

# Pastor's Pen

Happy New Year! What will the year 2020 bring for you? What opportunities and challenges lie before you? Before St. Timothy's? A whole chapter of your book waits to be written as we begin this new year of 2020.

As Christians, we think beyond making New Year's resolutions, as good and helpful as they may be. Because on every day (and on every page of this new chapter of your life), God is there. You do not go it alone. The message of Christmas is, and continues to be, "Immanuel! God with us." What a promise and a presence this is to you and me, especially as we face the unknown that the year 2020 still represents to us.

I'm reminded of what this means to the women I minister to in jail. For some, they will transition out of jail into prison, a more permanent environment in which they will "do time." For others, it is a transition back into the free world. In either case, there are things that must be left behind – old habits, old friends, old routines. And there are things they need to acquire: new habits and routines, new friends, a new environment. In some ways, freedom is harder to face than continued time "inside."

Those who do so *in Christ* have an enormous advantage: the presence and promises of God. The support and

encouragement of a community of faith. The power of the Holy Spirit to transform them from the inside out.

My friends, you and I are no different. We too, must take a hard look at our lives. As we turn the calendar page into a new year and a new chapter of life, what do you need to leave behind? And what do you need to acquire? When you walk with Christ, it makes all the difference.

Watch for events in January that will mark your new chapter: worship opportunities, Grow Groups, classes and more. On January 5, we return to our normal worship/ class schedule. On January 12 a 7-week preaching series on 1 Corinthians begins, along with a new season for Grow Groups – it's never too late to join! All other church groups will be back in full swing at that point as well. Also on January 12 we will begin a new initiative: a Newcomer's Lunch together with pastors and ministry leaders. In February we'll follow up with New Member's Classes on February 2 and 9 (see details on page 3). On January 26 our congregation will tackle the business at hand at our Annual Congregational Meeting, starting after the second service. (Lunch and child care will be provided.) In all of this, God our Immanuel will be with us as we enter the new year. That's his promise. "Behold, I am with you always." It makes all the difference.

Walking in Christ with you, Pastor Judy

# ADULT MIDDLE HOUR CLASSES Sundays 9:45-10:45

## One class January 5th: Room D6

## **How to Share Your Faith**

Learn how to share your faith through biblical teaching from real stories of invitation. Explore what it means to live out God's call to share our lives and our faith with friends, colleagues, and neighbors. We will also share recent trends in evangelism from the latest Barna Group study and how to apply it in our daily lives to reach others for Christ.

This class will be led by our Alpha Leaders, Barton Quayle and BJ Bushur.

## January 12 - February 23: two 7-week classes will be offered

## **Parenting: Running the Rapids**

This class will provide general teaching on parenting in all its stages, along with significant time for sharing experiences and ideas. What is your worst experience as a parent? What is your best tip?

Classroom D6, Pastor Judy leading.

## "Parenting" a Congregation: A Study of 1 Corinthians

They were a rambunctious congregation, the folks at Corinth. Paul was their "father" and had to deal with them at a distance through letters. The class will be a supplement to the pastors' sermon series on 1 Corinthians.

Classroom D4, Pastor Jim leading.

# Call Team Update

Your Call Team is working hard! To date we have reached out to five potential candidates and of those, three have submitted profiles. Of these three, one candidate took another call; two others are still under consideration. But because these are early days, the Call Team wants to review more candidates before settling down to one. Therefore, they are seeking Lutheran candidates, not only from the NALC, but also from our sister denomination, Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC), and possibly also pastors interested in leaving current denominations (the ELCA and the LCMS) to join the NALC. Please continue to keep your Call Team in your prayers.

Please use the bullet points below as a guide to focus your daily prayers for our Call Team and their pastoral search, but don't feel limited to pray only for these points. Pray as the Spirit moves you.

### Patience

- Pray that the Call Team approaches candidate interviews with a
  patient and open heart, listening for the voice of God and the
  guiding of the Spirit, and providing equal time and attention to
  each candidate
- Pray that the Call Team will know the right questions to ask throughout the interview process, that they respond to what God is putting on their hearts during candidate interviews, even if it means going off-script
- Pray that the Call Team represents St. Timothy's accurately and attractively to pastoral candidates
- Pray that the Call Team will have clarity as they interview candidates, eliminate candidates and move forward with candidates throughout the interview process

Scripture: Philippians 4:6, Habakkuk 2:3, Galatians 6:9

# Get Connected

Have questions about how to get involved at St. Timothy's?

Contact Elizabeth Hill, Director of Discipleship and Connections

(elizabeth.hill@stlcsj.org)

Newcomer's Lunch Sunday, January 12 12:15pm-1:30pm

New to St. Timothy's?

Join us for lunch, hear about our church culture and values, meet some great people, and consider ways to get involved.

Lunch and Childcare provided.

New Member's Class February 2 & 9 12:15pm-2:00pm

Ready to make St. Timothy's your home church through membership? These two sessions will cover who we are as a church and help you identify your next steps here as part of the family.

Lunch and Childcare provided.



# Join a Grow Group!

A new season of Grow Groups begins the week of January 12. Grow Groups are communities of people who help each other grow in God's word and live into a lifestyle of following Jesus.

Can't meet mid-week? Join a Middle Hour Grow Group!

Stop by the table on Sunday mornings or contact Elizabeth Hill (elizabeth.hill@stlcsj.org) for more info.





Begins January 26 on Sundays from 5:00-7:00pm. Dinner and childcare provided.



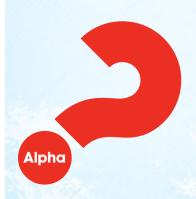


# St. Timothy's Lunch Bunch Program

# Thursday, January 23, 2020 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall

John Lehman will provide his program of Vintage Music for Memory. The title seems to be just right for us, vintage and needing help with memory. John is an amateur musicologist and has one of the largest private record/song collections in the world. Expect lots of fun music memories.

Lunch is provided by the board and includes soup (8 different kinds!), salad, and rolls (with butter). Drinks and dessert always included. Cost is bargain \$9.00. Reservations are preferred for this event, 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 musical inspired activity! Lunch Bunch is a fellowship group open to ALL. New attendees are always welcome.



# On the move for Christ thru Alpha

We invite you to get involved with the Winter Alpha Session, which starts January 26th from 5–7 PM on Sundays. Alpha is for anyone who has questions

about what it means to be Christian. The conversation happens over a meal, a video, and discussion time. Childcare will be provided.

How can I get involved in Alpha?

If you are interested in helping be the light to our Silicon Valley, we are looking for people to help in small or large ways which include: prayer for guests, being a helper, coordinating volunteers, marketing, administration, printing materials, on-line communications, working with our different ministries to invite them to Alpha, or providing a meal.

If you are interested in attending Alpha or getting involved to help with Alpha, please contact BJ Bushur at bj@foundation6.com or Barton Quayle at bartong@yahoo.com

Please pray about and ask God: Who can you bring to Alpha?



OPEN HOUSE—Kids Welcome! Saturday, January 11 9:00-11:00 AM

We are launching a Junior Kindergarten Program for 2020-2021 School Year!

St. Timothy's Christian Preschool is excited to announce our new JK program for the 2020-2021 school year!

We understand the importance of providing a program that allows students to grow, learn and explore in all areas of education. St. Timothy's accomplishes this by providing and offering all different kinds of materials, tools, and opportunities to help the students discover their love for learning. Our Junior Kindergarten program will provide the "Learning Bridge" between Pre-K and Kindergarten by continuing to build upon the skills and tools each child will need to be successful in Kindergarten.

More information on our new Junior Kindergarten Program will be available in the office or on our website sttimothyschristianpreschool.org

Come to our Open House or call to book a tour 408-265-0244!





### AN UPDATE FROM PASTORS NEERAJ AND NIJHAR

Warm Greetings Dear Brothers and Sisters at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, San Jose, CA.

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in the time of trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea...Be still and know that I am God... The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress" Ps. 46.

It was a very exciting day when 45 people (young and old) became disciples of Jesus Christ in June. Two graduates of our seminary welcomed them into God's household. Many of these graduates serve more than 10 congregations and hence are always on the road. It is a privilege to be in touch with some of them to encourage and to be encouraged.

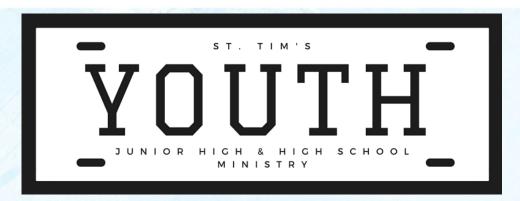


Neeraj has been in India since the end of October. Along with teaching and mentoring at the seminary, he will be busy in community health ministry, workshops for cross cultural missions and seminars on his book on Lutheran teaching. He will also be working with the lawyer and government office to start a school. Nijhar with our children, Urbas, Puna and Jhumpa, traveled to India mid-December. Our daughter, Maani, is trying to work with her college authorities for a longer stay in India. We celebrated Christmas with Nijhar's parents. While Neeraj returns to the US with three children for their school, Nijhar will continue the ministry till the end of March 2020. We thank you for your mission partnership—your prayers and financial support. May the Lord watch over you and bless you and your endeavors.

#### PRAYER REQUESTS -

- 1. Praise and thank God for provision and the opportunity to travel to continue the ministry in India.
- 2. Praise and thank God for His work in and through our graduates in different places.
- 3. Praise and thank God for many opportunities to visit college campuses, churches and conferences to represent WMPL and making new connections and new friends for Kingdom work.
- 4. Pray for the power of the Holy Spirit for the seminary graduates as they begin their ministry, especially for a special burden for sharing the Gospel with those who are yet to hear the Gospel.
- 5. Pray for Christians in India especially in Jharkhand state, where the seminary is located, as they are facing increased persecution from the government.
- 6. Pray for Lord's anointing for WMPL team for Hawley Mission festival in Northern, MN.

With Grateful hearts, Neeraj and Nijhar

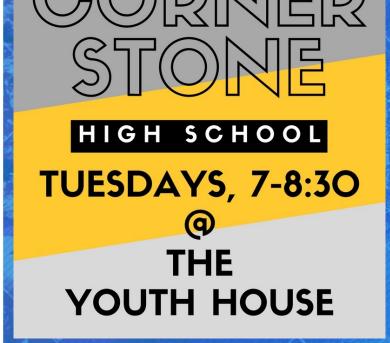


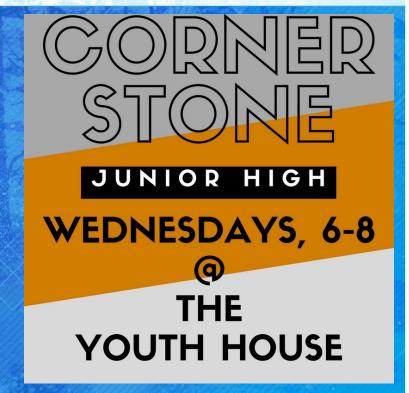
The New Year is a great time to

kick-start your walk with God! Get connected with CORNERSTONE, Sunday Cafe, and Sunday morning worship services in the New Year and see what God has in store for your life in 2020!

In Christ,
Joe Hill & Anna-Marie Valles









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.

**Carol Mitri** 

M

Nathan

Quint, father of Kimberly Pistor

Frank Caradonna, relative of the Mitri family

Mario Cassara, Sr., friend of Wayne and Karla Peterson

Laura Castillo

**Sherrene Hastings** 

Nancy Hinsen, daughter of Dorothy Oberschulte

Jodi Lemons, daughter of the Sampsons

Leida Moss, mother of Bob Mss

Chantal and Rigby Ough, sister of Katie Swenson

Ramirez family

**Valentine Family** 

**Amber Williams** 



	General	Building
OFFERINGS to date	\$970, 484	\$141,768
SPENDING to date	\$1,031,148	\$88,834
Excess/(Shortfall)	(\$60,664)	\$52,934

	Capital Campaign	
OFFERINGS to date	\$207,986	

\*Numbers are through December 15th.
Final 2019 Financial Report will be in the Annual Report available by January 19, 2020.

### **NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

All articles need to be emailed by January 21. Email to: beth.tkacheff@stlcsj.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29 10 AM WORSHIP	30 <b>8a</b> Prayer Group	31 <b>6:30a</b> Men's Breakfast	1 Church Office Closed	2	3	4
5 <b>8:30 &amp; 11 AM</b> <b>WORSHIP</b> <b>9:45a</b> Middle Hour	6 <b>8a</b> Prayer Group	7 6:30a Men's Breakfast 9a Staff Meeting 7p H.S. Cornerstone	8 Annual Reports Deadline <b>6p</b> Jr High Cornerstone	9 12:30p Naomi Circle 6:30p Lydia Book Club 7p Chancel Choir	10 <b>9:30a</b> Pins and Needles	11 9a Preschool Open House 1p Oberschulte Memorial
12 8:30 & 11 AM WORSHIP 9:45a Middle Hour	13 <b>8a</b> Prayer Group	14 6:30a Men's Breakfast 9a Staff Meeting 7p H.S. Cornerstone 7p Leadership Team		16 <b>7p</b> Chancel Choir	17 9:30a Pins and Needles	18 <b>2p</b> Brock Memorial
19 <b>8:30 &amp; 11 AM</b> <b>WORSHIP</b> <b>9:45a</b> Middle Hour	20 MLK, Jr. Holiday-Church Office Closed	21 Newsletter Deadline 6:30a Men's Breakfast 9a Staff Meeting 9:30a Zest Breakfast 6:30p Iron Men 7p H.S. Cornerstone		23 12:00p Lunch Bunch 7p Chancel Choir	24 <b>9:30a</b> Pins and Needles	25
26 8:30 & 11 AM WORSHIP 9:45a Middle Hour 12:30p Annual Meeting 5:00p Alpha	27 <b>8a</b> Prayer Group	28 6:30a Men's Breakfast 9a Staff Meeting 7p H.S. Cornerstone	29 <b>9a</b> Newsletter Team <b>6p</b> Jr High Cornerstone	30 <b>7p</b> Chancel Choir	31 9:30a Pins and Needles 7p Jr. High Scavenger Hunt	1



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# **Annual Congregational Meeting**

January 26 at 12:30 pm Fellowship Hall

Come early for lunch.

Childcare is provided.

Annual Reports will be available by January 19, 2020.