



Greetings friends,

I want to thank all of you who contributed to our stewardship drive this year. If you have not pledged, it's not too late. It is through your commitment to St. Timothy's that our mission to love God and this good world becomes more real. You chose to give your time, talent and treasure to St. Timothy's. For that, I am grateful. I am also so grateful to the stewardship team. They not only led a great campaign, but also continue to be deeply committed to our ongoing success. You can thank them also for the delicious meal on October 29th. There are a few things I'd like to draw your attention to this month.

The Altar

The Altar will look a little different in November. The first Sunday we will make a new configuration of the Altar/Choir area will be November 5th. If it is a success, it will stay. If not, we will go back to the way it has been by Dec 3rd. We will measure success by how well it suits the choirs' ministry as well as how well it enables a seamless liturgical flow.

We want to move the instrumentalists out of the corner by the organ, give the singers an ability to hear each other better, and use the large red carpeted area more worshipfully and effectively. During combined services and big days this arrangement will necessarily be a little different.

I welcome your questions and feedback. Remember - November 5th would be the first Sunday. Take a look at the pictures. This is roughly how it will appear in November 5th – All Saints' Day.



LUNCH FOR TRINITY CENTER

"I'm starving!". The expression is often used and yet when a man at Trinity Center said it, he really meant it. The man moved through the lunch line, holding his food tray with one hand and his pants up with the other, for lack of a belt. The man came back two more times for generous helpings of food. His gratitude was evident and yet I felt that I had just received more than he, by being able to serve him.

The first Friday of every month, a group of volunteers gathers in the parish kitchen around 9:30am to prepare a healthy warm meal for our brothers and sisters at Trinity Center in Walnut Creek. Preparing the food together is always a wonderful opportunity to get to know each other

Some volunteers are unable to help during the week day, so they do the food shopping, one volunteer delivers the food warming container to the church from Walnut Creek, others prepare the dessert and drop it off, while others help serve the meal around noon. For the homeless there is often faith sharing after the meal, if they are interested.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Mae Warren at maewarr@gmail.com or 838-1108. There is no monthly commitment required; you can volunteer just once or as you are available. The next meal will be served **Friday Nov. 3rd**. Please take the opportunity to thank Mae for her dedicated leadership of this important ministry.

NOVEMBER IS HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS MONTH

On Sunday October 15, 2017 a beautiful young woman attended the 9:00 a.m. service for a visit. Later she attended Pastor Todd's Bible study class and revealed that she had been sleeping in her car for well over a year. This homeless woman proceeded to tell the class that the issue of homelessness may be overwhelming but one thing that people can do is to be a friend to the homeless.

How does one welcome the homeless that we encounter on the streets and in our community? Hopefully the upcoming workshops on homelessness may help us find ways to make that connection.

There will be 2 presentations in November

Sunday, November 19, 10:15 to 10:45 am

in the Grace House Overby Conference Room

Mary Fenalon - housing Advocate will discuss her involvement with the homeless population in Walnut Creek

Wednesday November-29, 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

Jessie Jones, Tom Gorman and Davida Coady discuss their life stories and experience with homelessness

If you have any questions, please contact Nora Hudson at noramhudson52@gmail.com





Senior Ministries Fall Luncheon

**Wednesday, November 8, 2017 11:30 am
Parish Hall**

**Please join us for a wonderful opportunity to catch up with old friends
and make new ones.**

Menu: Salad, Tri-tip, sautéed mushrooms, scalloped potatoes, and pumpkin pie

To sign up to attend or volunteer, call or send email to:

Cathy Morris (925) 300-3555 or lilcaptain315@gmail.com

MONDAY NOON BIBLE STUDY: REVISED SCHEDULE THRU JANUARY 8, 2018

The Pseudo-Apocryphal Jesus: The Writings that Didn't Make it into the Canon

Nov 6: Readings from the Gospel of Thomas

Nov 13: The Apocrypha and the Cult of Mary

Nov 20: Joseph and Mary in the Proto-Gospel of James

Nov 27: The Infancy Gospel of Thomas

Dec 4: Gnosticism: An Overview

Dec 11: The Gospel of Judas

Dec 18: The Acts of Thomas and the Mission to India

Dec 25: Christmas (no class)

Jan 1: New Year's Day (No class)

Jan 8: Resume class— Study continued through March (Apocryphal texts TBD)

References:

Meyer, Marvin M: The Nag Hammadi Scriptures: The International Edition, Harper-Collins, 2007

Video Course/Course Guide: The Apocryphal Jesus, Dr. David Brakke, The Great Courses, 2017

Audio Course/Course Guide: Gnosticism: From Nag Hammadi to the Gospel of Judas, Dr. David Brakke, The Great Courses, 2015

Audio Course/Course Guide: Controversies in Early Christian History: Dr. Bart D Ehrman, The Great Courses, 2013

TROOP 36 CHRISTMAS TREE FUNDRAISER



This season order your Christmas tree online from Troop 36 at www.troop36.net. Orders will be accepted through November 14. You can pick up your tree on December 2 between noon and 5 pm in the back parking lot of the church. Proceeds from the tree sales will go to [Trees For Troops](#), St. Timothy's Church Outreach, and Troop 36 scholarships. For more information Contact: Spencer Fulweiler, fulweilers@me.com.

CELEBRATE THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS DINNERS WITH PARISHIONERS

On your own for one or both of these two Holidays? Why not celebrate together with other Parishioners in a Host home? Since we have no idea who you are, why not sign up with the Parish and find friends in similar circumstances and we can determine who is willing to host and share their home. Your participation would be welcome. Please look for a Signup Genius from the Parish Website and signups at Coffee Hour.

Katie Morehouse & Jim Coleman

Jim Coleman (925) 997-9528

Coleman_jd@pacbell.net



THANKSGIVING INTERFAITH SERVICE

"Celebrating Gratitude with Faithful Friends"

Wednesday, November 22nd, 7:30 pm,

Peace Lutheran Church, 3201 Camino Tassajara, Danville

Please join the Interfaith of the San Ramon Valley (I-SRV) for a one-hour, family-friendly celebration. Share songs, chants, movement, and declarations of gratitude from our wonderful spectrum of religious traditions. It is an interactive service that always includes a special time when children are invited to come forward and are honored with their own, engaging spirit. Donations of non-perishable goods for the Contra Costa Food Bank or a monetary donation to local family homeless shelter provider, Shelter Inc., are warmly welcomed.

FAIR-TRADE CRAFT FESTIVAL

Sunday November 12, 2017 – 8:00 am to 2 PM in the Parish Hall

The Festival will feature craft items from various developing countries. All of them are fair trade organizations that strive for economic empowerment, especially of women and girls by the production of handicrafts.

PLEASE PLAN TO DO YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING WITH US

Sales proceeds go directly to help the creators of these gifts and the villages in which they live.

Contact: Mary-Louise Gotthold (925) 324-4593 - GlobeTrottingLady@SBCglobal.net

CHRISTMAS FOOD BOXES for MONUMENT CRISIS CENTER CLIENTS



Christmas is a hard time – especially for families living in the Bay Area where the adults in the family must work more than one job to pay the rent and utilities and buy groceries. Monument Crisis Center working with families, churches and charities in Contra Costa County try to make the holiday season a bit brighter by giving the Center clients extra food for the holiday season. Last year the families at St Timothy’s contributed over 200 boxes of food – each designed to feed a family of 5 for about a week. Last year Monument Crisis Center didn’t have enough boxes for all their clients. Let’s help them do better this year.

Please join us in this effort this year

Volunteers will have sign-up sheets, boxes and food lists at church after each Sunday service in November. They can answer all your questions and give you schedule details.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Sign up to fill one or more boxes or to have us shop and fill your box for you (limit 100).
- Donate to purchase the boxes, rice, beans and extra food cards
- Join us to fill bags with rice and with beans on Sunday, November 19 in the parish hall. All ages welcome!
- Volunteer to help with “Fill My Box” on Saturday morning, November 25
- Volunteer to help load our boxes into the UPS truck for Monument Crisis Center on December 2

SCHEDULE:

Sundays, November 5, 12, 19, 26	Sign up parishioners after church
Sunday, November 19	Fill bags with rice and beans at church
Saturday, November 25	‘Fill My Box’ at the Safeway in Alamo -
Sun. Nov. 26 8:30 am-12:30 pm	Receive boxes – Parish Hall
Wed–Fri, Nov. 29 – Dec. 1 (4:00–7:00 pm)	Receive boxes – Parish Hall
Saturday, December 2 – 8:30–10:30 am	Receive boxes – Parish Hall
Saturday, December 2 – 10:30–11:00 am	Load the truck and deliver boxes

QUESTIONS: Contact Sally Shea Potts, 925-691-9294, 925-785-9823, sallyspotts@gmail.com.

RICE AND BEANS FOR CHRISTMAS FOOD BOXES

Sunday, November 19, after the 7:30 am and between 9 and 11:00 am services

Join us in the parish hall to fill bags with rice and with beans. We will add these to each Christmas Food Box filled by parish, Noah's Ark and Boy Scout families. This is a fun way for the whole family from ages 3 to 93 to participate in helping the Monument Crisis Center client families.

Do you have a canning funnel we can use?

Contact: Sally Shea Potts, 925-691-9294 or sallyspotts@gmail.com

HELP NEEDED INSTALLING LITURGICAL ART FOR ADVENT AND EPIPHANY

On **Saturday, Dec. 2nd, at 10:30 a.m.**, we will be installing Advent panels in the church. We need about two people to give us a hand for about 2 hours.

On **Saturday, Dec. 23rd, at 10:30 a.m.**, we are bringing back the big "Swoosh" panels and the big star overhead and will need the help of about 4 people for about 3 hours to install this large piece.

Please let Leslie Firth, lesliefirth@comcast.net, 925.683.7868, or Kathy Wills, willsx4@comcast.net, know if you can give us a hand to make our church reflect the beauty of the seasons.

DID YOU KNOW...?



that **Adopt a Family Bikes (AAFB)** has been a ministry of St. Timothy's for almost 16 years?! AAFB grew out of the Adopt a Family program (now the Christmas Food Boxes) when we realized the enormous need for bicycles as a critical means of transportation for the disadvantaged. Last Christmas we cleaned, repaired, safety checked, and delivered **435 bikes** (each with a new helmet and u-locks). Recipients are the homeless, foster care children and teens, first generation college students, impoverished school children, even children in our own school district that

have been identified by the schools as having a severe need.

For several years the program worked out of the parish hall and the youth center but eventually had to relinquish the space for other programs. In the years since, we found donated empty store fronts and offices to run the program. A local realtor has donated the use of his truck for deliveries.

Members of the community have joined the program including most of the key leaders! Joe Hui was awarded the Threads of Hope award from Diablo Magazine for his work with Adopt a Family Bikes. This ministry is supported by donations from local Kiwanis and Rotary clubs as well as individuals. Local bike shops provide discounted bike parts and donate used bikes. Most of the bikes are donated by individuals that are asked to contribute \$15, if possible, to help defray the cost of helmets and parts. Children and adults come from throughout the valley to help clean and repair bikes.

As of this writing, we don't yet have a location for the program this year, so we can't announce our start date. We also lost the use of the delivery truck as it is being sold. If you want to donate a bike or volunteer even just an hour this holiday season, watch for updates on our Facebook page Adopt-A-Family Bikes or in the 411 and Sunday bulletin.

Questions can be directed to Rand Mahoney at rand.mahoney@gmail.com or Tania Hanson-De Young at taniahd@comcast.net

TREASURERS REPORT – THROUGH THE END OF SEPTEMBER 2017

The parish budget financial results continue to be positive as of the end of September.

Income greater than anticipated	\$560,873
Expenses were also higher than anticipated	<u>\$541,143</u>
	\$ 19,730

Note: Prepaid pledges of \$43,851 are distributed over 12 months, so 67.7% of the amount is used in this calculation. We had some higher expenses in September, so our YTD surplus was reduced, but still quite positive.

As you have heard, we are beginning our Stewardship Campaign and planning our 2018 Budget. This program is critically important in supporting programs, activities and staffing for next year. The Finance Committee is initiating a focused study in looking at our resources and how they can best be used in “Building the Kingdom”.

Joe Cunningham, Treasurer

VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – OCTOBER 2017

The vestry met in Grace House on Tuesday, October 17, 2017 at 6:30 pm.

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

- Gary Hunt (Pastoral Care) has resigned from the vestry. Pastor Todd has asked Jacque Chiavini to cover the Pastoral Care meetings.
- The following people are serving on the nominating committee for the new vestry members to be elected at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 28, 2017. Mike Oliver, Matt Jones, Jacque Chiavini, and Bob Carns. All are retiring vestry members - Mike Oliver (Senior Warden) Bob Carns (Junior Warden and Property Commission, Jacque Chiavini (Worship and Pastoral Care Commissions), Matt Jones (Administration Commission).

MOTIONS APPROVED

- Approved holding the annual vestry retreat locally in early 2018.
- Approved an expenditure for the new Newcomer booklets and pew cards.
- Approved 4 motions (required annually) to specify the employee benefits that the church will and will not pay for in 2018. For employees who work more than 30 hours per week we cover the Kaiser EPO 80 Health Plan. The church covers the Diocese of California EAP program for all employees.
- Approved the bid of John H Beatty & Associates for a church building and systems reserve study.
- Approved the Christmas tree sale by the Boy Scouts in the back parking lot.
- Approved a plaque recognizing those who make a one-time donation of over \$5000.
- Approved the allocation of the remaining \$6000 in the Doug and Audrey Ohmen legacy for vestments. The allocation was discussed by the 2015 vestry but never formally voted on.

Parish members are welcome to attend Vestry meetings. The next meeting is on Tuesday, November 21, 2017.

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

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