



Good News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
ST. TIMOTHY'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
MAY 2021

Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

It is good to be back.

I frankly didn't know if I would be able to say that when I returned from maternity leave. I had heard countless women counsel me to hold my plans loosely, because motherhood changes women. What someone thought they wanted to do before they became a mother may not be what they want to do after having a child.

I hoped that my prayerful discernment that led me to conclude that I was called to be a wife, a mom, and a pastor, wouldn't be upended once Dax came into our lives. I knew that you all would understand if I concluded differently once he was here, but I didn't *want* these plans to change. Either way, I knew that the opportunity to become a little family cocoon for eight weeks would be a good thing. I could begin to adjust to this new reality and to have some extended time to think.

As I shared on Sunday, one of those painful reflections was on my sinfulness. It shocked me how apropos this was, as we were in the season of Lent. But it didn't end with these reflections. Nor did it end with confession. I was reminded of the grace of God, that God chooses *any* of us. Not one of us is worthy; it is by the grace of God that He loves us, that He chooses to use *any* of us for His glory. (A reflection Martin Luther spent quite a bit of time on.)

And then during my maternity leave, my husband, Alek, was up for promotion. This promotion would greatly increase his workload and responsibility. Frankly, I did not feel supportive at first. It felt like the *worst* possible timing for him to be working *more*. Just when we thought we had things figured out, and felt good about one of us being more available to our future child(ren), Alek was asked to consider *more*.

I wrestled with the question of whether or not to support this. And the more I wondered, sought wisdom, spoke with Alek, prayed, and named the reasons why I didn't want to be supportive, I finally knew that I needed to say "yes." I couldn't deny it – his gifts perfectly matched the unique needs of his church. He received affirmation from trusted advisors and coworkers, and felt an increased sense of calling to take on this new role. And on Sunday, he was named Campus Pastor at Menlo Saratoga.

With Alek becoming the new campus pastor, I came back to the question of *my* calling. I continued to believe that God had called me to be here, but recognized that the true test would be Sunday morning with you, the congregation. (Not only would it be a test to see if I could remember to bring what Dax would need, without also bringing the kitchen sink, but how I would feel, as a wife, a mom, and your pastor.)

As I stood in front of you, I felt this deep, unexpected affirmation. As I looked out at you, the thought crossed my mind, *You are my people*. And in the words of a pastor friend of mine, *You are the people I love*.

And so, as much as it may not seem to make logical sense (at least in my mind), our family and responsibilities just got fuller, but I am no less committed in my calling to you. I am left to trust that God will reveal His purposes in His timing, and that He will provide when there is a lack.

I look forward to the many and beautiful ways in which God will choose to use each of us together, to seek the good of our neighbors, and to be a part of the mysterious kingdom work He has for us.

To God be the glory!

Pastor Jonna



For up-to-date prayer requests.
join the Prayer Group on St. Tim's
Connect. To add or renew a prayer
request, call 408-264-3858 or
email info@stlcsj.org.

| |
|--|
| Joe Acosta |
| Linda, sister of Besty Grandev |
| Matthew, grandson of Laurel Hill |
| Melissa, niece of Laurel Hill |
| Ned (FISH) |
| Steve Carling (FISH) |
| Nina Ehram, roommate of Breana Bartholomew |
| Joanna Granat, sister of Grant Beech |
| Karen Mirassou |
| Shirley Moffitt, mother of Julie Altomare. |
| Sophia Savy, granddaughter of Paula Wright |
| The family of Elsie West |
| The family of Pat Ralston |
| The family of Sharon Biller, friend of Bill Mowson |

BUDGET REPORT

| | General | Building |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| OFFERINGS to date | \$286, 679 | \$56,195 |
| SPENDING to date | \$344,452 | \$81,143 |
| Excess/(Shortfall) | (\$57,773) | (\$24,948) |

| | Capital Campaign |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| OFFERINGS to date | \$105,630 |

2 WAYS TO GIVE

1. 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
<https://www.stlcsj.org/giving/>

The next newsletter will be a June/July combo newsletter. Look for it in your email mid-June.

THANK you!

To Our Dear Friends
at St. Timothy's,

We want to thank you all for all the prayers, calls, cards and all the love you showed us during this difficult time. A special thanks to Pastors Jim and Judy Bangsund.

May God bless you all.

The family of Earl Schmieding

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

IN-PERSON

ONLINE

9AM / 11AM

9AM

Traditional

Contemporary

Also On-Demand Video

Click [here](#) to make reservations or call the church office 408-264-3858.



ALL FOR
LOVE

**St. Timothy's MOPS is now expanding
and soon registering moms
for Fall 2021!**

All moms are invited to join us as we seek to live life ALL FOR LOVE!

Coming this Fall - MOPS and MomsNext!

We are a group of moms who support each other through the joys and challenges of motherhood. We encourage moms through resources, speakers, mentorship, and friendship - all pertinent to our roles as mothers, wives, and women.

Are you pregnant? Do you have toddlers, preschoolers, or school-age kids? We'd love to have you join this awesome cohort of women! Keep an eye on our website for information about this summer and our upcoming season - www.stlcsj.org/mops

Silicon Valley Discipleship **Walk** for **Water**

Saturday, September 18th

Thank you all for your unwavering support for the ministry of St. Tim's Walk for Water. We're excited to share with you some plans for a fresh approach to Walk for Water 2021!

You're invited to attend a brief presentation on
Sunday, May 23rd at 12:15pm
on the front patio at church

(Masks are required and we will sit 6 feet apart.)

Please come hear all about our plans, and explore fun, new ways to plug in!



QUESTIONS

Any questions? Feel free to contact
Ruth Hardin at walkforwater@att.net

Ministry Partner Update

Each month, we will highlight updates from our domestic and global ministry partners. Many of these partnerships have been 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!

Leslie Urie – World Mission Prayer League

St. Timothy's began partnering with Richard and Leslie Urie in 2013. Richard has recently retired, and Leslie continues to support the work of World Mission Prayer League stateside, in the Seattle area.

As expected, 2020 was a year of digital support for global mission and missionaries because of coronavirus. Meanwhile, WMPL has been learning how to engage their membership via Zoom. Though WMPL was founded by young adults, those people have aged. They spent the past year determining if they still have a message that is attractive to young adults of 2021, and how to engage that audience. They have taken most of their meetings online now, started a group dedicated to young adults ages 18-25, and continued with handwritten notes to many of their older supporters who don't feel as confident with computers.

Most of WMPL's global workers were brought back to the United States and have only recently started returning to their host countries. Traveling internationally has become much more complicated with the need to secure Covid tests in a timely manner.

From Leslie: I think of all of you at St. Timothy's often and am so grateful for your prayer and financial support! If you believe that you might be called to missions, take a listen to Leslie's recent recording: [link](#)



Leslie and husband, Richard, at home.

Jeff and Mim Nellermoe - China Service Ventures



Mim and Jeff Nellermoe

Compelled by the ministry of China Service Ventures, St. Timothy's began partnering with the Nellermoes in 2011. CSV serves in Henan Province, Xinyang City and County, among the "Left Behind Children" (LBC) in outlying country villages. LBC are those left with grandparents or other relatives while their parents work in factories in cities, often not able to be seen by their parents but once or twice a year. Often, this results in many negative effects, including dropping out of school, perpetuating the cycle of poverty.

CSV employs a staff of three Chinese nationals located in Xinyang. Their staff provides social work services to the LBC and families, including educational and psychological counseling; supplemental educational opportunities tailored to the LBC to foster a sense of belonging and nurture; and life coaching to help children navigate life with increased hope and motivation.

Last year, even during a global pandemic and provincial-wide lockdowns (Xinyang is only 250 km north of Wuhan), their staff was able, through our financial help, to establish two rural primary school libraries (1000 books, shelving, tables, and chairs), and provide 10 financial scholarships to LBC to attend high school. In addition, they provided rice, cooking oil, clothing, and blankets to these poor families in the villages. Once the lock-down restrictions were lifted and schools resumed, they provided weekly art classes at Yanghe Middle School and educational counseling for LBC. The goal is to provide financial, physical, emotional and spiritual support for LBC as a witness to the love of Jesus Christ.

Because of the Chinese Communist Party's heavy restrictions on Christians and churches, CSV is constantly monitored by local and provincial police and national security bureaus, foreign and domestic. For that reason, CSV has expanded their focus of service to include Chinese expats living in other countries, including the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus and Light 2 Path/China Ministries, a business-as-mission model, providing English instruction through propriety software and language acquisition methods.

We need to say a very special thank-you to the people of St. Timothy's, who have partnered with us to share the gospel with the Chinese people in mainland China. The political situation between our two countries is not likely to greatly improve in the near future; however, the gospel is still at work. Our brothers and sisters in Christ in China are bold and they are praying. Although there are many restrictions, there are always ways.

Thank you! We remember you fondly.

(To read the Nellermoe's update to St. Timothy's in its entirety, click [here](#).)



St. Timothy's Christian Preschool

Teacher Spotlight

Hello St. Timothy's!

We continue to introduce you to our teachers and staff here at St. Tim's! This month, please meet our School Admin., Katy Stamos, and our Pre-K teacher, Debra Mandanici.

My name is Katy Stamos. I'm entering my third year as the Preschool's Admin. I have been a member here at St. Timothy's for over 18 years. I also work part-time as a cabi stylist, which I love! I have a degree in Psychology with a minor in Family Relations/Child Dvlpmnt. I have always loved working with children, and even spent a few years on stage leading St. Tim's VBS!

I feel blessed to be working at the PS and getting to play a small role in helping families raise their little ones in the faith and the loving environment which is St. Tim's!

Tell your friends & neighbors about us! With our program and phenomenal staff, I don't think there is a better Preschool to send your little ones to!



My name is Debra Mandanici. I first became part of the St. Timothy's family as a parent in 2001 when my daughter Tara began attending Pre-4's.

I quickly became very involved in campus life, volunteering whenever possible! Before coming to work at St. Timothy's, I had 20 plus years of experience teaching Sunday School. I eventually enrolled in night school for my Child Development/Early Education units, and I have been on staff here now for 17 years!

I pray I am able to accomplish 3 things for my students EVERY year. I strive to build each child's self-confidence so they believe in themselves and in their God given talents and abilities. I do my best to instill in each student a love of learning! And most of all, I pray that they know that Jesus is their best friend, and that He will walk with them all of their lives!

NOW ENROLLING FOR 2021-2022

Preschool 2's to JK

sttimothychristianpreschool.org



SCAN ME

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 and 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

ST. TIM'S KIDS MONTHLY SCOOP

MAY 2021



VBS
JUNE
16TH-18TH

A three day virtual experience!

Join us as we dive deeper into the word of God that is perfect for this summer! Each day will have a new pre-recorded lesson, song, game and craft! Fun for the entire family.

Each at home VBS Kit includes:

- T-Shirt
- Craft Supplies for All 3 Days
- Snacks
- Games
- Music Digital Download
- Video Links for Each Day
- Early Registration to our Family Fun Night Feat. Andy Z (Local Children's Musician)



REGISTER BELOW:

EARLY BIRD PRICING:

\$20

AFTER MAY 31ST

\$25

<https://www.stlcsj.org/vbs2021/>

MAY

FOCUS

The Holy Spirit

This month is all about legacy.

The Holy Spirit is the legacy that Jesus gives to every person who believes. The Holy Spirit is for everyone and helps us so much!

Tune into St. Tim's Kids Youtube to watch!

Starting May 2nd

VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need volunteers to help record and participate in games, lessons, bible stories, crafts and lessons! Learn more by clicking below:

<https://forms.gle/yBXCdjQVHvJaqNm28>

**Stay Connected
with Facebook**



[St. Tim's Kids](#)



emily.hinden@stlcsj.org

- S T . T I M ' S -

YOUTH

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY



@sttims_youth

High School: Joe Hill
joe.hill@stlcsj.org

Middle School: Anna-Marie Valles
annamarie.valles@stlcsj.org

Cornerstone meetings are outdoors and we still offer Zoom for those who need to stay home. Masks are required and you must maintain 6 feet of distance from those outside of your household. In addition, if you are feeling ill or have been exposed to COVID-19 or are subject to a quarantine, please stay home and join us when you are well.

CORNER STONE

HIGH SCHOOL

**TUESDAYS
6:30-8 PM
IN-PERSON
AND ZOOM**

CORNER STONE

MIDDLE SCHOOL

**WEDNESDAYS
6:30-8 PM
IN-PERSON
AND ZOOM**



**CAMP
PONDO**

June 14-18

Cost: \$400

For Incoming 6th-12th Graders

We are going to camp this summer! Join us for great teaching, worship and fun activities.

Click [here](#) to read more about summer camp and 2021 health protocols.

Contact Anna-Marie for more information. And to sign-up. Space is limited.