



# Good News

ST. TIMOTHY'S LUTHERAN CHURCH | MARCH 2019

## PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Friends at St. Timothy's,

I must admit that this is *not* my favorite season – the season of Lent, I mean. Every year, I get so excited for Advent and Christmas. The colors are bright, the songs are cheery, and people are generally in a good mood and ready for a party. As Christians, this excitement is multiplied, because we have something really wonderful to look forward to right around the corner. The waiting doesn't take long either – a mere four weeks, and then the celebration of Christmas!

Lent is completely different. It is not far from twice the wait, and it is so drab! Dark colors of purple and black in the church, depressing songs, irritable moods, and no parties. Some choose to fast, and are constantly disappointed that they are not more disciplined and then confess every time they cheat and eat another bite of chocolate. Their friends wonder why they even bother. The outside world has gone back to its regular routines of work and no play. It's no wonder Lent is not my favorite season!

Naturally, I don't like when people tell me how to feel or what to do. I don't like when people tell me I ought to be happy or I ought to be sad, I ought to be thankful or I ought to move on. When I was growing up, I was frequently annoyed when people would tell me not to wear shorts or to dry my hair when it was cold outside. I wanted to decide for *myself* how I would feel and whether or not I wanted to risk illness.

It is my natural tendency to want to feel and do as I please, as I am sure is true for you. As I have gotten older, however, I have come to appreciate the outcomes of discipline, the counsel of wise friends and family, and *seasons*.

Seasons indicate to us that it is not always time for joy, just as it is not always time for sorrow. It is natural and *healthy* to experience both in their proper time, and perhaps we *need* imposed seasons of darkness in particular. We need to be reminded that we all experience great hurt and are wounded. We need to be reminded that we are sinners who desperately need to be forgiven. We need to be reminded that we cannot save ourselves and we will never be perfect. We need to be reminded that we all will one day die; no one can avoid this reality. We all need to be reminded to repent, to turn back to our original starting place, at home with God our Father.

This Lent, I encourage you to join us Wednesday nights beginning March 6<sup>th</sup>, for a season of repentance, a season of turning to the Father, who is already running after you with outstretched arms. Dinner (soup supper), will begin at 6:15pm, and a short service will begin at 7pm. Our series will be based on Rembrandt's painting of *The Return of the Prodigal Son*, and Henri Nouwen's book with the same title. Together, we enter into a season of repentance, turning from where we have been, to where our heavenly Father is.

On the journey with you,  
Pastor Jonna





Village House – Interfaith Shelter of Hope returns to St. Timothy's on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and will run through May 6<sup>th</sup>.

For those still unfamiliar with Village House, Village House is a network of churches providing year-round monthly rotating shelter for up to 15 medically and emotionally fragile homeless women while they work with a designated case worker on programs designed to provide stability for their lives.

Volunteers engage these wonderful ladies and each other to create

a truly blessed opportunity to share Christ's love with others in our community. Volunteer positions range from providing meals and laundry service to transportation, greeting the guests at intake, providing overnight supervision and discharging them in the morning. Volunteer spots will be available for the overnight shelter at St. Timothy's as well as a day shelter at San Jose Christian Reformed Church (the church next to St. Timothy's).

Volunteers sign up through a web app called signup.com. To volunteer, simply go to [www.stlcsjvillagehouse.org](http://www.stlcsjvillagehouse.org) and follow the prompts to sign up. There will also be a link to our Village House website on the St. Timothy's Lutheran Church website. We will also be manning sign up tables after each service through the second week in April for additional assistance. Please note that most volunteer spots require volunteer screening through Protect My Ministry. Information and instructions for screening will be available on the sign-up.com site.

Volunteer training is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Carter Great Room and Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 12:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Hope to see you there.

Thank you all, and I look forward to serving the ladies of Village House with you.

James Moore

Village House Director, St. Timothy's Lutheran Church

### ***Excerpts from a letter from Neeraj and Nijhar (Word Mission Prayer League Missionaries):***

In this letter we would like to share about our family situation. In September last year, we had to come back to the US to take care of our children Maani (18) and Urbas (16). We had left them here to continue their study, but it did not work out for them to stay with a friend the way we had thought. After much prayer and sharing with others, we sense God is calling us as parents to provide and care for our children. Though we feel torn between our calling as parents and as missionaries in India, the Lord has given us peace and a new way to be part of India Mission in Minneapolis serving the cause of our Lord Jesus Christ in the US and also in India. Thus, our area of responsibility is India Mission and Global Mission Educator in the US.

Kindly uphold us in your prayers as this transition was not planned. As our mission partners we seek your advice and insights as to how we can honor your partnership for God's mission in India and provide for our children in US. We value your partnership with us and would do everything in our capacity to achieve the mission vision for which you have trusted us. We deeply honor your trust in us. The following will give you an idea of the state of the India mission

1. The seminary will continue to function well as there is a good group of teachers and the Church Synod solidly behind it. We are exploring possibilities to organize classes/seminars via internet.
2. The Lord is providing a key group of people to work for the establishment of the boarding school and community health ministry. In light of the political situation of the region, the lawyer that we are working with for boarding school has advised us to move cautiously for boarding school and wait for the general election this year which might bring about a change in political regime.
3. We hope to travel to India regularly to be part of what the Lord has called us to do there in India.

While in US, as your missionaries we would be available for preaching, speaking and other ways you see fit for our involvement in your ministry for the sake of God's glory and His glorious kingdom. Also, we would look forward to welcoming you and arranging visits of church groups to Ranchi, India so that this partnership is strengthened and India mission remains a blessing for both sides.

We assure you of our prayers as we continue to depend on the Lord who declares- "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." (Isaiah 55:8-9)





**San Jose Giants  
vs.  
Stockton Ports  
Saturday, April 27  
5:00pm**

Please mark the date for Thrivent's 16<sup>th</sup> annual "Home Run for Habitat." Come enjoy the ball game with friends!

ALL donations go directly to our local Habitat for Humanity East Bay/Silicon Valley organization.

A donation of \$10 to "Habitat-for-Humanity-EBSV" includes a general admission ticket, hot dog and soft drink. Ticket holders can pick up their hot dog and drink ticket at the Thrivent/Habitat table inside the gate.

A \$45 (or more) donation per person secures a reserved seat on the Martinelli deck. This ticket includes a BBQ meal with 2 drinks and other goodies throughout the game.

The game promotion is a "Smash4Cash" replica baseball.

Tickets are available in the church office.

**St. Timothy's Lunch Bunch Program  
Thursday, March 28th, 2019  
12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall**

Jan Pitcher, a Bay Area artist, will discuss and present a wide variety of wildlife art for our enjoyment. Jan will bring several of her paintings for display. She has created three distinct series of paintings: Wildlife, Birds, and Primates.

Lunch is provided by the board and includes sandwiches, salads and chips. Cost for this special program is \$9.00. Dessert and beverages are always provided and are free.

Lunch Bunch needs to know how many are coming, so please call Betsy Grandey at (408) 629-6093 or Betty Rhodes at (408) 628-4799. If you prefer your own food for lunch, that is OK and there is no charge. Just come for this special live presentation by a skilled local artist and painter. Jan presents her Endangered Species Artist Visits to local schools, retirement communities and churches.

Lunch Bunch is a fellowship group open to ALL. New attendees are always welcome.

**SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**April 7th at 12:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall**

**Come hear a report and recommendation from the Transition Team.**



St. Timothy's has two Bible study groups for men.

Iron Men meets once a month for video based Bible study and discussion. Looking

for a way to get more involved with your Bible? This is a great place to start, and dinner is even provided. Iron Men meets at 6:30 pm in the Music Room, on the third Tuesday of each month. If you have any questions, contact Dale Miller at dale1970@comcast.net or (408)371-5789.

Evenings don't work for you? There is also a Men's Breakfast Bible study that meets on Tuesday mornings at the Denny's on Blossom Hill Road at 6:30 am. Contact Steve Hill at (408)836-3520 for questions.



**ST. TIMOTHY'S  
CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL  
Preschool 2's to Preschool 4's  
OPEN HOUSE MARCH 9  
10 AM TO 12 PM**

<http://www.sttimchristianacademy.org/preschool/>

At St. Timothy's Christian Preschool, we believe that children grow and learn best in a developmental, hands-on environment. We are committed to providing a balance between academics, social and play activities to ensure a love of learning and a well-rounded young child.

**PROGRAMS OFFERED:**

**Pre 2's and 3's program** with an option of 2, 3, or 5 days a week, half or full day.

**Pre 4's program** with an option of 3 or 5 days a week, half or full day.

**Questions? Contact Stephanie Gamble 408-265-0244x 118  
or [stephanie.gamble@stlcsj.org](mailto:stephanie.gamble@stlcsj.org)**





Impact Report prepared for:  
2018 Silicon Valley Discipleship Walk

## YOU MADE AN IMPACT IN PERU! WALK FOR WATER

This year, the Silicon Valley Discipleship Walk for Water brought together over 130 people to fight the global water crisis. Together, your efforts raised over \$72,000 to help support safe water projects currently underway surrounding the Peruvian Amazon. Below are a few of these projects.

### GABRIELA NUNEZ PROJECT

The community of Gabriela Nunez in Peru is home to over 250 people, who were in desperate need of a safe water solution in their village. The existing borehole was pulling sand into the water. Because of your funds, Water Mission was able to drill a deeper borehole and provide a better pump, treat the existing water source and provide a safe and sustainable water source for generations to come.

### DARWIN GRANDEZ PROJECT

After assessment, Water Mission implemented a safe water system in the community of Darwin Grandez, comprised of over 2,100 people. After installing a new pump and water treatment equipment, they recruited a volunteer safe water committee, and trained them on health and hygiene education.

### IMPACT OF YOUR SUPPORT

Water Mission simply could not do what we are called to do without you. The awareness and funds you helped raise are long-term sustainability for communities that no longer have to fetch unsafe water from distant sources or wait in queues for an insufficient amount. These people will have their thirst quenched by the safe water, but also the Living Water of Jesus Christ.

Jose Grandez says, "Health is definitely improved. There are not so many cases of dengue and malaria; nor do we suffer constantly from vomiting or diarrhea."

Thanks to the Silicon Valley Discipleship Walk for Water, Jose and so many others have a new future, and for that we are thankful!



## Outreach into our community thru Alpha



On January 31 and February 1st, Pastor Jonna, Jenny Dittmer, Barton Quayle, and BJ Bushur attended the national Alpha Conference in Mesa, Arizona. We were looking to learn more about

how Alpha is working in congregations around the country to bring people to Jesus.

One of the key takeaways was the overview from David Kinnaman from Barna Group whose organization recently surveyed over 1 million people over the last 18 months and shared the findings in their "Reviving Evangelism" study. They cited that 47% of practicing Christian millennials say it's "wrong" to evangelize. Yet, 94% say "the best thing that could ever happen to someone is to come to know Jesus." Obviously, there is a misunderstanding of what it means to "evangelize." We have an opportunity to share the Good News about eternal life thru Jesus, and that the Christian faith is not only true, but good.

They also shared in their survey: "What are the qualities of a good person to talk with about faith?:"

Someone who:

Listens without judgment

Does not force a conclusion

Demonstrates interest in others

Exhibits a vibrant faith of their own

Is confident to express his/her own faith.

We think we can all learn from these current findings both what is true now in 2019, and what has been true throughout the centuries.

As we embark on this journey to reach a diverse community around us of lapsed Christians, and non-Christians, we ask for your prayers to raise up Alpha leaders, helpers, hosts, and guests we can invite to hear the Good News about Jesus. We ask you to pray: "Who can I invite to Alpha? Who else needs to hear the Good News about Jesus?"

If you are interested in learning more about the trip, the findings from the Alpha Conference, or potential next steps with Alpha for our congregation, please contact BJ Bushur at [bj@foundation6.com](mailto:bj@foundation6.com).



ST. TIM'S

# YOUTH

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL  
MINISTRY

## SUNDAY CAFE



Pancake  
Breakfast

Exploring  
God's Word  
Together

*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**

## JR.HIGH VISITATION

**March 30**

**1:00-4:00 pm**

Meet at the Youth House.

We will visit some of our members who are no longer able to attend church.

## Mexico Mission Team

March 10 @ 12:15 pm—  
Mandatory Mexico Team Meeting

April 21—  
Easter Breakfast— email Joe at [joe.hill@stlcsj.org](mailto:joe.hill@stlcsj.org) to sign-up for a shift.

June 2 @ 12:15 pm—  
Mandatory Mexico Team Meeting

June 23 @ 12:15 pm—  
Mandatory Mexico Team Meeting





**Pre 3's - 5th Grade**

9:45am-10:45am

Carter Classrooms

**First Steps Nursery**

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

Up to 36 months, Room B3

## Lent Devotions

Stop by the table at Carter to pick up a packet with a Lent calendar and a special devotional/coloring book to help your family reflect, read Scripture, pray and discuss Jesus' invitation and challenge to follow Him.



**Crazy Game Night!**  
**Friday, March 29**  
**6:00-8:00pm**

All 4th and 5th graders - come on out for a night of dinner and crazy games!  
Drop-off and pick-up at Carter Bldg.

Cost: FREE

Friends are always welcome!

We have special events coming up in Children's Ministry (Crew 45, Easter & VBS) that require a lot of support from youth and adult volunteers.

Even if you only have a few hours to give, we can use your help!

Contact Elizabeth Hill if interested.

elizabeth.hill@stlcsj.org or 408-264-3858 x119

## Vacation Bible School Registration opens March 3

[www.stlcsj.org/vbs](http://www.stlcsj.org/vbs)

(Early-bird registration until Mar 31)



**JUNE 17-21; 9am-noon**

Ages 3 years through graduating  
5th graders.

Invite your friends!





**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).

Bill & Mary Briggs  
 Sherri Graeber  
 Jim Guise  
 Faith LaBarbera  
 Rick Mark  
 Bob Pariani  
 Codie June, friend of Cathy Wolfe  
 Gar Glover, neighbor of the Coupers  
 Nancy & Don Jordan, mother& stepfather of Cynthia Porter  
 Trevor McArdle, nephew of Geoff Schuller  
 Steven, friend of Bill Mowson  
 Todd, friend of the Bushurs  
 Nathan, friend of Marsha Wells  
 Craig Connors, nephew of Dick Betz

# BUDGET REPORT



	General	Building
<b>OFFERINGS to date</b>	<b>\$145,710</b>	<b>\$21,807</b>
<b>SPENDING to date</b>	<b>\$141,673</b>	<b>\$12,424</b>
<b>Excess/(Shortfall)</b>	<b>\$4,037</b>	<b>\$9,383</b>

	Capital Campaign
<b>OFFERINGS to date</b>	<b>\$29,267</b>
<b>SPENDING to date</b>	<b>0</b>

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 <b>8:30 &amp; 11 AM WORSHIP</b> 9:45a Middle Hour 12:15p Grow Group Leader Meeting	4 7a Prayer Group	5 6:30a Men's Breakfast 7p H.S. Cornerstone 7p Leadership Council	6 9:30a MOPS 9a Quilters and Cut-ups 6p Jr High Cornerstone 6:15p Soup Supper 7p Worship	7 12:30p Naomi Circle 7p Choir Rehearsal	8 9:30a Pins and Needles	9 10a Preschool Open House
10 <b>8:30 &amp; 11 AM WORSHIP</b> 9:45a Middle Hour 12:15p Mexico Team Meeting	11 7a Prayer Group	12 6:30a Men's Breakfast 9:30a Staff Meeting 7p H.S. Cornerstone 7p Leadership Team	13 6p Jr High Cornerstone 6:15p Soup Supper 7p Worship	14 6:30p Lydia Book Club 7p Choir Rehearsal	15 9:30a Pins and Needles	16
17 <b>8:30 &amp; 11 AM WORSHIP</b> 9:45a Middle Hour	18 7a Prayer Group	19 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 6:30a Men's Breakfast 9:30a ZEST Breakfast 6:30p Iron Men 7p H.S. Cornerstone	20 9a Quilters and Cut-ups 6p Jr High Cornerstone 6:15p Soup Supper 7p Worship	21 7p Choir Rehearsal	22 9:30a Pins and Needles	23
24 <b>8:30 &amp; 11 AM WORSHIP</b> 9:45a Middle Hour	25 7a Prayer Group	26 6:30a Men's Breakfast 9:30a Staff Meeting 7p H.S. Cornerstone	27 9a Newsletter Team 6p Jr High Cornerstone 6:15p Soup Supper 7p Worship	28 12:00p Lunch Bunch 7p Choir Rehearsal	29 9:30a Pins and Needles 6p Crew 45 Game Night	30 1p Jr. High Visitation
31 <b>8:30 &amp; 11 AM WORSHIP</b> 9:45a Middle Hour	1 7a Prayer Group	2 6:30a Men's Breakfast 7p H.S. Cornerstone	3 9:30a MOPS 6p Jr High Cornerstone 6:15p Soup Supper 7p Worship	4 12:30p Naomi Circle 7p Choir Rehearsal	5 9:30a Pins and Needles	6

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



*For God so loved  
the world that he  
gave his one and  
only Son....*

JOHN 3:16, NIV

### LENT

Join us on Wednesdays through April 10 in the Fellowship Hall for soup and worship (March 6 worship is in sanctuary). Soup Supper is at 6:15 pm and worship starts at 7:00 pm. If you can't make the soup supper, come for worship!

### HOLY WEEK

April 18 - Maundy Thursday Worship at 7:00 pm in Sanctuary.

April 19 - Good Friday Worship at 7:00 pm in Sanctuary.

### FAMILY EASTER EVENT

Saturday, April 20- Join us for the Easter Story, worship, crafts, a photo booth, and an Easter egg hunt. Begins at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall. Don't forget your basket!

### EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21

**Easter services are 8:00, 9:30, & 11:00 am.**

8:00 and 9:30 are traditional. 11:00 is contemporary.

Easter Breakfast in support of our Mexico Mission Team will be 8:30 am to 11:00 am. Freewill donation. Each house costs \$1850 to build. This year we are building 6-7 houses.