

Lent Tidings

Lent 2022

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

RECTOR'S ARTICLE

With Lent as a reflective time, I have been thinking a lot about what 2022 has in store for us. With COVID restrictions loosening significantly, we are having a reboot at church. We started to reboot on campus activities in late November of last year, then omicron had a different plan in mind. Then in mid-February, those of us who are vaccinated could start worshipping without a mask.

Lent is about practices that reboot your spiritual life.

Now more than ever, Lent is exactly the season we need, personally and corporately.

COVID has done a number on many churches, and those who will thrive, will need *renewal*. I use the word renewal very specifically. Religiously, renewal is the experience of opening ourselves to the Holy Spirit and receiving a God inspired reboot. I shared at vestry retreat how critical renewal needs to play over the next couple of years. This Lent, would you consider praying for your own renewal as well as the renewal of St. Timothy's?

COVID is *still* redefining worship and church life. We will only really begin to see real hope as we tend to the damage since March 2020. The future is presenting challenges to our common life, and we are ready to turn a corner, but without renewal, the specific, religious renewal, the future will be harder than it needs to be.

So, to make right beginning to Holy Lent, revisit your favorite Lenten discipline, dedicate yourself to serving those on the margins, and pray for St. Timothy's to be bathed in the light of God's renewal so that we can be love embodied. Get your Lenten Lectionary, take on hope, and serve the world. **Todd**

A prayer from Presiding Bishop Michael Curry for Ukraine

There are people and children of God whose lives and freedom are threatened, and so we pray and are mindful of what St. Paul said in Romans: 'The Spirit helps us in our weakness, because we don't know how to pray as we ought—and sometimes the Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words.' We pray for peace, but maybe we don't have the words. We pray for a just peace, but maybe we don't have the words. We pray that the lives of innocents, and the lives of any human child of God, will be spared. We pray that our leaders will find a diplomatic way—a nonviolent solution. But we don't know how to pray as we ought, and so the Spirit must intercede for us at this time.

LENT, HOLYWEEK AND EASTER

It is hard to believe that Lent is around the corner. I am looking forward to walking a Holy Lent with you with the expectation that all worship experiences *will* take place on-campus and in-person, but variants might change my mind.

Note: In the schedule, whenever "hybrid" is noted that means livestream simultaneous with in-person worship.

Ash Wednesday, March 2nd

12 noon (on-campus only, no music)

7pm (hybrid with music)

In-person imposition of Ashes at both services

Wednesday Formation - March 9th, 16th, 23rd

5pm Kahoot family fun (hybrid)

Parents and children bring your phones to church. We will have "Kahoot" based bible games, a hands-on craft, and a light snack.

6:30pm

Adult Formation and Storysharing

March 9th on zoom; March 16th and 23rd TBD (to be determined)

Lenten Sunday School - March 20th, 27th & April 1st, in the Parish Hall

10-10:30am, concurrent with 10am worship

Tell Me the Truth about Racism

Intergenerational Godly play following Sunday worship

Following 8:00 and 10:00 services during Lent

Family Sunday Movie Day, March 27th, in Church or on the Patio

3-5pm, Encanto movie in church, light snacks, and Lenten activity

Friday Stations of the cross - March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, April 1st, 8th

12 noon, start on the labyrinth

MLK Remembrance, the April 4th, at St. Timothy's Church

6pm, assassination remembrance service

Palm Sunday, April 10th

8am (campus-only) and 10am (hybrid) - palms o' plenty

Maundy Thursday, April 14th

7pm (hybrid) with hand washing

Good Friday worship, April 15th

12 noon (hybrid, no music) and 7pm (campus-only with music)

Good Friday stations of the cross, April 15th

1pm, start on labyrinth

Easter Vigil, April 16th

8pm (hybrid with music), ring your bells and set fires

Easter Sunday, April 17th

8am (campus-only) and 10am (hybrid)

Digital, on-campus family scavenger hunt with prizes and hospitality after worship

ADULT FORMATION LENTEN STORYSHARING

Three Wednesdays at 7pm; First Wednesday March 9th on Zoom.

Join us for Christian formation this Lent for three Wednesday evenings, March 9th, 16th, and 23rd.

Our first meeting on March 9th will be on Zoom. We will listen to Scripture and share our stories.

"In StorySharing, we tell our own stories and welcome other's stories of what matters most. Through StorySharing, you will articulate the many ways you have experienced God's presence and the many ways you experience your own life, your... identity, and the differences God has planted throughout all of creation."

Through the themes of Identity, Difference, and Faith we will listen to the Spirit and tell our own stories and discover where God meets us. Questions?

Contact Pastor Todd rector@Sainttimothysdanville.org; Pastor Susan sgeissleroneil@Sainttimothysdanvile.org

KAHOOT KIDS

Three Wednesdays at 5pm in the church or online.

On Wednesday April 9, 16, & 23 we will sing, craft, eat, and have a "kahoot" Bible quiz. This is for families who come to church, or they can follow online while still singing, crafting, and quizzing at home.

The online link will only be sent to families with children by email.

TELL ME THE TRUTH ABOUT RACISM

Every Sunday March 6 – April 3 following the 8:00 and 10:00 service Peg M. will offer an inter-generational program to wonder about racism. We will meet in the Parish Hall and see a short story of God's love for the world unfold and be invited to wonder about it.

Have you ever wanted to understand racism from the beginning? The very beginning? <u>Tell Me the Truth About Racism</u> is a story told in 6 parts that frames the history of racism through the lens of our faith beginning with the creation of the world in week one and ending in week 6 with the world as it is today, where the lie that caused



racism tries to hide in plain sight. Each week, we will be reminded that racism was never a part of God's dream for the world.

This offers a powerful grounding for an important discussion to have in a multi-generational setting. Come whether you are young or old, whether you have a big family or live alone, whether you think you know all there is to know about racism, or you want to enter the conversation at the very beginning. Each Sunday for six weeks, we will gather after church in the Parish Hall and hear the story together. Then, you may be part of a small group and wonder after the model of Godly Play. Come pray and wonder with us.

PRAYING AT HOME WITH CHILDREN DURING LENT

'Rejoicing always, to pray without ceasing, and to give thanks in all circumstances' (1 Thess 5:16-18).

A fun way to pray with children at home is to use colored prayer sticks made from craft sticks and pray together at a meal.

One suggestion for younger children might be to place the prayer sticks in a mason jar or other container and intentionally pray four different kinds of prayer. (Adults can check out prayer in the book of Common Prayer on-line version—and look at prayers or at the catechism section about prayer!)

Red = Adoration (praising God)

Blue = Petition (asking God for our own needs)

Green = Intercession (asking God for the needs of others)

Purple = Thanksgiving (thanking God for our blessings)

At a meal, perhaps dinner every night, place the jar on the table and everyone take four different colored sticks and each person say a prayer, listening to each other. First say a prayer of Adoration, praising God, second, pray for our own needs, Intercession, third, pray for others, Petition, and lastly finish with Thanksgiving. (Remembering gratitude can change our lives!) It is simple and does not take long.

If you are already using craft sticks for a chore jar, you can decorate a "prayer" jar differently thinking about fun ways to connect how in chores we are caring for each other in our family and prayer is another way we show our love for God and for one another! Or use assorted colors of chenille sticks to remind us that the Spirit is always moving in us!

You may be surprised at the power of family prayer!

HEALING PRAYER

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH - March 6, 2022

Healing prayer is offered in the back Chapel after the 10 am service.

Confidential healing prayers are available for anyone who would like them. Prayers are offered by clergy or trained members of the parish who are commissioned by the clergy. Anointing with holy oil and laying on of hands is available if the recipient wishes. We will follow Covid protocols with disinfecting of hands.

We pray for God's healing which may come in many forms: spiritual, emotional, or physical. We are here to pray with you...just come back to the chapel after the service.



ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANCE

Have you ever wondered how the candles on the Altar are maintained, ensuring they are ready to be lit for the services? Communion wafers, silver on the altar including and the changing of the seasonal colors on the Podium? Well, that is just a small portion of what Altar Guild members do in maintaining the Sanctuary & Altar for the church services.

We are looking to recruit new members. A member normally serves one Saturday & Sunday per month on a team (we currently have 4 teams).

So, if you are a new member at St. Timothy's or an existing member wanting to get more involved in volunteering, please contact Cathy Morris, Head of Altar Guild lil.captain315@gmail.com

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. REMEMBRANCE

April 4th at 6:00 Martin Luther King, Jr. service of remembrance

On Monday, April 4th at 6:00 we will honor the life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. on the anniversary of his assignation 54 years ago. All over the country people will read Dr. King's historic and prophetic speech "Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence" which was delivered a year before his death.

On this day of remembrance, we will call upon our country to turn toward providing for the health and well-being of all people everywhere and the preservation of our endangered environment. We pray for Peace and a true "revolution of values." We will join with members of Peace Lutheran church, San Ramon Valley Methodist Church and Saint Timothy's Church for a candlelight service which will be in person and on-line.

LIFE STORY GROUP THURSDAYS AT 9:30 am, GRACE HOUSE LIBRARY

Have you written life stories or wanted to write them and need a little incentive to get your story on paper? During this time, we have even more to share!

Life Story group is meeting in the Grace House Library on Thursdays at 9:30 am. Join us! New writers are welcome!!



POOR PEOPLES' CAMPAIGN

Follow up to Peg Miller's sharing of God's call to her at the age of 76: the Poor Peoples' Campaign (and I was looking forward to doing whatever I wanted, not that I had ever really done that).

Thank you for your incredibly generous listening to my brief introduction to the Poor Peoples' Campaign. I just wanted to add a few things that you might be interested in knowing:

- The movement is a "fusion" movement, including the Episcopal Church.
- To access more information about the Poor Peoples' Campaign, simply type that into your browser, which will take you to the national site. There is so much information on this site. Browse in whatever you are interested.



- To see what is happening in California, simply type in California Poor Peoples Campaign. If you sign in, you can receive a weekly update on everything happening in California.
- Leading up to the June 18, 2022, Poor Peoples Campaign March in Washington, DC are several events: you can find out about them if you receive the weekly newsletter, including
 - 1. Sunday, March 13, 3 pm will be a Zoom Convening, inviting anyone interested in supporting the Poor Peoples Campaign.
 - 2. Monday, April 4, 6:05pm...a candlelight service at St. Timothy's commemorating the death of Martin Luther King in 1968, with a reading of his Viet Nam speech, which happened a year before, April 4 of 1967, the year he came up with the idea of a Poor Peoples March in Washington D.C (these events will be occurring throughout the country)
 - 3. Monday, May 9...there will be, hopefully, an in person gathering somewhere in California, including all the Western and Southwestern states, getting ready for the June 18 event in Washington, DC.
 - 4. June 18, 2022.... hopefully, the March in Washington, DC, will be live streamed.
- If anyone would like to donate to the California Poor Peoples Campaign the site is www.etina.org/ca-ppc

***For anyone wanting to find out more, there is a Welcome Session every first Tuesday of the month, at alternating times, 3:30 and 6, each time. If you go to the California site, you can register.

***For anyone wanting to understand more about the policy proposals of the Poor Peoples Campaign there is a Jubilee Policy and Study Group, which meets three Thursdays of the month, with one presentation a month, talking about proposals, including the voices of "impacted" people.

Once again, thank you all for your generous and loving listening, as I let you in on the desires of my heart. Although our family may have been poor, I was raised in the Christian tradition of generosity, so attention was always on, "what one could give, rather than what one could get." That is, what I love about St. Timothy's. We are a community of generous and loving people. As they say about us at Options, "Now that is a church."

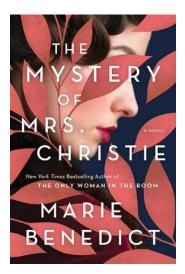
Peg Miller 925 989 3993 pegeatonmiller@prodigy.net

ST TIMOTHY'S BOOK GROUP

MARCH - THE MYSTERY OF MRS CHRISTIE

Is there anyone who hasn't read a book by Agatha Christie or seen one of the plays based on her books or one of the many movies? Agatha Christie is the queen of mystery authors – the one to whom all authors of mysteries are compared. She wrote 66 detective novels and 14 short story collections. The play, "The Mousetrap" opened in the West End of London opened in November of 1952 and only closed in March of 2020 due to the pandemic. It has since reopened.

Marie Benedict, author of many books about famous women, including *The Only Woman in the Room,* writes an engrossing book about the 11-day disappearance of Agatha Christie from her home weaving the story from the point of view of her husband, Max Christie, alternating with the story of their marriage and how it unraveled. The story of those 11 days is every bit as much of a mystery as any of her books or plays. Even after other



books about that time and Agatha Christie's autobiography, no one knows, for sure, what happened. Come join us to discuss the book on **Thursday, March 17**th at **2:00 pm on Zoom**. Bring your theories about those **11** days. Contact Sally Potts to receive an invitation to the Zoom meeting.

LENTEN LECTIONARY

The Lenten Lectionary is here! The Lectionary is a booklet of meditations written by fellow parishioners for you to read each day during Lent. You may pick up a copy at church on Sunday or in Grace House during the week.

The Lectionary is on the parish website at

https://www.sainttimothysdanville.org/uploads/1/2/7/2/127208021/2022 lectionary with no last names.pdf

If you need a copy delivered to you, please call Helen C at 925-831-1728

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Join us for a Bible Study. Bring a Bible, any translation/version and join us on Zoom at 10:30 on Wednesdays. Questions?

Contact Pastor Susan sgeissleroneil@sainttimothysdanville.org

or Helen C. colemanhelen@pacbell.net. We would love to "see" you!

CONFIDENTIAL PRAYER TEAM

Do you, or someone you know, need extra prayers right now?

Send your requests to prayers@SaintTimothysDanville.org We will forward your request to a group of dedicated pray-ers who will take your concerns to God daily. The group is confidential--we won't talk to you about your concerns; we'll just pray.

For more information, contact: Patti F farrisintheland@yahoo.com or Helen

C colemanhelen@pacbell.net

STEPHEN MINISTERS

Are you in need of a good listener? Going through illness, divorce, job loss, or issues with family? Stephen Ministers are a group of trained lay volunteers who will meet with you weekly when you need someone to talk over issues with. We don't solve your problems, but we provide a safe haven for you to share, knowing that what you say remains confidential. For a Stephen Minister, referral, please contact Pastor Susan at sgeissleroneil@SaintTimothysDanville.org

THE FRUITS OF THE HARVEST



SAVE THE DATE for the 25th Anniversary Celebration FRUITS OF THE HARVEST (FOTH)

raising funds for Outreach

Sunday, August 14th on Zoom at Noon and

Sunday, August 21st In Person Patio Brunch Event

(watch for more information in late Spring)

CONFIRMATION CLASS FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS

Are you interested in confirmation?

There will be two separate classes - one class for youth and one class for adults.

We are planning our confirmation classes to be primarily in person, and we will meet the needs of the people participating.

Confirmation will be planned so it does not conflict with other youth activities.

Please reach out if you or your youth would like to learn more. The pandemic put classes on hold; faith has continued to grow!

Confirmation is planned for early Spring.

Questions? Contact Pastor Susan at sgeissleroneil@sainttimothysdanville.org.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BAPTISM?

We would love to talk to you about Baptism! As our churches continue to celebrate in-person and we can invite family to be with us for special events, we are reaching out to people who may have had to put off baptisms in their family or extended family. We want to celebrate your joy with you! Contact Pastor Susan at sgeissleroneil@sainttimothys.org for more information.

LENT MADNESS

You decide who wins the Golden Halo

https://www.lentmadness.org



Do you have a favorite saint? We can play Lent madness and vote on our favorite Saint- While learning about more about the saints in the Episcopal Church

VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

FEBRUARY 2022

The vestry met on Sunday, February 6 after the Annual Meeting and on Saturday, February 12.

MOTIONS:

February 6

- Scott MacDougall was reelected to the be Junior Warden in 2022
- **Dick Firth** was elected as treasurer for 2022
- Sally Shea Potts was elected to be vestry clerk in 2022.
- The vestry voted unanimously to change the signers of the several church bank and investment accounts to reflect the change in the Senior Warden and Treasurer in 2022
- The vestry voted unanimously to open a new TDAmeritrade account to enable the investment change approved by the vestry in December 2021.

February 12

- Feb 12: The vestry approved the nomination of John Hager to be a delegate to Convention and Deanery meetings.
- Feb 12: The vestry approved the 2021 Parochial Report
- Feb 12: The vestry approved the proposed change to the church's insurance if the questions about coverage due to the current problems with the Boy Scouts were answered positively. Subsequent to the meeting, the Diocese strongly recommended against changing our insurance carrier and the insurance was not changed.

Parish members are welcome to attend Vestry meetings. The next meeting is on Wednesday, March 16th, 2022.

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

CONTACT US

The Rev. Todd Bryant – Rector (925) 837-4993 x114 rector@sainttimothysdanville.org

The Rev. Susan Geissler-O'Neil –
Associate Rector
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sgeissleroneil@SaintTimothysDanville.org

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

Shipra Rastogi – Noah's Ark Preschool Director (925) 362-8565 NoahsArk@SaintTimothysDanville.org **Bev Matsunaga – Facilities (Volunteer)**

(925) 837-4993 x111 Facilities@SaintTimothysDanville.org

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

Dick Firth – Treasurer (Volunteer) (925) 837-4993 X117 Treasurer@SaintTimothysDanville.org

Rebekah Dodda – Office Administrator (925) 837-4993 x110 parish@SaintTimothysDanville.org

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



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