

TIDINGS



March 2024 - Holy Week, Easter & Easter Season

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

Easter is almost here! But let's back up first...

Palm Sunday, March 24, 8 & 10am Worship

Holy Wednesday, March 27th at 12pm

Spoken Eucharist

Maundy Thursday, March 28th, 7pm Worship

We are going to have stripping of the Altar, Eucharist and foot **and/or** handwashing.

**Good Friday, March 29th,
12pm and 7pm Worship**

Stations of the Cross: At 1 PM

Easter Vigil - March 30th, 7pm Worship

Smells and bells

We will light the new fire outside with sanctifying incense. I invite you to bring your own bells for ringing in the resurrection.

Easter Sunday, March 31st, 8am and 10am

We have a brass Quintet during 10am worship and an Egg Hunt after the 10 AM service.

We're going to have our usual Easter fun with an egg hunt, but we plan to put an outreach spin on it. Kids will use their empty eggs to vote on what snacks they want St. Timothy's parishioners to purchase and bring to church (in the couple of weeks after Easter). These snacks will go to the Monument Crisis Center after-school program. We will still have prize tables for kids to pick out fun loot! More information is inside.

Please consider making an **Easter dedication** to help offset the cost of our beautiful flowers and joyous sounds! Dedications are due by *March 22nd*. You can submit a Easter dedication envelope or sign up online

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/easterdedications#/>

Now looking further ahead...

Vital + Thriving Discernment Event, Sunday, April 7th

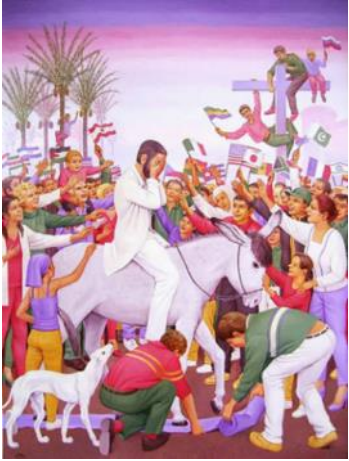
We ARE our future Church.



+Todd

HOLY WEEK TO EASTER

Early pilgrims walked in Jerusalem during Holy Week, following the steps and words of Jesus, often combining the stories about Jesus from the different Gospels. What we call “the Passion Narrative” is the movement of Jesus from Palm Sunday, when Jesus was cheered and acclaimed as the hoped-for Messiah as he humbly rode into Jerusalem on a young donkey. He washed the feet of his disciples, broke bread with them, was betrayed and brought to Pilate and then led to his crucifixion and death on Good Friday. Early on the first day of the week the women found his tomb empty. We follow the journey liturgically, through the words of scripture, remembering the acts of Jesus. We process in church on Palm Sunday, wash feet on Holy Thursday, break bread in the Eucharist, and pray on Good Friday, waiting, watching, and praying until we meet the angel at the empty tomb, celebrating Resurrection at the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday.



Why do Christians enter into Holy Week? It is a way of following Jesus. Although we are not walking on the dusty roads that Jesus walked, we walk in the skin in which we live. Palm Sunday reminds us of our own longings for a leader—and discovering again the kind of leader that God actually gives us--One who serves. Holy week reminds us that we too betray and are betrayed by the ones we love in big and small ways and Christ



forgives us only to show us another way. God himself grieves for the loss of his beloved Son. In our own lives we grieve for the people we have lost in death; we grieve for the losses that change us—friends, jobs, pets, even mobility. We walk the Way in our time, in our language, and in our own sorrows and disappointments. Every year, as we move from Lent into Holy Week, we turn to encounter Christ from the place we are—we already “know” the ending of Resurrection; the Risen One abides with us now and *this* moment is a new event in our encounter with the Risen Christ. We break bread, sorrow, grieve and hope, finding new life in Christ with us.

Something happens to us and *in* us when we walk the Way during Holy Week. The narrative speaks. We discover that Jesus’s story is our story and God, the Father of the beloved Son, Jesus, enters into our lives again, perhaps startling us, opening our hearts to serve and Love more deeply.

But what of bunnies and eggs? All around us we have reminders of change, death, and new life. Here in this hemisphere, it is Spring and the promise of children’s laughter and hope is another face of the excitement of Christmas and Easter--God with us. May our walk with Christ lead us to a deeper understanding of Resurrection and new life.



Peter Koenig, b. Leonardo DaVinci, c. El Greco

Susan+

Holy Week Schedule



**March
24**

Palm Sunday

Worship at **8am** and **10am**
10am livestream

**March
28**

Maundy Thursday

Worship with hand / foot washing and
stripping of the altar
7pm - in person & livestream

**March
29**

Good Friday

Worship - **12 pm** (in person & livestream)
& **7pm** (in person)
1pm - Stations of the Cross

**March
30**

Saturday

Holy Saturday Service (no communion) - **9am**
Easter Vigil
New fire with incense outside & bells
7pm - in person & livestream

**March
31**

Easter Sunday

Worship at **8am** and **10am**; 10am livestream
Brass Quintet at 10am worship
Easter Egg Hunt
11:10am - for children and youth

EASTER EGG HUNT

Join us for a **SPECIAL** Egg Hunt!

Explore St. Timothy's campus to hunt for empty eggs.
Use the eggs to **VOTE** for your favorites of the snacks listed below.
We, as a parish, will then **DONATE** the 3 most popular snacks to
Monument Crisis Center's after school program.

Don't worry! **There are still prizes for everyone!**

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

11:10 AM

What are your favorites?

Cheerios
Peanut Butter
Popcorn
Trail Mix
Granola Bars



What will you vote for?

Cheerios
(Individual Serving Sized)



Trail Mix
(Individual Sized
NO chocolate)



Granola Bars
(Individual Sized
NO chocolate)



Peanut Butter
(Family Sized)



Skinny Pop
(Individual Sized)



VITAL + THRIVING EVENT

Sunday, April 7

This experience will partly take place during worship. Then we will continue with the meat of the event at 11am in Parish Hall. Enhanced snacks will be provided.

Discuss St. Timothy's future. What does it look like? What is God calling us to do? How do the stories we have told influence our future?

Don't miss this important event!



THE GOOD FRIDAY OFFERING

“Creating new relationships with and among the Christians of the Middle East”



An Iraqi priest asks this one thing of The Episcopal Church: **"Please don't forget us."**

For 102 years, donations to the Good Friday Offering have directly supported ministries of the Anglican Communion Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East.

READ the [Presiding Bishop's Letter](#)

WATCH the [Good Friday concert online](#)

LEARN about the places impacted by your donations. By supporting life-giving ministries in the Anglican Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East, you are ensuring that our siblings in Christ are not forgotten.

- Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza City provides critical medical care to all people, in peacetime and wartime alike.
- St. George's is the only Anglican church in Iraq, serving local Indigenous communities and displaced people through worship, schools, and medical care.
- Christ Church in Aden, Yemen, serves as the grounds of Ras Morbat Eye Clinic, providing critical medical care for all in a war-torn country.
- The Christian National Kindergarten at St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Nablus, in the West Bank, provides high-quality early education to all kindergartners, regardless of religion.

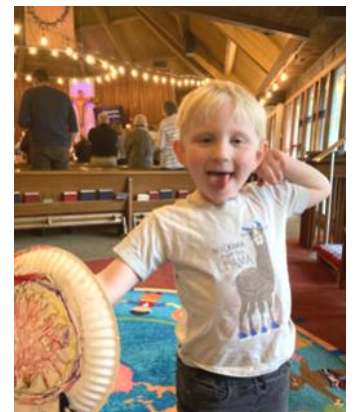
GIVE generously to the Good Friday Offering at www.episcopalchurch.org/good-friday-offering/

SCOUT SUNDAY & PANCAKE SUPPER





CHILDREN'S TIME



YOUTH GROUP



MAY 4: ORDINATION & CONSECRATION



Register now for the May 4 ordination & consecration service!

The Rev. Austin Keith Rios will be ordained and consecrated Bishop Coadjutor of the Episcopal Diocese of California at 11am on Saturday, May 4 at Grace Cathedral. To attend in person, registration is required. You may also join via live stream.

To attend in person, register here:

<https://diocalbishopsearch.org/registration/>.

**Please note that registration is required for each individual attendee, including children. There is no provision to register a party of more than one person. Additionally, you must register each individual under their own name.*

****Questions?** Please direct them to diocal.transition@gmail.com.**

****IMPORTANT UPDATE: The registration deadline is April 20****

DIOCESAN RESOURCES - PILGRIMAGE

Interfaith Gaza Ceasefire Pilgrimage Saturday, March 23, 7:00am – 7:00pm



Consider joining a pilgrimage walk on **Saturday, March 23, 7:00am – 7:00pm** in the East Bay, sponsored by the Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity. This 22-mile walk symbolizes the distance from Gaza City to the Rafah Crossing refugee camp and is part of a global solidarity movement that spans 17 countries and 125 cities. Participants can join

for some or all of the distance.

This pilgrimage is part of a **broader global movement** of solidarity pilgrimages, taking place in 125 cities in 17 countries. Over 300 individuals have already committed to joining the walk, including 275 adults and 40 children from over 40 faith communities. This day-long journey will include scheduled stops for collective prayer and action, with opportunities for participants to join for shorter legs. A route can be [previewed here](#).

Mass Participation Focus:

We have created a 1.5 mile communal walk at 11:45am, from Buddhist Church in Oakland to First Congregational Church in Oakland – culminating in a community ritual and press conference. **If your time is limited or you'd like to join for only one portion, we encourage you to consider participation with Leg 3.**

For more information, check out <https://www.im4humanintegrity.org/2024/02/interfaith-gaza-ceasefire-pilgrimage/>

DIOCESAN RESOURCES - CLASSES

New Classes on Israel and Gaza Now Available

As the conflict rages on in Israel, [ChurchNext](#) is adding more classes to help people understand the complicated history of the region. These courses are designed to help engaged people of faith learn more about Israel and Palestine and some of the root causes of the current tensions. Through our Diocese of CA partnership with ChurchNext, one course has already been available:



Archdeacon Paul Feheley, Partnership Officer for the Middle East for the Episcopal Church, leads a class on **Israel, Palestine, and the Anglican Communion.**

[Take the course as an Individual](#)

[Lead a group](#)

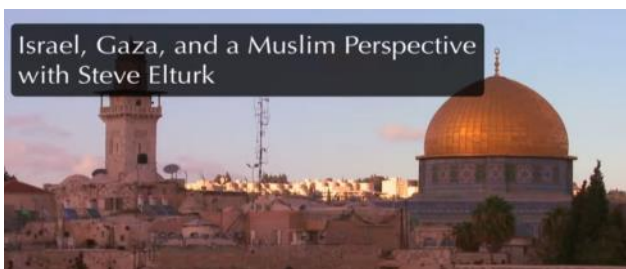
See [Preview](#)

We have just added two new classes online:

Rabbi Aaron Starr leads a class on **Israel, Gaza, and a Jewish Perspective.** He explains why Jews feel such a strong connection to the land as part of a covenant with God and the rise of Zionism.

Take an [Individual Course](#)

See [Preview](#)



Imam Steve Elturk provides an overview of **Israel and Gaza and a Muslim Perspective.** He explains the historical, religious, and cultural connections that Palestinians have to historic Palestine.

Take an [Individual Course](#)

See [Preview](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Amy Cook, amyc@diocal.org.

EARTHFEST

InterFaith

See Hope

EarthFest

Seed Change



Sunday, April 21st 12:30 to 4:30

at Peace Lutheran Church

Created by I-SRV

Learn more: InterfaithSRV.org



2nd Annual

All Peoples are Invited

Fun & Learning for the Entire Family

Ritual • Art • Music • Activities • Speakers • Booths

We will spotlight our eco-success stories, draw hope from one another, and inspire ongoing local commitment to action!

This Town of Danville community event is a collaborative celebration of Bahá'í, Buddhist, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, Sufi, Hindu, Taoist, and Christian friends, with acknowledgement to our Indigenous relations.

LITURGICAL ART HELPERS NEEDED

Changing of the Seasons – Liturgical Art Helpers needed

Holy Week begins on March 24th, and then on to glorious **Easter**.

Friday, March 22, one person is needed to help at 10:30am to cut palms and create an arrangement of small palms under the cross and the altar.

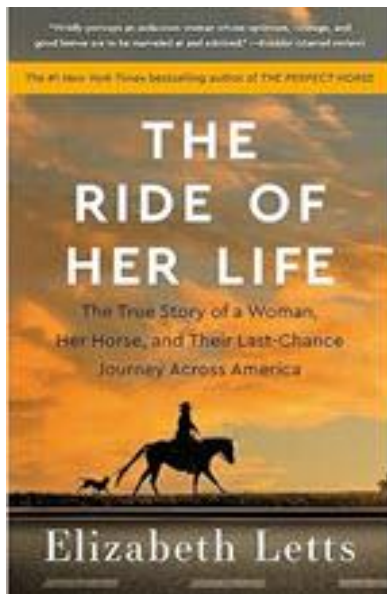
Sunday, March 24th after the last service, help take down the palm arrangements under the cross and under the altar. I will put up an arrangement under the cross for Holy Week.

Saturday morning March 30 at 10:30, a group of about 6 volunteers are needed to remove the "**Crown of Thorns**" banner and install the "**Crown of New Life**" banner with ribbons. (big ladder needed) (for EASTER VIGIL AND EASTER SUNDAY)

Please let Leslie F know if you can help with the liturgical art to beautify the space and enhance your worship experience. lesliefirth@comcast.net



BOOK GROUP - "THE RIDE OF HER LIFE"



April 21, 11:15am in Overby Library

“In 1954, sixty-three-year-old Maine farmer Annie Wilkins embarked on an impossible journey. She had no money and no family, she had just lost her farm, and her doctor had given her only two years to live. But Annie wanted to see the Pacific Ocean before she died. She ignored her doctor’s advice to move into the county charity home. Instead, she bought a cast-off brown gelding named Tarzan, donned men’s dungarees, and headed south in mid-November, hoping to beat the snow. Annie had little idea what to expect beyond her rural crossroads; she didn’t even have a map. But she did have her ex-racehorse, her faithful mutt, and her own unfailing belief that Americans would treat a stranger with kindness.”

Join the members of the St Timothy’s Book Group to discuss this book written by Elizabeth Letter – the author of *“The Perfect Horse”* and *“The Eighty-Dollar Champion”* after the 10:00 am Sunday service on April 21.

Questions – Contact Sally P at sallyspotts@gmail.com

CONFIDENTIAL PRAYERS

Do you or a loved one need prayers? Please send a prayer request to prayers@SaintTimothysDanville.org. We will forward your request to a dedicated group of pray-ers who will pray for you mindfully for 2 weeks. If it is a long term situation, just let us know and we will continue to pray.

Questions? Contact Patti F farrisintheland@yahoo.com
or Helen C colemanhelen@pacbell.net

“THE 50” - OUTSTANDING FILM!

A BIG THANK YOU to all of those who made the screening of The 50 on Saturday, March 16 possible. Thanks also to the welcoming and graciousness of all who attended this event, warmly welcoming these “heroes,” who are transforming the prison system and giving everyone a “second chance” at a “first class life.”



Thanks to Justin Phillips, Executive Director of Options Recovery Services, who is responsible for the Occupational (formerly Offender) Mentor Certification Program, portrayed in the film. Along with Justin, we also welcomed five of the men who have been trained and work as Alcohol and Drug Counselors. They included:

- Corey who is the Admissions Director at Options Recovery Services in Berkeley.
- Jonnie, who was just released from prison two and a half months ago, after being in prison for 30 years. He is a fully certified Drug and Alcohol Counselor, and, having led many groups in prison before his release, has joined the Options Recovery Services Staff.
- George who is the Manager of the Academy of Hope, which is a transitional home in Oakland, for men who have completed OMCP. The Academy of Hope is a former convent, and now houses the men coming out of prison as graduates of the OMCP. George is committed to youth and already works with youth at Oakland Tech, the Tiny Homes Project in Oakland (housing for homeless youth in Oakland ages 18-25), juvenile delinquents in Oakland. He is committed to supporting the men in impacting the youth of our community, to spare them the journey of incarceration.
- Jose, who has returned to the neighborhood where he grew up. He lives in the convent, e.g. Academy of Hope, and is changing his former neighborhood from the inside out.
- Thomas, who is the housing manager of Academy of Hope. He makes certain all the men are supported in their transition. He also works with the youth of Oakland.

From Peg M, Options Liaison

(To view the entire Thank You Letter from Peg, please click [HERE.](#))



ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The Annual Meeting of the members of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church was held in the church on Sunday, February 4, 2024 after the 10:00am service. The meeting was broadcast via our live-stream feed. The following are highlights from that meeting.

The church members in attendance elected the following members to join the vestry in 2023.

Teresa K
John Y

Erick P

The following members of vestry will continue in 2023:

Karen A
Teresa R
Taiwo O

Liz K
Cathy W
Kris M

The following people were elected as Deanery and Diocese Convention Delegates.

Jim C
Liz K

John H
Cecilia O

Lisa P
Mike O

The Treasurer, Dick F, discussed the church budget for 2023 and the budget for 2024.

2023 - Financial Summary for 12 Months, 2023

	12-month Actual	12-month Budget
Total Income	\$743,094	\$720,039
Total Expenses	<u>\$821,440</u>	<u>\$796,783</u>
Net Operating Income	(\$78,347)	(\$76,744)

2024 – The Vestry approved budget for 2024 appears in the 2023 Annual Report. It anticipates income of \$734,201 and expenses of \$863,378. A deficit of \$129,177 is anticipated and will be covered by the pledge reserves.

The treasurer brought up the point that the reserves can only cover deficits for a limited time and observed that this year's deficit could be cut in half if the existing pledges were increased by 10%.

Rector's Report – Pastor Todd reported that there were good, sad, and hopeful things that happened in 2023.

GOOD

- **Pledges** are up
- **Attendance** is up from pre-pandemic numbers of **199**, when St. Timothy's offered only "in Person" worship services to a total of **250** (130 in person, 120 online)
- **New Youth Room** – A place where our youth and youth around the area can gather. Jim and Helen C. were thanked for funding this project.

SAD

- **Lost Contributors** to the tune of \$70,000.

- **Inflation** – St Timothy’s costs are up, and existing pledges are not keeping up with inflation. Pastor Todd suggested members to consider giving an inflation adjustment to their pledges.
- **Noah’s Ark** – Enrollment has been diminished to less than 20 students and unless the numbers increase, its long-term viability is in jeopardy.

HOPEFUL/GRATEFUL

- **Inflation Pledge** – Hopeful that many in the congregation will support the church with an inflation pledge.
- **Increase** in the number of families with children who live at home, as well as many first timers are attending our church.
- **Outreach & Fellowship** – Grateful for the great work that is done within our church as well as with the greater community.

Senior Warden’s Report - Charlie W began by making the observation that the community at St. Timothy’s is very special, noting everyone’s welcoming and giving nature. He thanked the staff and many volunteers who work hard to make St. Timothy’s a special place. Lastly, he thanked Pastors Todd and Susan for their service and leadership they provided to our church community.

Outgoing Vestry Pastor Todd and Charlie W. thanked the outgoing vestry members for their service.

Ade A. – Communications

Cecilia O – Social Justice Advocacy

Gabel C-H – Outreach

Steve O – Administration

Senior Warden – 2024 Teresa R has agreed to serve as Senior Warden in 2024.

The 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes will be available in the Parish Office after they are approved by the Vestry at their March meeting.

Kris M, Annual Meeting Secretary, 2024

2024 SUMMER CAMP



For youth, attending a church camp is one of the most important and memorable ways to experience relationship with God through community, fun, and the beauty of creation. The Bishop’s Ranch and St. Dorothy’s Rest offer extensive summer camp programs for children and youth of all ages.

[Check them out now!](#)

OUTREACH NEWS

Adopt-A-Family Bikes (AAFB)

AAFB is packing up for the season. We are still refining the numbers, but it looks like a record breaking 420 bikes were refurbished and donated. Recipients included: Trinity Center, Options, Monument Crisis Center, local school districts, refugee resettlement organizations, El Consilio and Christmas For Everyone.



Contra Costa Interfaith Coalition (CCIC)

CCIC delivered to 149 families in 2023 on a budget of \$27,000 (\$181/family). Our goal is to provide a new mattress for each request as well as apartment furnishings. 2023 was a banner year with new donors and volunteers! An article in Alamo Today really helped.

Monument Crisis Center (MCC)

MCC celebrated 20 years of service to the community in 2023.

In January 2023, they started regular food distributions in eastern Contra Costa County. In 2023, through November, they served 28,000+ households and 27,600+ individuals. They are serving so many people that a capitol campaign is underway to expand the food pantry which now regularly overflows onto their courtyard into containers and under tents. They are open for food distribution and other services on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.



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