

# Good News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | ST. TIMOTHY'S LUTHERAN CHURCH | NOVEMBER 2020



## Pastor's Pen

It is a delight to be at St. Timothy's and to be a fellow servant of the Gospel with you. The days ahead will bring much learning as I grow to understand St. Timothy's. The real joy, however, will be in getting to know those of you who make up this remarkable community of faith.

These are exciting days for Marilyn and me. Lots of change that is both exciting and stressful. We would appreciate your prayers that our house in Tucson sells (maybe even before this newsletter comes out). So one might ask, how do you find peace in the midst of all this change?

One of the things Marilyn and I have learned as we read the Bible is how God has worked with His people throughout the generations. In the Bible, God's people are encouraged to remember His faithfulness. We read how God is a promise keeper and remains faithful to His people throughout both the Old and New Testament accounts. We also reflect on our own lives remembering how God has also been faithful.

There is much that I do not understand. But I *do* know that in the past, my predictions for what was coming was always partial and inadequate. Change is the constant in our experience of life. But God is *the* constant. Therefore I find myself in prayer asking God to guide and provide. I also ask God to strengthen my faith and confidence in Him and keep me aware of the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit in my life.

While elections, fires, and pandemics may cause concern in our hearts and minds, we serve a God who holds both us and our future. I am convinced with certainty that whatever the future holds, it will include abundant opportunities to grow in and share the love and grace of Jesus. I so look forward to learning how God has uniquely gifted this faith community to accomplish the vision He has laid on our hearts. I pray that together we will see and celebrate the wonderful ways God's love and grace will shine through us to bring honor and glory to God in the community that surrounds us.

Pastor Jim Cords



# IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

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).

Donna Soos

Jenny, friend of Mary Fisher

Scott, relative of Betsy Grandey

Susan Bethke, sister of Roxann Gallagher

Todd Haney, friend of the Bushurs

Lynsel Miller, friend of Tim Stahlke

Pat Ralston, mother of Karla Peterson

Steve Schwede, brother of Mary Selbo and son of Marvin Schwede

Joey Sorrenti, nephew of Wayne and Karla Peterson

Amber Williams

Nita Willis, friend of BJ Bushur

# BUDGET REPORT

	General	Building
<b>OFFERINGS to date</b>	<b>\$785,123</b>	<b>\$113,403</b>
<b>SPENDING to date</b>	<b>\$783,245</b>	<b>\$59,984</b>
<b>Excess/(Shortfall)</b>	<b>\$1,878</b>	<b>\$53,419</b>

	Capital Campaign
<b>OFFERINGS to date</b>	<b>\$153,572</b>

## STEWARDSHIP PACKETS

November is the month when we start planning for the year ahead. You will soon be receiving a packet of **2021 Stewardship Commitments**, which is intended to help you make commitments in both worship attendance (in-person or at home), as well as financial support of the congregation. Both are important. When you worship, you honor God with your presence and your singing, and receive strength for the week ahead. It's our financial support which makes it possible to do what we do as a congregation.

**Your Stewardship Commitments may be returned by one of these methods:** U.S. Mail, in-person at worship on November 22, or with this online form:

<https://www.stlcsj.org/commitments/>

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Just a reminder that the church staff are still mostly working from home. The church office does not have any "open" office hours. Phone calls to the church line are redirected to Beth's cell. If you need to speak with a staff member, it is best to call them directly on their cell or email them. Contact Beth if you need an email address or cell number for a pastor or staff member.

## WORSHIP

For Sundays, we are currently offering three options for worship.

1. **IN-PERSON at 9 am.** Reservations are required to attend and can be made online [here](#). You can also call the church office (408-264-3858) Monday-Thursday from 9 am to 4 pm the week prior to the Sunday you would like to attend.
2. **ONLINE at 9 am.** This is a pre-recorded service and gives you an opportunity to chat with others. It can be viewed [here](#).
3. **ON-DEMAND.** This is the pre-recorded worship you can watch at anytime. Watch [here](#).

# Thanksgiving Service

**Wednesday, November 25 at 7:00 pm**  
**Indoor Worship Service**

Look for more details in the weekly church news eblasts. Reservations will be required.

## Grow Group Ministry

In the life of the church, our life together, an important venue in which to share lives together is through groups. Jesus took ordinary people and transformed them to do ordinary things with great love. Jesus changed them and changed others through them. The world knew them by their love for one another. We are better together.

If you want to know more about how God might be inviting you to be part of a group or you want to suggest someone that you think would be a blessing to our team, please email Gabe. He would love to buy you a coffee or an ice cream cone.

[gabriel.tseng@stlcsj.org](mailto:gabriel.tseng@stlcsj.org)

## FALL BACK!



## Special Congregational Meeting

### on November 15

Back during 2019, before we had heard of something called COVID-19, the Leadership Council formed a team to change St. Timothy's Constitution and Bylaws to reflect the closing of the Academy and the continuation of the Preschool. As those changes were made, it also became apparent that other changes would be helpful to improve structure and clarity. The revised Constitution and Bylaws were just being completed when the pandemic arrived.

The pandemic disclosed another issue. Under our current Constitution, certain congregational business (such as calling a pastor), can only be conducted by physically gathering and voting with paper ballots. As we have seen, this is a difficult requirement to meet when gatherings are restricted for health reasons. It therefore seems advisable to permit the Leadership Council to organize a "virtual meeting" to conduct essential business if a physical meeting cannot be held.

The Leadership Council has recently reviewed a scaled-back set of changes to the Constitution and Bylaws that we feel will be a suitable intermediate step toward the full set of changes that are ultimately needed. These changes are limited to two areas: 1) matters dealing with closing the Academy while retaining the Preschool and 2) providing flexibility to conduct congregational business through virtual gatherings when physical meetings cannot be held.

The Leadership Council would like to move forward with seeking congregational approval for these intermediate changes.

### ONLINE INFORMATIONAL MEETING NOVEMBER 8

We are having an online informational meeting on Sunday, November 8th at 1:00 pm to explain the proposed changes and allow time for questions and answers.

### SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NOVEMBER 15

A Special Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 15th at 10:15 am (right after the 9:00 am worship service) to vote on making the changes to the Constitution and Bylaws. This Special Congregational Meeting will be held on campus with a seating option only.

Please plan to support these important events; additional details will be provided in future communications.

In Christ,

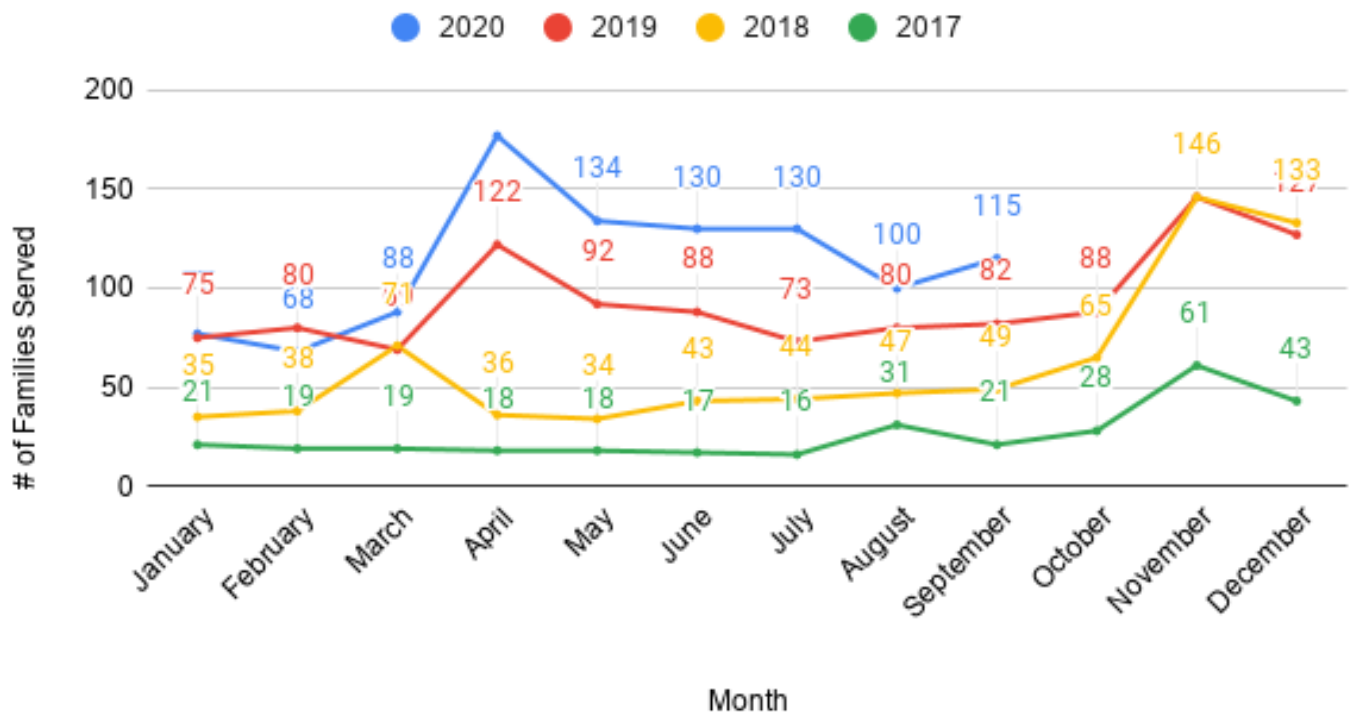
Ken Duvall, President

Susan Lovelady, Vice President

# South Valley FISH Food Pantry

South Valley FISH Food Pantry has been serving local Bay Area families, operating on the St. Timothy's Campus, for almost four years now. As you can see from the chart below, God continues to use this ministry to reach more and more families in need each year. Our pantry served an average of 25 families per month in 2017, and now we are serving an average of 112 families per month in 2020. Thanks to our partnership with Second Harvest, as well as the continued support of our congregation members, both financially and in service, we have managed this growth well. While COVID-19 has brought many challenges to all of us, our team was able to quickly modify our processes & procedures to implement COVID safely protocols for clients and volunteers, in order to safely continue our service to the community. If you want to get involved, please reach out to our Steering Team at: [fishpantryvolunteer@gmail.com](mailto:fishpantryvolunteer@gmail.com)

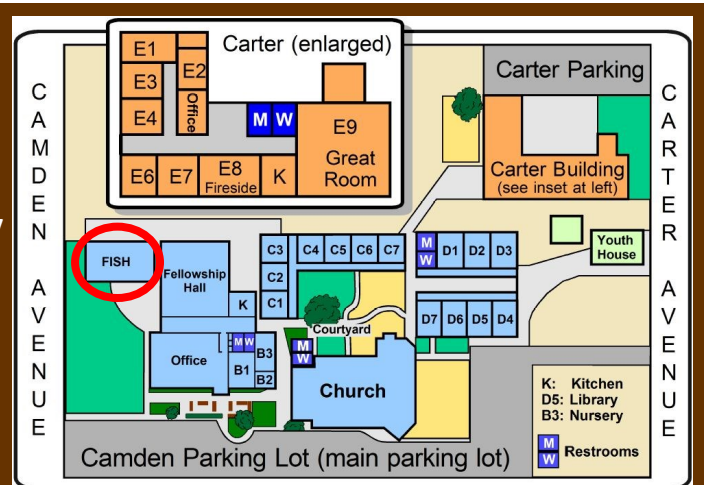
## Families Served Monthly



## THANKOFFERING/FOOD COLLECTION

This year due to COVID-19, things are a little different. We will be collecting frozen turkeys and chickens only. **Frozen poultry can be brought to church on Sunday mornings or on Thursdays, from 9 am to 12 pm, directly to South Valley FISH Food Pantry.**

Monetary donations are also welcomed! Give online [here](#) or mail a check to the church office and make the check out to: South Valley FISH Food Pantry.





# CHRISTMAS ALREADY? But November is just starting!

We know, but...

We participate in 2 awesome ministries and want you to hear the latest on how we are going to do these ministries this year. We don't want to miss out on these opportunities to spread the love and joy of Jesus' birth to those near and far!

## Operation Christmas Child Drop-Off Center

Once again, St. Timothy's is a Drop-Off Center for Operation Christmas Child, which means churches and groups bring their shoeboxes to us to put in cartons.

This year, we are taking many precautions to ensure both the volunteers and donors are protected. All activities will take place outside and we will have contactless, drive-thru options for donors. We will also provide masks and gloves to volunteers. We would love to have you volunteer to help the process of shoebox collecting and get the shoeboxes ready to bless 11 million children throughout the world.

The Center will be open November 16 to 23. Click [here](#) to sign-up for a shift.

Contact [Debbie Bauman](#) if you have questions or concerns.

## Adopt-a-Family 2020 Style

This year the Adopt a Family program will continue, but will look a little different due to the current pandemic. We will be setting up an online sign up sheet for each family with their needs and wants. You will be able to choose a gift to purchase and wrap. We will then have a couple of days designated for a drive-thru gift drop-off. More details will follow in the coming month.

A lot of families have been hit hard by COVID-19 and we are hoping to offer hope and happiness during this time.

*"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."*

Hebrew 13:16



# ST. TIM'S YOUTH

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL  
MINISTRY



[@sttims\\_youth](https://www.instagram.com/sttims_youth)

Just because we can't meet in person, doesn't mean you can't connect with the leaders and your peers. If you haven't had a chance to Zoom with us, contact Joe or Anna-Marie to get the Zoom information.

**High School: Joe Hill**

[joe.hill@stlcsj.org](mailto:joe.hill@stlcsj.org)

**Jr. High: Anna-Marie Valles**

[annamarie.valles@stlcsj.org](mailto:annamarie.valles@stlcsj.org)



## CORNER STONE

**HIGH SCHOOL**

**TUESDAYS**

**7:30-8:30**

**ON  
ZOOM**

## CORNER STONE

**JUNIOR HIGH**

**WEDNESDAYS**

**6-7**

**ON  
ZOOM**



# ST. TIM'S KIDS MONTHLY SCOOP

NOVEMBER 2020

Hello St. Timothy's Families,  
Happy **November**! During this season we are celebrating a special holiday, **Thanksgiving**. I am guessing that this year's Thanksgiving celebration will be very **different** from years past. Though it may be discouraging not to be able to celebrate in the way we had hoped, we can still be thankful for God's everlasting love and security. This month, I **encourage** you and your family to practice an **attitude** of **gratitude**!

How can we, everyday, give thanks to God?

Whether it's big or small, it will change our perspective to one of appreciation and love!

Stay Connected  
with Facebook



## #SUNDAY FUNDAY BAGS

**Nov. 1st-6th**, come to **the St. Tim's Office** anytime between **9am-3pm** to pick up your family's **Sunday Funday Bag Refill**! This bag will include the materials needed for Sunday School for the month of November. Each month we will provide a refill with **new items** for the next month of Sunday School!

**NOVEMBER**

*FOCUS*

### We Can Choose What is Right

During November, we will be learning about the prophets of the Old Testament. This month will explore the concept that no matter what, God will always guide us when we feel lost.

**Starting Nov. 1st**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Operation Christmas Child:  
**PACKING PARTY**

Nov. 2nd-Nov. 8th

Sign up for a safe packing experience using the link below.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a084cada7238-sttimothys>

You and your family are invited to help pack a Christmas box for a child around the world!







## St. Timothy's Christian Preschool

Hello St. Tim's!

It is hard to believe we are entering the holiday season already! Many of us are preparing for Thanksgiving and Christmas, perhaps in a somewhat modified form. Here at school, we are trying to enjoy as many activities as possible with just a few tweaks! Last week, the students enjoyed a pumpkin patch right here on campus with our own Scarecrow Contest! What do you think of our three class creations!?!?



By the time you read this, our students will also have marched with their classes dressed as their favorite book character in our 'Book Character Parade'!

We look forward holding our annual Thanksgiving Feast within our individual classrooms! And as always, we are encouraging our students and their families to participate in our Thanksgiving Food Drive by collecting commonly needed items at this time of year and donating them to our FISH Food Pantry!

We thank God as he continues to bring new families to our Preschool! We consider it a privilege to guide these little ones through their early years and the challenges of this unique time.

As always, we thank you for your love, support and prayers!

We pray you enjoy this beautiful season with those near and dear to you!

In Christ,

Jeanette Adams - Preschool Director

Katy Stamos - Preschool Admin.

### NOW ENROLLING FOR 2020-2021 Preschool 2s to JK

[sttimothyschristianpreschool.org](http://sttimothyschristianpreschool.org)

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. It is our hope that all children will learn to love God, to treat others with kindness, to live their faith, and to celebrate and embrace what they have learned. We have flexible program options 1/2 or full day with 2,3, or 5 days a week.

If you have questions or to set-up a tour: Call 408-265-0244 or email [school@stlcsj.org](mailto:school@stlcsj.org)



SCAN ME