



# Good News

Monthly Newsletter of  
St. Timothy's Lutheran Church

February 2018

## Pastor's Pen

*Lent: A Season for Love, A Heart of Repentance*

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

This year as we begin our Lenten season, Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day fall on the same day. Do you wonder how these two observances can offer any common ground in understanding our Christian walk? For many of us, Valentine's Day has become a somewhat superficial and commercialized holiday; however, this day can offer a great opportunity to encourage the affirming of relationships we have with our loved ones. Lent is a more somber occasion calling for repentance and forgiveness of sins. While these two observances may seem to have little relationship to one another, they do share something in common as the holidays come together on the calendar.

Both deal with the measures of our hearts and ultimately reflect the love we have – for one another and for God. On Valentine's Day, we celebrate the love we share in those special relationships with spouses, family and friends. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent and defines the tone of the Lenten season leading up to Maundy Thursday. Ash Wednesday and Lent point us to the greatest act of love, when Jesus Christ gave up His life on the cross that we might be forgiven and live.

During our Ash Wednesday service, ashes are placed on our foreheads in the shape of a cross. Throughout the stories of the Bible, ashes have long been an outward sign of repentance. And, in the New Testament, we are given the cross as a beacon of hope for all believers through which we obtain the forgiveness of our sins. The ashes we

receive on our foreheads serve as a reminder of the mortality of our sinful nature and the redemption of Christ into which we, His followers, have been baptized.

Jesus showed his love for us on the cross by dying to take away our sins. It was on that cross, Jesus prayed for the Roman soldiers, while they were executing Him: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34). When Jesus prayed, He did not have ashes on His head. Rather, He wore a crown of thorns and a cross upon His back. He wore them for each of our sins!

Lent is a time for meditating on the passion of Christ and guiding our hearts and minds toward the rejoicing that comes with Easter. We can live out our daily Christian walk as disciples seeking to destroy our sinful nature as we move ahead in the spirit of prayerful remorse and repentance. We transform our hearts when we seek the Lord in our meditation and quiet time reflecting on His Word. We intentionally strengthen our focus on our renewed faith and life in Christ.

In taking these strides, we never view repentance as the product of human wisdom, reason, strength, or effort. Rather, we always see the path to repentance that lies ahead as the divine work of the Holy Spirit revealed to us through God's Word and forgiven and reformed in His Gospel. God's Word crucifies our natural human response toward sin, and then Christ reconciles and restores us to His divine nature.

As we come together to reflect our love for one another over Valentine's Day and engage through Lent to demonstrate our love for the Lord from Ash Wednesday

Continued on page 2...

## Pastor Pen continued

through Holy Week, we rejoice as we celebrate the gift of love. We can remember and give thanks to God for the greatest gift of love in His Son, Jesus Christ. We can love others as He has loved us.

Over the next few weeks, we will preach a sermon series entitled "Give It Up" looking more deeply at what God asks us to give up in our lives and what does He has to offer us that far exceeds what He asks of us in our letting go. Many of us give up certain things for the forty days of Lent, and doing so can be a very beneficial thing for us. This seven-week series takes that idea one step further and as we talk each week about things that God wants us to give up, not just for forty days, but forever. Some of the topics we plan to cover include giving up: control, pride, success (status), enemies, false security, popularity (fitting-in), and ultimately our lives.

On Wednesday evenings in Lent, join us for Soup Supper and a fellowship series centered on the *Words of Life From The Cross* - the seven words of Christ that He spoke from the cross as He offered up His life for the lives of this world. Each word imparts a blessing and is a word of His Gospel. Together, we will expound on these words of Christ, linking them to Jesus' words and His works recorded in the Gospel as well as the Old Testament prophesies that pointed to Him. Each word of Christ proclaims and delivers something about Him, the Word Incarnate, and delivers His saving death to us such that we would trust Him for forgiveness, life, and salvation.

The penitential season of Lent is also a season for teaching and reaching the next generation. Our Lenten focus on the cross and Passion of the Lord Jesus Christ is intended to be a direct proclamation and confession of His Word and His grace. Our worship and teaching will focus on how Law and Gospel come together to deliver a heart of repentance guiding us to the forgiveness of our sins. Our exploration of God's Word will bring us as sinners to the cross of Christ as the fountain and source of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,  
Pastor Brian

## Thank You Note

To the Members of St. Timothy's Lutheran Church,

We are overwhelmed with the wonderful wishes and prayerful support that has come from you wonderful Christian leaders and members in our hour of need. We have been the recipients of so many caring, loving and concerned wishes and prayers, that we wish to thank each and every one of you. There are so many get well cards and written comments, that we are amazed and it is indeed wonderful to see the love of Jesus Christ shine through.

We thank you all and we uphold Bob and Betsy Grandey for Bob's participation in Nevada. We thank Jim and Judy Bangsund, Dale and Mickey Miller, and their friends, Steve Hill, Bill Mowson as well as Jonna for trekking up to the hospital that has held Olga these last three months. You folks have given us a lesson in Christian love that will never be removed from our thinking.

Olga's health is still a concern. We are very anxious to get Olga to a San Jose facility. She has experienced a few encouraging signs, but we are waiting to see if she can control arm or leg movement. This is where we must remind ourselves that God's timing is not our timing. Please continue praying for us as we await Christ's leadership.

God bless each and everyone of you. You are the backbone of what we believe and our faith in the future hope. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

In the Lord's Name,  
Sam & Olga Walters



**CHURCH LIBRARY**  
BOOK OF THE MONTH:  
"COUNTER CULTURE  
Following Christ in an Anti-Christian Age"

Author, David Platt, addresses the culture of today where culture has shifted seemingly overnight to the point where right and wrong are no longer measured by universal truth but by popular opinion.





*You are invited to*

**CAITLIN JENSEN'S ORDINATION**  
**FEBRUARY 3 AT 3:00 PM**  
**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
**Saratoga, CA**



Former member, Caitlin Jensen, has been called to be pastor at First Lutheran Church in Karlstad, MN. She has invited our congregation to attend the ordination. During the ordination a special

offering will be taken and given to Mt. Cross Ministries (Caitlin attended many summer camps there). Holy communion will also be a part of the service.

Caitlin has also requested attendees to wear red. In the church, the color red symbolizes the presence of God through the Holy Spirit and the church as a whole.

**RSVP**

**[cjensen003@luthersem.edu](mailto:cjensen003@luthersem.edu) or**  
**408-723-0346**

## Popcorn Praises

I always loved cooking with my children. I cherished not only the togetherness time, but we also had the best conversations about life. I tried to find recipes that would celebrate the season or illustrate a concept to do on a rainy day together. In thinking about the month of February, I think about God's love. February not only brings Valentine's Day but also Ash Wednesday; both days that remember love. Below is a fun recipe/cooking project that you can do even with your youngest children. Enjoy!

**Gayle Renken, Principal**

### Popcorn Praises

#### Materials:

**Unpopped popcorn**

**Popcorn popper**

#### Instructions:

**Show your children the unpopped popcorn and tell them that the kernels are like children who haven't found Jesus. Without the warmth of God's love, they haven't burst to life.**

**Pop the popcorn.**

**When God's love warms our hearts, we burst with happiness and praises to Jesus burst out of us. We can't help but tell others how much we love Him and how great we think He is.**

**Eat the popcorn.**



# LUNCH BUNCH

**St. Timothy's Lunch Bunch Program**

**Thursday, February 22**

**12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall.**



Pizza and green salad. Cost is \$8 per person. Drinks and dessert always supplied. The local and famous Peninsula Banjo Band plays their "Happy Music" of jazz, dixieland, and ragtime for us. Formed in 1963, the PBB is known worldwide as one of North America's premier banjo jazz groups that has headlined numerous times over its history and been the opening act for notable entertainers and musical groups of the 1970s, 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s. You will love their four-string banjo style of music.

Reservations always preferred, 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. Just come! Monthly Lunch Bunch is a fellowship group open to ALL. Reservations and payment can also be made for the March Celtic Harmony music and lunch event. St Tim's Lunch Bunch always welcomes new attendees.



# Silicon Valley Discipleship Walk for Water

April 21, 2018

Register at [siliconvalleywalk.org](http://siliconvalleywalk.org)

This is the fifth year in which St. Timothy's is walking to support the ministry of Water Mission to bring clean water and the Living Water message to people around the world!

During the approximately 4-mile walk, participants carry a bucket of water to symbolize the trek that women and children make each day to collect water in developing countries.

## Here's How You Can Help

Pray 💧 Register to Walk 💧 Become a Team Captain  
Join a Team 💧 Donate 💧 Become a Sponsor  
Volunteer 💧 Spread the Word



South Valley FISH Food Pantry

"Love your neighbor" Mark 12:31

Thanks to the St. Timothy's congregation for supporting the South Valley FISH Food pantry ministry. We served 74 families in 2017, some people coming up to 2 times a month. Special Thanksgiving and Christmas food was supplied to families who appreciated this outpouring of love. One child said, "Mommy, are we actually going to be able to have a "real" Thanksgiving meal this year?!?" as he looked at the turkey they were given with wide eyes.

We also supported 3 of our client families along with the Adopt-A-Family ministry this Christmas. Please continue to pray for us to reach those in our community who need food and to experience Jesus' love. We have new hours this year and are open to distribute food on Thursday afternoons and one Saturday a month.

We are in need of more food donations, please: peanut butter, soup, soap, toothpaste, and toothbrushes, and canned fruit.

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact BJ Bushur at [fishpantryvolunteer@gmail.com](mailto:fishpantryvolunteer@gmail.com). We have some volunteer positions open for serving once a month as:

- Shoppers
- Stocking food & Inventory checks after church service on Sundays
- Second Harvest food pick up on Thursday mornings
- Organizing the pantry
- Correspondence with clients: writing thank you cards, inspirational notes and cards for clients
- Mandarin or Vietnamese speakers available for calls



ST. TIM'S

# YOUTH

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL  
MINISTRY

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

## 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



**Mexico Mission Mtg**  
Sun, Feb 11 @ 12:15



Come to hear about what we do on the trip, ask questions, talk to people who have gone before, and have a first crack at signing up!



Trip is July 7th-13th; 55 spots available, first-come first-served. \$100 deposit due at time of sign up.

Meet in the CAFETERIA





Pre 3's - 5th Grade

First Steps Nursery

9:45am-10:45am

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

Carter Classrooms

Up to 36 months, Room B3

## COLLEGE CONNECTION

A service project for all ages to send love and encouragement to our St. Tim's College Students

St. Timothy's is putting together care packages for our college students. This is a great way to let them know that we care about them and to connect with them in a meaningful way. Whether they are studying from home or far away we want our students to feel loved by and connected with their family of faith at St. Timothy's. Thank you for your partnership in this effort.

**WE NEED DONATIONS!**  
Bring items to church or office.

**DEADLINE: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25**

Some donation ideas...

### PERSONAL ENCOURAGEMENT

A favorite Bible verse

Personal Note of Encouragement

### PRACTICAL ITEMS

School Supplies - Post-Its, Pens, Pencils, Highlighters

Lip Balm, Hand Sanitizer, Hand Lotion

### SNACKS

Cookies, Crackers, Pretzels (Snack size bags)

Granola Bars, Trail Mix

Microwave Popcorn

Instant Drinks (Coffee, Hot Cocoa, Lemonade, Iced Tea, Apple Cider)

Cup Noodles / Mac & Cheese cups



**St. Tim's Kids will write cards and help decorate boxes in their classes**

## Parent Coffee

Sun, Feb 11 @ 9:45am



Lattes - Coffee - Connections  
**JOIN US!**

Come to the Carter building for opening worship with our St. Tim's Kids. Then we'll dismiss the kids, turn on the espresso machine and enjoy coffee and conversation with other parents!

## SAVE THE DATE - Summer VBS

June 18-22

Registration coming soon!



Questions about Children & Family Ministry?  
Contact Elizabeth.hill@stlcsj.org



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).

Vera Frase

Olga Walters

Howard Fagen (friend of the Sampsons)

# BUDGET REPORT



|                           | General           | Building       |
|---------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| <b>OFFERINGS to date</b>  | <b>\$47,485</b>   | <b>\$8,007</b> |
| <b>SPENDING to date</b>   | <b>\$70,007</b>   | <b>\$6,278</b> |
| <b>Excess/(Shortfall)</b> | <b>(\$22,522)</b> | <b>\$1,729</b> |

|                           | Capital Campaign |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| <b>OFFERINGS to date</b>  | <b>\$9,492</b>   |
| <b>SPENDING to date</b>   | <b>0</b>         |
| <b>Excess/(Shortfall)</b> | <b>\$9,492</b>   |

**NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**  
 All articles need to be emailed by February 20.  
 Email to: [beth.tkacheff@stlcsj.org](mailto:beth.tkacheff@stlcsj.org)

| SUNDAY  | MONDAY   | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|----------|
| 28<br><b>8:30 &amp; 11 AM WORSHIP</b><br>9:45a Middle Hour<br>12:45a Annual Meeting                                 | 29   | 30<br>6:30a Men's Breakfast<br>7p H.S. Cornerstone  | 31<br>6p Jr High Cornerstone   | 1<br>12:30p Naomi Circle<br>7p Chancel Choir Rehearsal   | 2<br>9:30a Pins and Needles<br><br>Jr High Hume Lake | 3        |
| 4<br><b>8:30 &amp; 11 AM WORSHIP</b><br>9:45a Middle Hour<br><br>Jr High Hume Lake                                  | 5  | 6<br>6:30a Men's Breakfast<br>7p H.S. Cornerstone<br>7p Leadership Team                         | 7<br>9a Quilters and Cut-ups<br>6p Jr High Cornerstone                                     | 8<br>6:30p Lydia Book Club<br>7p Chancel Choir Rehearsal | 9<br>9:30a Pins and Needles                          | 10       |
| 11<br><b>8:30 &amp; 11 AM WORSHIP</b><br>9:45a Middle Hour<br>12:15p Mexico Info Meeting<br>12:15p Discipleship 101 | 12   | 13<br>6:30a Men's Breakfast<br>7p H.S. Cornerstone  | 14<br>6p Jr High Cornerstone<br>6:15p Soup Supper<br>7p Worship                            | 15<br>7p Chancel Choir Rehearsal                         | 16<br>9:30a Pins and Needles                         | 17       |
| 18<br><b>8:30 &amp; 11 AM WORSHIP</b><br>9:45a Middle Hour  | 19 <i>Presidents' Day — Church Office Closed</i> | 20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i><br>6:30a Men's Breakfast<br>6:30p Iron Men<br>7p H.S. Cornerstone | 21<br>9a Quilters and Cut-ups<br>6p Jr High Cornerstone<br>6:15p Soup Supper<br>7p Worship | 22<br>12:00p Lunch Bunch<br>7p Chancel Choir Rehearsal   | 23<br>9:30a Pins and Needles                         | 24       |
| 25<br><b>8:30 &amp; 11 AM WORSHIP</b><br>9:45a Middle Hour  | 26   | 27<br>6:30a Men's Breakfast<br>7p H.S. Cornerstone  | 28<br>9a Newsletter Team<br>6p Jr High Cornerstone<br>6:15p Soup Supper<br>7p Worship      | 1<br>12:30p Naomi Circle<br>7p Chancel Choir Rehearsal   | 2<br>9:30a Pins and Needles                          | 3        |



 **ST. TIMOTHY'S  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
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## WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

**SOUP SUPPERS 6:15 PM**

**LENTEN SERVICES 7:00 PM**

Join us for a time of worship during Lent,  
**February 14 through March 21.**

Come early for soup in the Fellowship  
Hall and then stay for worship!

Ash Wednesday (February 14) worship is  
in Sanctuary. All other weeks worship is  
in Fellowship Hall.

## SAVE THE DATES!

Easter—April 1

Walk for Water—April 21

VBS "Shipwrecked"—June 18-22

Mexico Mission—July 7-13

