



October 2017  
St. Timothy's Lutheran Church

# Good News

## Pastor's Pen

### **500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation: Celebrating Christ!**

Dear Brothers and Sisters at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church,

What a blessing it is for our pastoral and ministry staff to prepare and launch the Confirmation program for our 8<sup>th</sup> graders and the First Communion classes for our 5<sup>th</sup> graders as we move into October and through our Fall season. Each of the classes provide us the opportunity to encourage our students as they grow spiritually and proclaim their faith in Christ through Word and Sacrament. What a special year to be journeying with these students as they explore their faith in light of the catechism as it has been handed down since the time of Reformation.


This month, our congregation will join with other Protestant churches across the world to celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation. After 500 years, the focus of our celebration remains the same – our focus is ALL about JESUS! As Lutherans, we may need to remind ourselves that this Reformation anniversary is not a celebration of Luther. As a Lutheran church, we will reflect on Luther's teachings to rejoice in the fundamentals of our faith remaining anchored in Christ himself: the Lord's Supper, Holy Baptism, the Greatest Commandment, the Great Commission, and extending further into all the areas covered in our catechism (the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, the Creeds, Confession and Forgiveness).

Luther reformed the church by centering the church once again on the truth of Scripture and the Lordship of Christ. His teachings and those carried forward from the time of Reformation to today, were expressed in three "solas" — Sola gratia ("by grace alone"), sola fide ("by faith alone"), and sola scriptura ("by Scripture alone"). We find in these solas our foundational understanding of Reformation theology anchored in God's love for His people and reflected in solus Christus ("through Christ alone").

By grace alone means that God gives His love freely. We cannot earn God's love. We cannot earn forgiveness. Our human efforts do not earn us God's favor. By faith alone means that those of us who believe in Jesus as God's Savior will receive forgiveness and eternal life. Faith is something God gives to people through His Holy Spirit, working in the Word of God and the Sacraments of Holy Baptism and the Lord's Supper. By Scripture alone means that God has revealed His truth through the Holy Bible.

Luther insisted that the Church recognize that Scripture is the one trustworthy source for the truth about God, our church doctrine, theology and our lives. We must properly read the Old and New Testaments in light of Jesus as the Son of God in the flesh. The Bible teaches that His death and resurrection is the key event in all of history, because

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## LUNCH BUNCH NEWS

No meeting in October as  
St. Timothy's Academy  
Book Fair occupies  
Fellowship Hall.

**Our next program is  
November 9, 2017.**

Watch for info in the  
November Newsletter  
and Sunday Bulletins.

### Pastor Pen Continued ...


there, Jesus died to gain the forgiveness of everyone's sins.

The celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation is a time for us to return to the basics — when we return to the Word and Sacraments, when we turn to Christ and His love. Luther shared the basics in the Small Catechism for the instruction of laypeople, like us. Luther intended us to use the Small Catechism at St. Tim's and in our homes to instruct children in the faith and to reinforce the faith in the hearts and minds of our adults. There is no better time than in this year of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation for each of us to revisit the catechism. Review it for ourselves. Refresh the teachings in our minds. Pray the catechism daily to share our hearts.

We can sum up the Reformation in a brief statement from Luther: "*I must listen to the Gospel. It tells me, not what I must do, but what Jesus Christ, the Son of God, has done for me*" (Commentary on the Epistle to the Galatians, Chapter 2). Because of Jesus, God turns towards us in love. God forgives us through Christ. After His death on the cross, Jesus rose from the dead. He conquered death for all those who believe in Him.

As Lutherans, we must renew our focus in God's Word and Sacraments as the focal point for our celebration — our communion with Christ. In 2 Corinthians 13:14, Paul reminds us "may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all."

Rejoice as we renew our focus on God's love, Christ's sacrificial death and resurrection, and ultimately the Holy Spirit's active engagement in our lives. **Scripture.** Given by God. Through which we receive Christ. **Grace.** Given by God. Through which we receive Christ. **Faith.** Given by God. Through which we receive Christ. Through **Christ alone.** God gives us all these gifts because of Jesus' death and resurrection. All good gifts come from God and bless all those who believe. 500 years later — keep it simple; go back to the basics — Through Christ, In Christ, and For Christ alone!  
Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,  
Pastor Brian



### First Communion Class

Classes for 5th Graders (and older students who are not communing yet) are on Sunday evenings at 6:30 pm in the Cafeteria beginning October 1 for 5 sessions. Communion classes aim to prepare students to partake of the Lord's Supper in church beginning November 5.



# FAMILY FUN FESTIVAL

Friday, October 6  
5:00pm - 8:00pm  
Soccer Field

\*Food Trucks \*Raffles \*Carnival Games  
\*Inflatables \*Pumpkin Maze and More!!

*Early Bird Tickets and wristbands will be available for purchase Sunday, October 1*

## St. Timothy's Christian Academy **Scholastic Book Fair**

*Come join Woody and friends on a reading adventure!*



# October 22-27

### **Sunday, October 22nd**

Come see the **TOY-RIFFIC** Book Fair after Church Services!  
At 5:00 that night we will show the first Toy Story Movie in the Fellowship Hall.  
The cost is **\$5.00** per person or **\$20.00** per family.  
Snacks will be available for **\$1.00**.

Come and shop at the Book Fair  
all week long from  
7:30 am—4:30 pm.

Thursday evening is our  
**Family Night**  
**5:30-7:30.**

We'll have prizes, snacks at Stinky Pete's Cafe, wonderful books and entertainment.  
You won't want to miss Woody and his friends at this awesome event!

### **ORDER ONLINE**

Can't make it to the Book Fair?  
You can order books online  
October 15th to October 28th.

Link to order online is:

[WWW.SCHOLASTIC.COM/BF/  
STTIMOTHYCHRISTIANACADEMY](http://WWW.SCHOLASTIC.COM/BF/STTIMOTHYCHRISTIANACADEMY)



## **Blessed to Be a Blessing** **Closing Worship at 8 pm on October 3rd**

The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.

“I will make you into a great nation,  
and I will bless you;  
I will make your name great,  
and you will be a blessing.  
I will bless those who bless you,  
and whoever curses you, I will curse;  
And all peoples on earth  
will be blessed through you.” **Genesis 12:1-3**

At St. Timothy’s, the members of this congregation were called by God to open our doors to the women of Village House. It has truly been a blessing for us and for them. On the evening of October 3rd at 8 pm we invite you to come to our sanctuary to share in a celebration of these blessings. We want to thank first and foremost the guests for providing us with this experience of reaching out, as Jesus commands us to help those in need. Secondly, we want to thank you for your countless hours of giving through jobs of welcoming, shepherding, feeding, offering security and sanctuary, providing transportation and medical support, cleaning linens and clothes, and providing a comfortable place to lay down one’s head at night. Thanks, too, for the hours of prayer support offered. Our guests have been blessed and we have been blessed.

Please join us Tuesday evening, October 3rd at 8 pm for a time of celebration and worship as we conclude a most wonderful chapter in our lives of sharing our blessings at St. Timothy’s.

## **21st Annual** **St. Timothy’s Golf Tournament**

**Saturday, October 14**  
**9:00 am**  
**\$85 per person**  
**Los Lagos Golf Course**

As in past years, the tournament will be a 4-person best ball scramble format. All levels of play are welcome. Sign up as a group or as an individual on Sunday after worship services. We would love to have you join the fun!





## It's Shoebox time!

Every year, St. Timothy's Church & Academy pack over 600 shoeboxes to send to children all around the world. These boxes are filled with small gifts and, most importantly, the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Stop by the Operation Christmas Child table outside of church during the month of October to find out how you & your family can get involved!

### DONATIONS NEEDED!

Please bring donations to the church entryway this month. We especially need...

- EMPTY SHOEBOXES
- SOAP
- WASHCLOTHS
- SMALL TOYS, DOLLS, STUFFED ANIMALS
- SCHOOL SUPPLIES
- \$9 donations to ship 1 shoebox



A real-life prince visited the students of St. Timothy's Christian Academy during Chapel. It was a grand event, complete with drums, trumpets, and a spectacular fanfare to herald his imperial arrival. The children knew that they were in the presence of someone who holds a special place in the world.

For you see, this prince is no ordinary prince. This prince is descended from the most ancient and powerful of royal bloodlines, and is heir to the most influential and well-established kingdom of all time. This prince, ladies and gentlemen, is our very own Pastor Brian Zaas.

Yes, Prince Zaas (in crown and cape) added another layer to our student's understanding of what it means to be a child of God. Our theme verse for the school year is 1 John 3:1: "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called the children of God!" And that is what we are! We wanted to set the stage for our students to imagine what it means to have a royal identity in Christ. 1 Peter 2:9 says, "For you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation..." and at the end of our special guest's regal visit, he bestowed a crown upon each of our students, as a reminder that, as children of God, they are royal, too.

There was a time when I might have questioned this teaching approach. In my former attempt to encourage humility in my students, I would have raced over the "you are the light of the world" parts, and spent most of my time on the, "so act like this..." parts. It always seemed a little risky to focus on the high position God's children held in His Kingdom, believing there was too much egocentricity in the world already. I figured it would be far more beneficial to the public to remind our youngsters (and spouses, coworkers, the guy in the car next to us) that they are, in fact, not the center of the universe, and would do well to sit down, be humble (If I may quote Kendrick).

Yet, after looking more closely at scripture, I found that God goes out of His way to elevate the identity of His children. Our verse of the year says He lavishes love on us, and tells us repeatedly that we are His own. Well before we did anything to deserve it. We know that we don't become children of God by earning the position. We know that our Father in Heaven doesn't wait for us to act like a prince or princess before He gives us the title. As a matter of fact, the grace of God works in reverse. It's only after we identify ourselves as His children that we can begin to behave like one; gracious, confident, humble, generous, mighty, heirs to the Kingdom. Identity always precedes activity.

Now I strive to remind people who they are, myself included. I've even entertained the idea of carrying around a crown in case of an emergency. Picture this: the next time your child, spouse, coworker, or the guy in the car next to you, starts acting 'the fool,' instead of your usual response, pull out a crown, plop it on your head, and just stand there. Or better yet, pull out two crowns, one for you and one for the 'fool' in question. Ok, probably not a good idea. But what would it change in you to imagine a crown on the head of your child, spouse, or the guy in the car next to you? What would change to imagine a crown on your own head? (And don't forget the fanfare of trumpets and drums.) How would our behaviors and attitudes change if we were thus reminded of our God-given identity and the God-given identity of others? That we were, even now, in the presence of royalty? We might even tremble.

Blessings ~ From Princess Cat Miller

# ST. TIM'S YOUTH

JUNIOR HIGH  
&  
HIGH SCHOOL  
MINISTRIES

## Every Week!

### 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

## Events this Month!

# HALLOWEEN PARTY



6TH-12TH GRADE  
7:00-9:00PM  
OCTOBER 27  
CARTER GREAT ROOM

### The Annual St. Tim's Youth HALLOWEEN PARTY

is for all youth, 6th-12th grade!

- Costume Contest
- Photo Booth!
- Tons of Candy
- Games & Raffles Prizes

**Cost is \$5 per person and all money raised will go to support a local ministry!**



# 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](mailto:info@stlcsj.org).

The family of Dee Abeloe  
 Brian  
 Jon  
 Jamal  
 Chelby Bachmayer (friend of Lutz Filor)  
 Gene and Audrey Archer (Parents of Pam Moore)

# BUDGET REPORT



	General	Building
<b>OFFERINGS to date</b>	<b>\$610,966</b>	<b>\$106,804</b>
<b>SPENDING to date</b>	<b>\$747,903</b>	<b>\$64,240</b>
<b>Excess/(Shortfall)</b>	<b>\$(136,937)</b>	<b>\$42,564</b>
	Capital Campaign	
<b>OFFERINGS to date</b>	<b>\$150,457</b>	
<b>SPENDING to date</b>	<b>\$63,234</b>	
<b>Excess/(Shortfall)</b>	<b>\$87,223</b>	

**NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**  
 All articles need to be emailed by **OCTOBER 17**.  
 Email to: [beth.tkacheff@stlcsj.org](mailto:beth.tkacheff@stlcsj.org)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <b>8:30 &amp; 11 AM WORSHIP</b> 9:45a Middle Hour 6:30p Confirmation 6:30p 1st Communion	28	3 6:30a Men's Breakfast 7p H.S. Cornerstone 8p Village House Closing Worship	4 9a Quilters and Cut-ups 6p Jr High Cornerstone	5 12:30p Naomi Circle 7p Chancel Choir Rehearsal	6	7 8:30a Leadership Retreat
8 <b>8:30 &amp; 11 AM WORSHIP</b> 9:45a Middle Hour 6:30p Confirmation 6:30p 1st Communion	9	10 6:30a Men's Breakfast 9:30a Staff Meeting 7p H.S. Cornerstone	11 6p Jr High Cornerstone	12 6:30p Lydia Book Club 7p Chancel Choir Rehearsal	13	14 9:00a Golf Tournament
15 <b>8:30 &amp; 11 AM WORSHIP</b> 9:45a Middle Hour 6:30p Confirmation 6:30p 1st Communion	16	17 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 6:30a Men's Breakfast 7:30p Iron Men 7p H.S. Cornerstone	18 9a Quilters and Cut-ups 6p Jr High Cornerstone	19 7p Chancel Choir Rehearsal	20	21 8th Grade Confirmation Retreat
22 <b>8:30 &amp; 11 AM WORSHIP</b> 9:45a Middle Hour 6:30p 1st Communion	23	24 6:30a Men's Breakfast 9:30a Staff Meeting 6p H.S. Cornerstone 7p Leadership Team	25 9a Newsletter Team 6p Jr High Cornerstone	26 7p Chancel Choir Rehearsal	27 7p 6th-12th Grade Halloween Party	28
29 <b>8:30 &amp; 11 AM WORSHIP</b> 9:45a Middle Hour 6:30p Confirmation 6:30p 1st Communion	30	31 6:30a Men's Breakfast 7p H.S. Cornerstone	1 6p FISH Volunteer Appreciation Dinner 6p Jr High Cornerstone	2 12:30p Naomi Circle 7p Chancel Choir Rehearsal	3	4 

 **ST. TIMOTHY'S  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
5100 Camden Ave  
San Jose, CA 95124

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 **FALL**  
ELLOWSHIP

*Save The Date!*

 **Sunday, November 12**  
**4:30-7pm**

**POTLUCK \* OCC SERVICE PROJECT \* GAMES & FELLOWSHIP**

