDanville.org

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Contact Us

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Associate for Music Ministry:	Pat Parr	15	PatParr@SaintTimothysDanville.org
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Noah's Ark Director:	Cynthia Chavez		925-362-8565 NoahsArk@SaintTimothysDanville.org
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