



Good News

ST. TIMOTHY'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
DECEMBER 2023

Pastor's Pen

It is the beginning of a new year! The Church year begins with Advent. It is a time to reflect on both promise and judgment, law and gospel, even hope and despair. It is very easy to focus on limitations. That is, we think about what we might want to do in the next year, but we see our potential with the limits of our past accomplishment and failures.

But this is a new year and we are a people whose lives are bathed with the grace, goodness and power of God at work in and through us. Our prayer can be "Lord Jesus, I love you, I want your will to be done in and through my life. Bless me with what I need, to be the blessing you want me to be. Discipline me through your Holy Spirit, so that I can grow and bear fruit in and through my life."

I believe in plans, yet I also believe in adjusting them. I don't want to be limited tomorrow by the insights I have today. I know that as I live into God's plans for my life, I learn and my confidence in what God can do in and through me grows. I choose not to be limited by the plans I start with, and instead adjust them as greater insights come into view.

I believe also in training. This is true in physical things, but also throughout life. By intentionally walking with God in my devotional life and seeking the wisdom of friends and colleagues, my understanding of God's will

comes into sharper focus. By doing what I can do today, I grow into a greater ability for what I can do tomorrow.

This is not a personal confidence rooted in the myth of "I can be anything I want to be." Rather, this is a confidence in the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to provide all that is needed to do that which God calls me to do. One of the great insights in this journey is that often those needed abilities and resources come through the people around me and the team and family of faith that God places me in. We are a part of the Body of Christ and each member brings gifts and abilities so that together we can do the work of Christ in the world that brings God glory and is a witness to His goodness, grace and love.

As we move toward Christmas, I hope that each one of us will use our celebrations and even preparations to grow closer to one another and see the awesome possibilities ahead of us in this coming year. God is good all the time. We can trust in God's goodness, faithfulness and love. When we experience the challenges ahead, we can lean into the growth that has come through our daily walk. We remember and give thanks for the faithfulness of God. We also lean on one another to see the amazing ways that we move into the future together. While we start today with only a partial view, the promptings of the Holy Spirit empower us to exceed these expectations.

Pastor Jim Cords



BUDGET REPORT

FROM OUR TREASURER, CHRIS COLLIER

St. Timothy's continues to be supported by generous giving by our congregation,

however, we are modestly lower than our budgeted level as we have realized roughly \$47,000 of income from our investments, which is included in our Offerings & Other Income. We anticipate a greater level of offerings during the final months of the year as we enter the holiday season, similar to prior years. Your continued generosity is important to fund our operations and ministries.

We continue to operate prudently and with sound oversight of our spending. We remain on budget as we have been able to offset increases in campus related maintenance activities and higher than planned utilities costs through lower spend in other areas. The Preschool continues to operate well. Administration has done a tremendous job of operating with a much lower level of cost and investment.

Financial Performance (Year-to-date as of October 31, 2023)

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Approved 2023 Budget
Offerings & Other Income	\$803,009	\$824,017	\$1,150,000
Benevolences	(87,750)	(73,500)	(100,000)
Admin & Operations	(1,012,290)	(1,013,726)	(1,257,374)
Preschool	61,822	(701)	(17,799)
Excess/(shortfall)	(\$235,209)	(\$263,910)	(\$225,173)

Offering Envelopes for 2024

are available for pick-up in the church entryway through December 17. Stop by and grab yours to help save on postage for the church.

Contact Beth if you need envelopes issued to you, can't find yours, or you no longer need envelopes.

Email: info@stlcsj.org

Phone: 408-264-3858



Come celebrate the
birth of our Savior

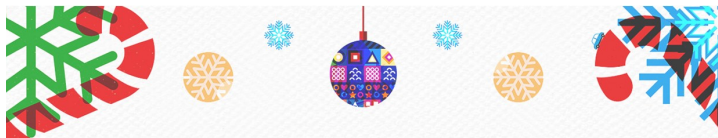
Christmas

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

DECEMBER 24

3pm 5pm 7pm 9pm

All are traditional style with carols and candle lighting.



December Worship Schedule

- Dec 3–** 9am Traditional & 11am Contemporary
- Dec 9–** 4-6pm Messy Church Christmas
- Dec 10–** 9am Traditional & 11am Contemporary
- Dec 17–** 9am & 11am Christmas Cantata
- Dec 24–** No morning worship services
3, 5, 7, 9pm Candlelight Worship
- Dec 31–** 9am Traditional & 11am Contemporary



St. Timothy's Lunch Bunch

Thursday, December 14 at 12:00 noon
in Fellowship Hall
\$30 per person

**Catered Tri-Tip Steak & Salmon,
Veggies, Salad, and Rolls**

All by our Super-Chef Greg

Attendees bring cookies to share for Dessert

The Chocolate Choraliers will sing Christmas songs.

Reservations are required for this special event, so please call Betsy Grandey at (408) 629-6093 or Betty Rhodes at (408) 628-4799.

Each catered lunch attendee must pay by Sunday, December 3. Checks are payable to St. Timothy's Lutheran Church and can be given to Alan Pintacura or Betsy Grandey at church (or mailed).

If you prefer your own food for lunch, that is OK and also bring cookies.

Please RSVP so the appropriate number of tables and chairs are set-up!

Cantata

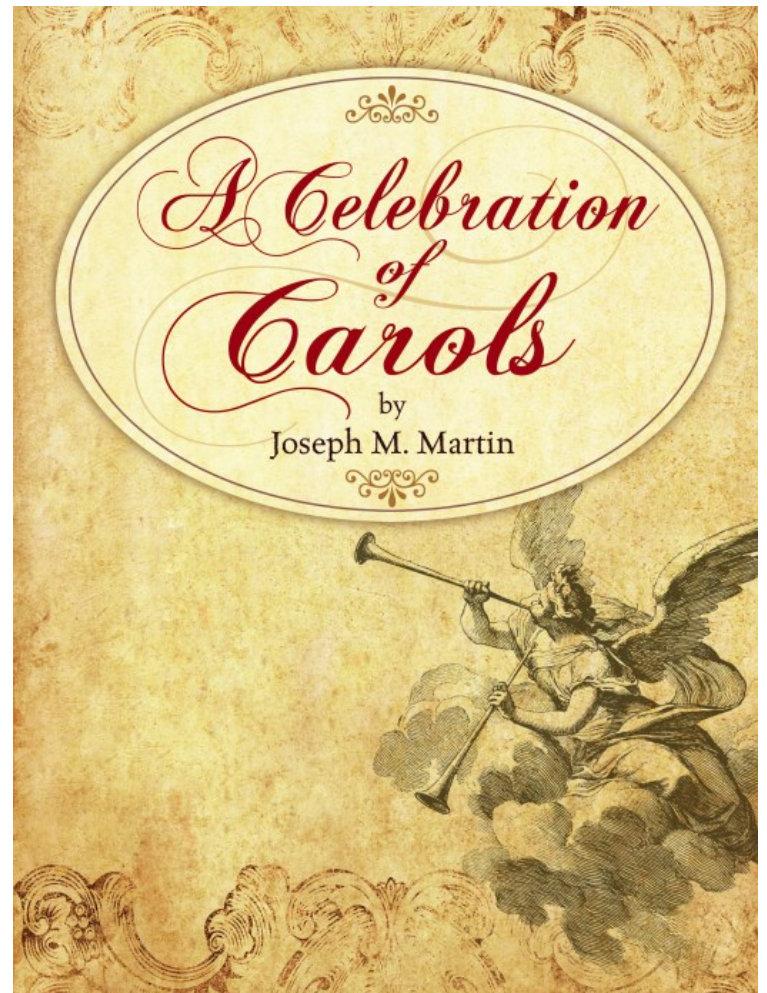
Sunday, December 17

9:00 am and 11:00 am

Performed by the Choir and an Orchestra

Filled to overflowing with beloved carols and original seasonal songs, this cantata tells the story of Christ's birth adorned with beautiful arrangements and meaningful Scriptures.

**Invite your friends,
neighbors, and family!**



Advent begins December 3.

Stop by the church entryway for advent calendars, devotionals, & candles for children through adults.



O Come,
O Come
Emmanuel



 South Valley FISH Food Pantry

DECEMBER Food Item of the Month



SOUP

Please donate only the requested item for that month. For the health and dignity of our clients, no expired food items.



A new group will begin on January 11, 2024. This is a 13-week course that will support anyone who is grieving a loved one, regardless of how recent (or not) this loss may be. *If you are still grieving, you are welcome.*

GriefShare combines 3 components: a video, small group conversation, and a private journal (called a workbook).

Members and non-members alike are welcome. Tell your friends! We want to do as God has called us to do: to care for one another, bearing one another's burdens.

You do not have to walk this journey alone. You have friends who will walk with you. More importantly, God walks with you. "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me." (Psalm 23)

The Grief Support Team: Michelle Regoli, Alan Pintacura, Betsy Beech, Mickey Miller, Valerie Ross, Bob Paradiso, Leslie and Tony Mazzucco and Arlene Fowler.

**Thursday, 10 am – 12 pm,
beginning January 11, 2024**

At church, Room B1

Suggested donation for workbook: \$20

Sign up after church or by phone:

Michelle Regoli, (408) 398-0085



- ST. TIM'S - YOUTH - MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY -

Anna-Marie Valles annamarie.valles@stlcsj.org
or 408-264-3858, ext. 122
Scott Campbell scott.campbell@stlcsj.org
or 408-264-3858, ext. 120

Check us out on Instagram



CORNER STONE

MIDDLE AND
HIGH SCHOOL

**WEDNESDAYS
6-8 PM
YOUTH HOUSE**

We start together with dinner and worship then break off into our respective small groups. We end the night with a game. The Youth House will be open every week after Cornerstone until 8:30 pm.

No Cornerstone December 20 & 27

6TH - 12TH GRADE STUDENTS
DEVOTIONS

&
DONUTS

Sundays @ 10 am
Youth House

No class on December 17, 24 & 31.



*Christmas
Party
December 13*

6:00-8:00 pm
at Carter

Bring a \$10 wrapped gift for the
gift exchange
(a gift you would like to get)

6TH-12TH
GRADE

HUME WINTER CAMP

MARCH 1-3, 2024
COST IS \$300.
A \$50 DEPOSIT IS REQUIRED AT SIGN-UP.

SNOW. BOXSLED BLITZ. MONSTER TUBE RUN.
BROOM HOCKEY. SNOWBOARD MOUNTAIN.
FRIENDSHIPS THAT LAST A LIFETIME.
TRUTH THAT LASTS FOREVER!

CLICK [HERE](#) TO SIGN-UP



DECEMBER BUZZ

This December, we're taking the month to focus on nothing but Christmas by celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift! We can't wait to shine a spotlight on crucial moments in the story of Jesus' birth as we count down to Christmas. Because of Jesus, it's possible for us to have a relationship with God that will last forever. As we take this month to count down to the fun of Christmas Day, let's take time to remember the reason we celebrate in the first place: Jesus, the greatest gift the world has ever known.

FREE

FUN



SaN jOsE

CHRISTMAS!

CELEBRATION CRAFTS GAMES FOOD

December 9, Sat, 4-6 PM

www.STLCSJ.ORG/MESSY/

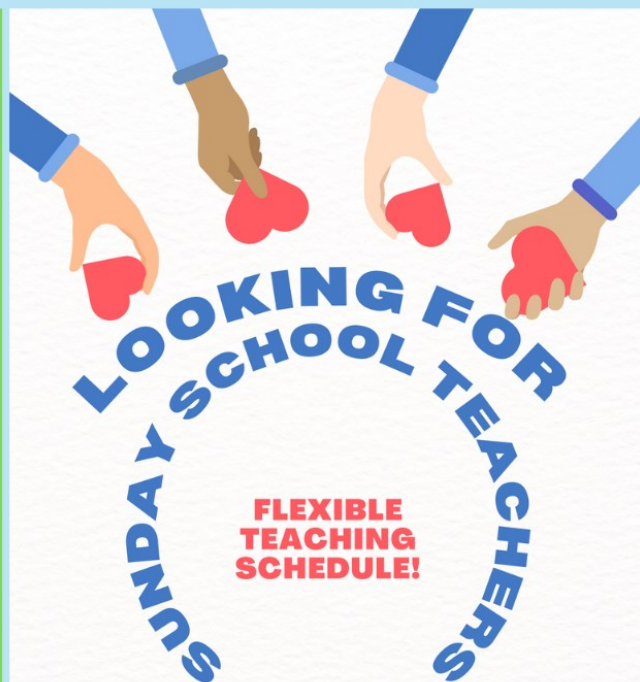
ST. TIMOTHY'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

5100 Camden Ave San Jose, 95124 408-264-3858



Please RSVP CM@STLCSJ.ORG

www.meetup.com/messy-church-san-jose/events/297321904



FOR MORE INFORMATION:
CM@STLCSJ.ORG

No Sunday school Dec 24th & 31st





2023

STCP DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Isaiah 9:6

For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

UPDATES

We had lots of exciting events happen in November!

The Harvest Festival was a great success, we had over 100 attendees!

Our Book Fair was able to raise almost \$700! With the money raised, the teachers will be able to buy books for their classrooms.

As always everyone had an amazing time at the Thanksgiving Feast & Performance. The kids were absolutely adorable!



We wish you the most wonderful Christmas and a Joyful New Year!



DATES TO REMEMBER

DECEMBER 15

Christmas Program
"Good News of Great Joy"

DECEMBER 21 - JANUARY 3

Christmas Break

JANUARY 4

School Resumes