

Pastor's Pen

The light shines in the darkness. Indeed, it does. One of the great blessings of reading Rick Warren's Purpose Driven Life, was the insight that we do not have good days and bad days. Rather we have days that have things that feel both good and bad. I admit to sometimes having a tendency to focus on the difficult things or the things that I want improved. This lesson from the book was a wonderful reminder to me to look around and notice the blessedness of each day.

My son, Paul, sometimes said to me "dad, your face is stuck." It was his way of pointing out that my displeasure or irritation was lingering too long in my facial expression. It was his way of reminding me to move on.

One of the challenges of 2020 was a feeling of immobility and waiting. The waiting part can be an important lesson for us. Waiting on the Lord is a valuable part of being a follower of Jesus. The one thing that I often realize is that it may be something like the lesson above from Rick Warren. Often when we are waiting in one area of our lives, God is at work in another area providing us with blessings and opportunities to celebrate and share His presence.

My life verse from Ephesians 3:14-21 reminds me often to stay rooted in Christ's love and to remember that we honor and give glory to the God who is able by the power at work within us to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine.

It is my hope and expectation that 2021 will indeed be a year when Christ is glorified in us and in the Church. We will work to discover those blessings and opportunities that exist while we wait on the Lord in the areas that it is not quite time for yet.

Together with each other and with the Spirit going with us and ahead of us. We will have a great new Year.

Pastor Jim Cords

LCMC Partnership Opportunity

In last month's newsletter, the leadership council brought to your attention a great opportunity for ministry and connection with other Lutheran churches through LCMC, Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ. In fact, it was through LCMC that we discovered Pastor Jim Cords and were able to extend a call to him. We want to make sure you, the congregation, are aware of and supportive of this partnership as we move forward. We will be including a presentation at the online informational meeting on Sunday, January 24th with an opportunity for questions and discussion. Also look for an email blast early January that will have information for your review.



	General	Building
OFFERINGS to date	\$1,013,742	\$142,252
SPENDING to date	\$1,018,460	\$105,748
Excess/(Shortfall)	(\$4,718)	\$36,504
	Capital Campaign	
OFFERINGS to date	\$195,236	

Final 2020 Financial Report will be in the Annual Report available by January 17, 2021.

2 WAYS TO GIVE

- Mail your offering to church or drop off in the mail slot by the front door. If you don't have offering envelopes, be sure to indicate in the memo line which fund(s).
- 2. Give online on our safe and secure website <u>https://www.stlcsj.org/giving/</u>



Annual Reports will be available by January 17, 2021.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Annual Meeting will be similar to the recent Special Congregational Meeting we held in November. There will be limited in-person and parked car options. To help expedite the meeting, there will be an online Zoom meeting on January 24.

ONLINE INFORMATIONAL MEETING JANUARY 24

We are having an online informational meeting on Sunday, January 24 at 1:00 pm to present information on voting items and allow time to ask questions ahead of time. An email will be sent out the week prior to the meeting with the Zoom link.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING JANUARY 31

The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 31 at 11:45 am (right after the 10:30 am worship service) Reservations are required to attend and will begin January 25.

Get Connected

Have questions about how to get involved at St. Timothy's? Contact Gabe Tseng, Director of Discipleship and Connections (gabriel.tseng@stlcsj.org)

Join a Grow Group!

Friendships are hard to come by. Different seasons bring different circumstances and different people that cross our paths. Misery loves company and life is more fun when our joy is shared with others. We are created to be connected with others. In a world that is growing more disconnected day by day, we feel

the preciousness of journeying together more than ever. Relationships don't magically happen, but they do begin by intertwining our lives with others. Each season has its own challenges, but life is better lived together! Find out more about groups here and consider joining one! <u>www.stlcsj.org/grow-groups/</u>

MOPS

Grow

Groups

The days are long and the years are short! A ministry of women journeying together during the tumultuous season of ever present change with sleepless nights and daily worry. With friends, a little fun, and fellowship as we share in carrying our burdens together, we can not only cope, but thrive during this amazingly challenging season of being young parents and amazing women.

If you've been there before, we are looking for your counsel as well. Your shared journey, empathy, and a small moment means the world to those who need a little bit of air.

If you are a mother of children from pregnancy to kindergarten or interested in being a mentor, please consider joining our MOPS Ministry.

www.stlcsj.org/mops/

better moms, better world

If you have questions about life, purpose, faith, and anything in between, we are hosting ALPHA online in a welcoming and warm atmosphere to ask those questions and dialogue with others about these topics.



If you are curious or know others who may be curious about life and faith, this invitation is for you to join us for an 8-week conversation on Thursdays @ 7 pm beginning January 28.

Sign up here! www.stlcsjalpha.org

Ministry Partner Update

Each month, we will highlight updates from our domestic and global ministry partners. Many of these partnerships havebeen formed through congregational involvement and relationships, and are financially supported through the annual benevolences of St. Timothy's.

Thank you for your continued support of the ministry in and through St. Timothy's!

Correctional Institutions Chaplaincy

Pastor Judy has been our boots on the ground chaplain with CIC since 2017, a ministry which provides spiritual support for each incarcerated person in Santa Clara County. Through the work of jail chaplaincy, individuals incarcerated in our county participate in 1 on 1 counseling; receive grief counseling after the death of a loved one; participate in groups, studies, spiritual art and worship; and receive counseling for issues related to suicide.

With coronavirus concerns this year, the need for care increased, yet available funding and in-person support was diminished. Chaplains were unable to offer their support in-person, yet CIC persisted and provided support as they could. Since March, 594 window visits were conducted by chaplains, 92 grief counseling sessions were conducted, 307 boxes of books were distributed, and 34 bags of clothes were provided for those being released.

In their 2020 Annual Report, CIC included an interview with a woman named Maria, incarcerated for 2 years in Santa Clara County. *What did the chaplain visits mean to you?* There is no amount of gratitude for the wisdom, strength and light that the chaplains provided. If I couldn't be pulled out for a visit with them, I would place my ear on the crack of my cell door to hear a prayer. It lifted my spirits just to know that a chaplain tried to get in to see me and left me a book. *How are you moving forward?* I enjoy the little things in life that I once dreamed about and prayed about while locked up. I'm also very involved in my church and love sharing Scripture. (See their full report: https://issuu.com/jen-cicministries/docs/final_2020_ar_8.5x5.5_outlines)

Convalescent Hospital Ministry

CHM has many from St. Tim's that provide ministry to those convalescing in care facilities. Before shelter in place, CHM teams visited nursing home residents, conducted worship services, and led Bible studies. Since March, volunteers have baked cookies for staff and residents, sent cards to participants to remind them that they are not forgotten, and sent activity books to activity directors to entertain residents confined to their rooms. Financial contributions to CHM are directed toward office rent and mailing expenses. CHM looks forward to the day when they can once again bring spiritual comfort and support through their programs and presence to those who need it most.



From St. Tim's: Bob Fowler, Dick Betz, Renee Fovell, Mickey Miller, Bill Mowson, Sharon Potter, and Linda Suda.



Thank you, St. Timothy's for your generosity to us, your pastoral team. Your abundant gifts shared with us this Christmas are a blessing and an encouragement. We are each grateful. God richly provides for us through you and it is wonderful to serve with you in this amazing congregation.

Our hope and prayer is that you will feel equally blessed this year as God provides for you. Thank you for being determined to find a way to connect with us in this season. The beautiful message of Christmas is that God is with US. Thank you for sharing your love and allowing God to share His love through you. We look forward to living and serving with you to make this a wonderful new year.

Encouraged and blessed, Pastors Jim C., Jonna, Jim and Judy



ST. TIMOTHY'S CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

PRESCHOOL 2s – JK Small Classes | Covid-19 Prepared | Loving Teachers and Staff

Open Enrollment for 2021-2022 starts Tuesday, January 19!



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 <u>school@stlcsj.org</u>

ST. TIM'S KIDS MONTHLY SCOOP JANUARY 2021

St. Tim's Kids

Hello St. Timothy's Families, Can you believe we have made it to the **New Year**? This **past** year has been quite the roller coaster ride for many of us, not knowing what the **future** holds. Although we can say, "We are **done** with **2020**", let's remember the lessons and experiences learned throughout this very **unique** year. We can hold onto the **hope** and new **life** that **God** gives us each and everyday! Remember Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the **plans** I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a **future** and a hope." Let's

start this new year with **renewed** hope that can only come from the Lord! **Happy New Year!**

JANUARY



connect with God through His Son Jesus Christ!

Starting Jan. 10th



This year our **Operation Christmas Child** boxes went to....**PERU**!

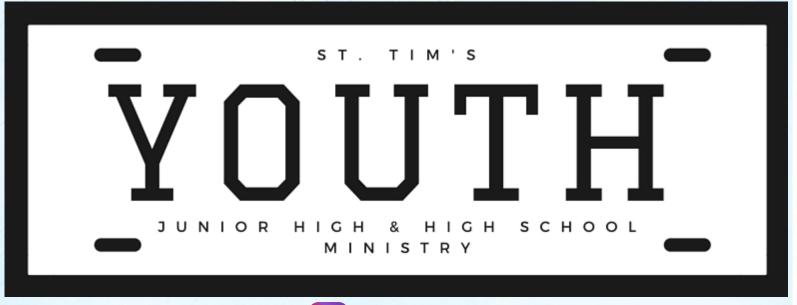
Thank you to everyone who helped make OCC possible this year!



Stay Connected with Facebook



Make sure to stay engaged with our children and family ministries! If you would like to receive our **weekly email** please **subscribe** here. This is how we **communicate** upcoming **events** and **updates** to keep you in the loop! **Click below to subscribe:** <u>https://forms.gle/1UFne5Y5UKysL4eAA</u>



O <u>@sttims_youth</u>

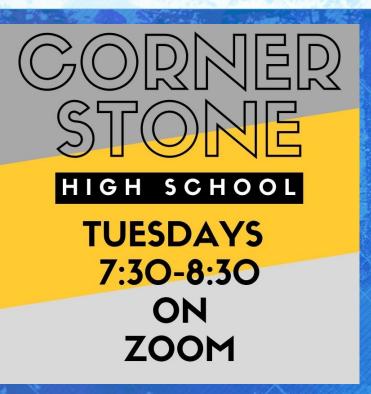
Just because we can't meet in person, doesn't mean you can't connect with the leaders and your peers. If you haven't had a chance to Zoom with us, contact Joe or Anna-Marie to get the Zoom information.

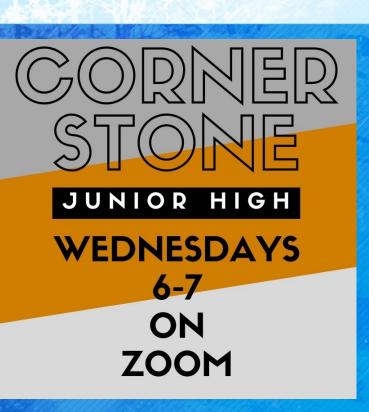
High School: Joe Hill

joe.hill@stlcsj.org



Jr. High: Anna-Marie Valles annamarie.valles@stlcsj.org







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 <u>Beth</u> if you need an email address or cell number for a pastor or staff member.



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.

Dianne McCarthy Bette Syth Diane, daughter of Tom Jorgensen Janice, cousin of Laurel Hill. Michelle, daughter of Zena Hoffman Carole Beech, sister of Grant Beech Ethan Foster, nephew of Marsha Wells Jim Welsh, friend of Grant Beech Chung and Helen Wong, parents of Lori Lippi the family of Virginia Halttunen, sister of Mary Marshall the family of Leanne Patterson, neighbor of the Valles the family of Zubi K. the family of Harvey, friend of Carol Couper

WORSHIP

IN-PERSON Sundays at 10:30 am Reservations are required to attend and can be made online <u>here</u>. 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.

ONLINE Sundays at 10:30 am

This is a pre-recorded service and gives you an opportunity to chat with others. It can be viewed <u>here</u>.

ON-DEMAND

This is the pre-recorded service you can watch at anytime. Watch <u>here</u>.