



Good News

Monthly Newsletter of
St. Timothy's Lutheran Church

September
2017

Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church,

My younger sister, Karin, has a special gift. After attending Bible college for one year in Vancouver, Canada, *twelve* friends came down to Fresno to visit her. Karin has the gift of friendship.

Karin was a kind of pied piper – people would follow her anywhere, no matter the distance. The love and affection she showed to her friends I have rarely seen. (When you meet my sister, you will love her too.)

What was it that drew such a dramatic response in her friends, that they would travel great distances to see her, I wondered? I began to pay close attention. She didn't often initiate the phone call or the visit or the letter, but she listened. She would stay up late, seemingly unaware of the time, talking about life and faith with her friends. One quality baffled me more than any other.

You need your friends, I told her. Karin was surprised by my analysis, and chuckled. *What I mean is, you need your friends, and they know you need them. You allow yourself to be vulnerable to your friends so that they are not "nice additions" to your life; they are necessary to your life. That is not how I view my friendships. My friends are "nice additions." I don't want to need anyone.*

I don't want to need anyone.

This mentality of course is not altogether unhelpful. The desire to not need anyone motivates us to move out of mom and dad's house, to pursue careers, to take care of ourselves, to be stable, to relieve people from one more obligation.

This desire also has its downsides. We don't know when to ask for help; we refuse to accept help when we need it; and we don't know how to love one another, recognizing that their presence is something we need.

This is true of our spiritual lives. We *need* each other. We were not meant to do this alone, nor can we. I can't do it alone and neither can you. *We* can't do it alone.

I would like to encourage you to be involved in our community, knowing that we need you and you need us. Worship with us on Sunday mornings; join us for our Middle Hour opportunities; be a part of a Grow Group; serve with us at Village House. Wherever God is leading you to be involved, please join us! I look forward to seeing where God leads us together.

God bless you,

Jonna Bohigian

LUNCH BUNCH

Thursday, September 28 at
12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall

Grilled hamburgers with all the trimmings, chips, ice cream and toppings for \$9 per person. Wow! Beverages always provided. Then We then will hear Steve Edwards on guitar singing the "oldies."

Reservations are preferred for this event, so call Betsy Grandey at (408) 629-6093 or Betty Rhodes at (408) 628-4799. If you fancy your own food for lunch, that is OK and there is no charge but Gil Woodman's burgers are super good.

Lunch Bunch is a St. Tim's fellowship group open to ALL. Always a social time, nice lunch and an entertaining program. This month it's Steve Edwards playing and singing for us. Steve played with many who we now call seniors, including ELVIS!

We welcome new attendees. Just come, you will like it.



This school year our theme verse is 1 John 3:1a "See what love the father has lavished on us that we should be called children of God; and so we are." The following is the devotion that we used to kick off the school year with the teachers and staff.

Hi! My name is Gayle and I'm a child of God.

There are things about God that will take us an eternity to understand, but God's love for us was never supposed to be one of them. John emphatically tells us that God's love for us is proven in the fact that God calls us His children. John even punctuates the fact with the phrase, "And that is what we are!"

So, what exactly does it mean to be a child of God? What exactly is this identity we have in Christ Jesus? There are 3 things that happen when you become a child of God.

We are adopted by God – When you become a child of God, you are adopted. You may not have a good human father, but God is a perfect Father. He loves you no matter what. Nothing you do will change God's love for you. Sin can hurt your relationship with God, but even if you sin you are still God's child. God's forgiving love is shown in the parable of "The Prodigal Son."

You begin to Reflect God's Image – Children are often a reflection of their parents, in looks and in learned behavior. Since we are children of God, our heavenly Father is the perfect role model. As a child of God, you represent the family of God. When you become a child of God, you'll begin to reflect God's image. You can give others an impression of God by your actions and words.

You are a member of God's family – There is a connection once you become a child of God; you become a brother or sister. You are a member of the Body of Christ. God designed us to be connected to one another; to live in community; to support one another.

Can you imagine what our life would be like if we really believed that? How different would our families operate if we really believed that everyone under our roof was seriously God's child? How different would St. Tim's be if we came to school every day with the full assurance that we are children of God? How different would we approach the challenges that come our way? The truth is most of us wrestle with the concept of being God's child. We have no clue as to what it means or how it should affect our life.

So this year we will wrestle together. We will grow together. We will live in community. We will be brothers and sisters in Christ!

Blessings,
Gayle Renken

Save The Date!

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 21st annual St. Timothy's Golf Tournament is scheduled for a 9AM start on Saturday, October 14 at Los Lagos Golf Course in San Jose. As in past years, the tournament will be a 4-person best ball scramble format. Sign up as a group or as an individual. All levels of play are welcome.

Signups will begin on Sunday, September 10, and will continue throughout the month. We would love to have you join the fun!



It's Not Too Late!! All Grow Groups are open to adding members at all stages of life and faith! We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to connect with other Christians, spend time together in the Bible, and experience the life-change that comes through hearing and responding to God's word.

The Christian life consists of more than just one hour of Worship on Sunday morning. Grow Groups are designed to develop a strong network of Christian friends that help each other grow in God's word and live into a lifestyle of following Jesus. We encourage all adults and families to get plugged in beyond our larger worship gatherings on Sunday mornings to go deeper into faith together.

Register now to join our Grow Groups for this Fall 2017 at www.stlcsj.org/grow-groups/

Our groups will launch on August 27th and continue through November 19th. These 13 weeks will align with the Sunday Worship sermon passages. Our Grow Group fellowships will use God's Word, prayer, reflection, and discussion questions to guide our walk with Jesus and help each other take the next steps to grow spiritually and become better followers of His—whatever those steps may be.

Small Groups of 5-10 people meet weekly to support and challenge each other to grow as disciples of Jesus. Bible reading and prayer are emphasized in all groups as pillars of discipleship.

Where? In various church members' homes all over the San Jose area.

When? Once a week on different days and times during the week throughout the fall season.

Why? Because being more like Jesus and doing the things He did is difficult, if not impossible, on our own. We need the encouragement, support and challenge from other believers in community.

Additional Questions? Please feel free to contact Pastor Brian at brian.zaas@stlcsj.org or call 408-264-3858 x105

Confirmation Information!

Parents & 8th Grade Students:

Please join us September 10th from 6:30 – 8pm in the Music Room for our first class and orientation.

Classes will continue on Sunday nights through December 3.

Also, mark your calendars for our Confirmation Retreat at Mt. Cross October 20 – 21.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

First Communion classes will take place this year on Sunday evenings from 6:30 - 7:30 pm, beginning October 1 and continuing through October 29.

The classes will prepare 5th graders to share in the Lord's Supper in church beginning Sunday, November 5.

The class is open to any students, 5th Grade and older, who have not yet attended a First Communion class. More detail will be sent directly to our 5th Grade students in September.

Contact Pastor Dan or email info@stlcsj.org if you have any questions.

NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

CHASING GOD Author: Roger Huang
One man's miraculous journey in the heart of the city.

dys functional – the Rick Langlais story
Author: Andrew Fehr with Rick Langlais
One man who experienced the raw ugliness of abuse, violence and addiction and emerged a champion of love and hope for inner city street people.

THE FATHER GLORIFIED
Author: Patrick Robertson/David Watson
True stories of God's Power Through Ordinary people.

GOD is Just NOT FAIR
Author: Jennifer Rothschild
Finding hope when life doesn't make sense.

HALF TIME (Updated & Expanded)
Author: Bob Buford
Moving from success to significance.

JESUS NOW – God is Up to Something Big
Author: Tom Phillips

LOVE DOES Author: Bob Goff
Discover a secretly incredible life in an ordinary world.

PAINFUL BLESSING Author: Jill Kranz Viggiano
A story of Loss, Recovery, Hope and Faith

SAME SEX MARRIAGE
Author: Sean McDowell & John Stonestreet
Thoughtful Response to God's Design for Marriage
Relevant to Biblical Truth.

GIRL POWER Author: Melody Carlson
For the younger reader – Girls of Harbor View

Need help finding a book or ?

Librarians are available in the church library Sunday mornings,
fill out a request form in the library, or...

Carolee Crane – lantana.woman@gmail.com



In Memory of Pastor Richard Andersen

August 23, 1931 – April 16, 2017

We recently became aware of the fact that one of our former pastors, Richard Andersen, was called home to be eternally with the Lord on Easter Sunday, April 16, 2017. Pastor Andersen served St. Timothy's from 1986 – 1993. He was a graduate of Trinity Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa and he later earned his Ph.D. at California School of Theology in Glendale, California. Throughout his ministry, Pastor Andersen served congregations in North Hollywood, Ojai, Rancho Cordova, La Habra, Long Beach and San Jose. He was an accomplished author and preacher and a gift to Christ's Church. He is survived by his wife, Lois, who is currently living in Sierra Vista, Arizona. To God alone be the glory for the memory of one of his faithful servants.

Village House comes to St. Timothy's September 6th - October 4th

"Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard."

Isaiah 58:6-8

God's word encourages us in many places to shelter those without shelter. Beginning on September 6th, the members of St. Timothy's have opportunity to do just that—host the homeless. We will have 15 women guests who now are without a place to safely rest their heads at night. With the help of the consortium of churches called Village House, St. Timothy's opens its doors to these women. For this opportunity, we give thanks. For this opportunity, we give thanks for you. As of August 28, we have over 60% of the volunteers signed up to fill over 600 volunteer spots. If you have yet to sign up, please do so . . . the blessings from your sharing will flow out to all—our guests, the other volunteers and most importantly, to you. If for some reason you are not able to help physically, please put this important endeavor first on your prayer list for the month of September and the first four days of October. These women need your prayers and all the volunteers will need your prayers as well.

There are many opportunities to serve at St. Timothy's. This is a great chance for all of us to answer Isaiah's call to "bring the homeless into our church home". Thanks in advance for your service and your prayers.



Join us every Sunday morning!

9:45am-10:45am

Preschool-5th Grade, Carter Classrooms

First Steps Nursery

8:30, 9:45 & 11:00am

Up to 36 months, Room B3



Family Movie Night Friday, September 22 *Finding Dory*

Rated PG Runtime 1 hr 37 mins

6:30pm - Bring-your-own
Picnic Dinner

7:30pm - Movie Showtime

Join us for a family movie night out on our soccer field! Bring a picnic dinner along with blankets, chairs, and warm clothes. We will provide popcorn, lemonade, and a fire pit with s'mores.

**INVITE YOUR FRIENDS &
NEIGHBORS!**

"He took a little child whom he placed among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, 'Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.'" (Mark 9:36-37)

Welcome our Children and Families to Worship!

At this point, our new schedule is under way and St. Tim's KIDS is off to a great start. One of my favorite things about our new schedule is that children and families are encouraged to be in worship together every single week (not just on Family First Sundays). So it begs the common question, "Why? Church services are for adults - What do my kids even get out of it?"

1. **They are SEEN.** According to Fuller Youth Institute, a "sticky faith" forms as children form meaningful relationships with Christian adults who aren't their parents. Research also shows that one of the most meaningful things for young children is that someone knows their name. When children are in church, they are seen and other people learn their names. Encourage your kids to participate in the "greet your neighbor" time and shake hands with the adults who sit in the pews around you!
2. **They get to SEE.** Kids learn by watching and imitating. In worship, children see Bibles being opened, choirs singing, prayers being said, offerings being given, communion being shared. Over time, they begin to ask questions, learn, and appreciate the importance of each of these things.
3. **They EXPERIENCE.** Corporate worship is a powerful expression of God coming to us and then, in response, us turning to God in praise. In worship, children experience worship with all their senses. Have you ever heard it said that "children's mind are like sponges?" They absorb everything! Even when it doesn't always seem like it, they are listening and absorbing what's happening around them.

Parents, bringing your children into church can be daunting and, yes, sometimes they are disruptive. But we, as a congregation, will strive to embrace children in worship - distractions and all - because they are just as much a part of our family as anyone else. Children are not just the future of the church, they are the present. So let's encourage them to be present!

(And, don't forget - pick up a "Busy Bag" and children's bulletin to help them follow along & stay engaged throughout the service!)

ST. TIM'S YOUTH

JUNIOR HIGH
&
HIGH SCHOOL
MINISTRIES

CORNERSTONE

MINISTRY

JUNIOR HIGH
HIGH SCHOOL

WEDNESDAYS 6:00-8:00 PM
@ YOUTH HOUSE.

TUESDAYS 7:00-8:30 PM
@ YOUTH HOUSE.

BRING YOUR FRIENDS

Get fed!

SUNDAY CAFE

is back

Pancake
breakfast



the Bread
of
Life

John 6:35

*Sunday Mornings @ the Youth House
9:45-10:45 for 6th-12th*

For more information on events, programs and activities , contact:

High School Ministry– Joe Hill @ joe.hill@stlcsj.org

Junior High Ministry– Anna-Marie Valles @ Annamarie.valles@stlcsj.org

Boardwalk Beach Blitz Conference

September 15th-16th, Cost- \$100

The Beach Blitz is an overnight youth conference at the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk that includes dynamic speakers, a concert by **7th Time Down**, worship, games, and an unlimited rides wrist band for Saturday, September 16th!

For ALL YOUTH



Prayer Requests

Join the Prayer Group on
St. Tim's Connect for
up-to-date prayer requests.
To add or renew a prayer
request call 408-264-3858 or
email info@stlcsj.org.

Teesie Carmack
Sue Ehrreich-Zankiewicz
Darryl vanMaanen
Donna (website request)
Rose Saucedo (friend of Joyce Versteeg)
Lee Campbell (friend of Todd and Ann Christian)
Winston Hendrickson (friend of Susie Wire)
Chris Sifflet (family friend of the Coupers)
The family of Steve Bauer, relative of Terri James



BUDGET REPORT

	General	Building
OFFERINGS to date	\$561,680	\$97,630
SPENDING to date	\$645,385	\$67,053
Excess/(Shortfall)	\$(83,705)	\$30,577

	Capital Campaign
OFFERINGS to date	\$141,607
SPENDING to date	\$63,234
Excess/(Shortfall)	\$78,373

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

All articles need to be emailed by September 19.
Email to: beth.tkacheff@stlcsj.org

SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 8:30 & 11 AM WORSHIP 9:45a Middle Hour	28	29 6:30a Men's Breakfast 7p H.S. Cornerstone	30 9a Newsletter Team 6p Jr High Cornerstone 7p Village House	31 7p Chancel Choir Rehearsal	1	2
3 8:30 & 11 AM WORSHIP 9:45a Middle Hour	4 Labor Day- Office Closed	5 6:30a Men's Breakfast 7p H.S. Cornerstone	6 9a Quilters and Cut-ups 6p Jr High Cornerstone	7 12:30p Naomi Circle 7p Chancel Choir Rehearsal	8	9
10 8:30 & 11 AM WORSHIP 9:45a Middle Hour 6:30p Confirmation	11	12 6:30a Men's Breakfast 9:30a Staff Meeting 7p H.S. Cornerstone 7p Leadership Team	13 6p Jr High Cornerstone	14 6:30p Lydia Book Club 7p Chancel Choir Rehearsal	15	16
17 8:30 & 11 AM WORSHIP 9:45a Middle Hour 6:30p Confirmation	18	19 Newsletter Deadline 6:30a Men's Breakfast 6:30p Iron Men 7p H.S. Cornerstone	20 9a Quilters and Cut-ups 6p Jr High Cornerstone	21 7p Chancel Choir Rehearsal	22	23
24 8:30 & 11 AM WORSHIP 9:45a Middle Hour 6:30p Confirmation	25	26 6:30a Men's Breakfast 9:30a Staff Meeting 7p H.S. Cornerstone 7p Leadership Team	27 9a Newsletter Team 6p Jr High Cornerstone	28 12p Lunch Bunch 7p Chancel Choir Rehearsal	29	30



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ADULT MIDDLE HOUR CLASSES

During our 9:45am Middle Hour, adults are encouraged to participate in one of our two classes.

Believe

Open to all adults. Led by Pastors
Jonna and Brian
Fellowship Hall

A companion study to St. Tim's Kids and Sunday Cafe. *Believe* is a study much like *The Story*, and authored by the same Randy Frazee. *Believe: Living the Story of the Bible to Become Like Jesus* has three ten-week sessions, covering what we believe, what we are to then do as Christians, to become more like Jesus.

The Protestant Reformation

Led by Pastor Dan
Music Room

This year marks the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, an event and a movement that changed the course of history in the Christian Church. This 13-week Bible and video-based study will focus on the life of Martin Luther, the theological convictions that led to the Reformation, and the movement throughout Christendom that has continued ever since.