

Good News

ST. TIMOTHY'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

JANUARY 2026



Pastor's Pen

The turn of the new year is often a reflective time for people. We look back on the ups and downs of the past year, reflecting on what we are grateful for, how we have grown, but also looking back on things that we hope to leave behind as we look to the future.

As I look back, I am overwhelmed with gratitude at what God has done in my life and in and through our family of faith at St. Timothy's. Some of my personal highlights include Summer Church Nights, visiting the women at Brookdale, the Men's Retreat, serving the homeless with the Mercy Mobile and the blessing of beginning weekly Communion in our worship services.

As we look to the new year, I want to put one of my favorite passages of Scripture before you- one that I have treasured for many years, and even asked Bishop Selbo to preach on this text at my ordination service: Psalm 1

¹ Blessed is the one

who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take
or sit in the company of mockers,

² but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,
and who meditates on his law day and night.

³ That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither—
whatever they do prospers.

As you come into the new year, I want to encourage and challenge you to be grounded in the Word of God. I pray that you would see God working in your life, bearing fruit through the Holy Spirit as you root yourself in the life-giving word of God each and every day. Read it, memorize it, discuss it in your Grow Groups and around the table with family and friends. See how God works as we focus on Him, His truth, and His word.

In Christ,
Pastor Joe Hill



BUDGET REPORT

FROM OUR TREASURER, DARRELL SHIDELER

As we come to the end of November we have been blessed with continued growth in all of our ministries, both to our members, to new folks connecting to our church, to our local community (FISH, Mercy Mobile, City Team - Men's retreat, Dream House, Grief Share), NALC national (Disaster Relief), and in the world (specifically Africa, India, and Estonia)

As you can see by the numbers we have less income and less expenses than were first budgeted, and we still are short in our Actual Income for the year. It is our prayer that, as in past Decembers, we will be blessed with giving to help offset our ministry out flows.

Financial Performance (Year-to-date as of November 30, 2025)

	Income	Expenses	Difference
Approved 2025 Budget	\$1,265,000	\$ (1,505,000)	\$ (240,000)
YTD Budget	\$884,830	(\$1,324,708)	(\$439,878)
YTD Actuals	853,404	(1,157,348)	(303,944)
YTD Difference	(\$31,426)	\$167,360	\$135,934

Final 2025 Financial Report will be in the Annual Report.

WAYS TO GIVE

1. Mail your offering to church or drop it off in the locked offering box in the sanctuary. 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/>
3. Mobile Giving: text Give to 408-692-6903.

WOMEN'S Retreat

January 24 from 9:30-2

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Pastor Judy will lead the Bible study

Holy Cross Lutheran Church is inviting St Tim's women to a women's retreat!

The Bible study topic "Encountering the Person of Jesus as Seen Through the Lens of John's Gospel" will be led by Judy Bangsund.

Music, a light breakfast and lunch will be provided along with a special simple service project supporting our local Teen Challenge. Donated items for Teen Challenge at the retreat will earn tickets to enter a drawing for prizes.

Contact Terrie Berry at
gramb3@yahoo.com to RSVP.
Sign-up deadline January 18

Annual Congregational Meeting

**Sunday, February 1 @ 12:30 pm
Fellowship Hall**

Annual Reports are available January 23, 2026.
Part of this meeting will include voting to ratify amendments to the NALC constitution (more info coming shortly). This will be an in-person meeting with lunch served at 12:00 pm. If you are not eating lunch, plan to come a few minutes ahead of the 12:30 start time to grab a seat so we can get started on time.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES

9 AM Traditional

11 AM Contemporary

ONLINE WORSHIP

Recordings are available in the afternoon on our website: STLCSJ.ORG/WORSHIP

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY-THURSDAY 8:30 AM TO 4 PM

FRIDAY 8:30 TO 3 PM

Office closed January 1 and January 19

Not all staff have regular hours, so it's best to schedule an appointment with them. You can find the updated list of staff emails on the staff website page: stlcsj.org/staff

FOOD HANDLER CLASS

There will be in-person food handler training class in January on Wednesday nights, 7-9 pm, and on Saturday mornings, 9-11 am, starting January 3. (You only need to attend one class.)

California requires anyone who works in our kitchen to have a food handler card. Normally, the course is online. You can take it online on your own, if you prefer. This in-person class is for those who would have difficulty completing the course online on their own or would prefer to do it with a group. It will be the same course (same videos), just done in person. The course is open to anyone who would like to participate.

There will be a sign-up sheet on the patio for anyone interested in taking the course, either in-person or on their own online.

Contact carolyn.amey @stlcsj.org with any questions.

GROW GROUPS

GROWING IN FAITH.
TOGETHER

GROW GROUPS are small gatherings of community that meet weekly to build friendships, open the Bible together, encourage and support one another as we grow as disciples of Jesus.

GROW GROUPS do not require you to be an expert in the Bible or the church, but is a safe place to ask questions, learn, and grow in the Word.

GROW GROUPS are places where we maintain confidentiality, courtesy, and respect towards others. All are welcome no matter where you are in your faith journey.

Next Grow Group Session begins the week of 1/4!

Come find your community and the perfect group for you!

Email Pastor Joe @ Joe.Hill@stlcsj.org

ST. TIMOTHY'S NOTE PROGRAM- REFINACING OPPORTUNITY

St. Timothy's borrowed money from members to purchase the Carter Ave. property in 2002 and the Youth House in 2012. Through this self-financed program, we are able to pay the interest we would otherwise pay to a bank to our members, while not incurring any fees.

Due to personal circumstances, we received a request to pay off notes due on February 28, 2026, and those due on February 28, 2027. As a result, we are seeking to refinance this portion of the debt by offering all of our members the ability to participate in this refinancing. The total amount of this refinancing is \$380,000, which will not increase the total amount of our debt.

Term:	3 years
Rate:	4.8%-simple interest, paid monthly
Start date:	March 1, 2026
End date:	February 28, 2029
Note Amount:	\$5,000 minimum (any amount in \$5,000 increments not to exceed \$50,000 of total existing and new notes)
Secured:	Blanket Lien has been placed on title to protect note holders
Sign up by:	February 2, 2026
Funds Due:	February 16, 2026

If you are interested in participating in this refinancing choose one of the following:

1. Click [here](#) for the online enrollment form.
2. Click [here](#) to download the enrollment form and send it back to the church to the attention of Darrell Shideler or Jeanette Stahlke.

Click [here](#) to read the full letter with the schedule of reduction on the second page.

Contact [Darrell](#) or [Jeanette](#) if you have any questions.

LOSS OF A SPOUSE



Have you, or has someone you know, lost a spouse? You're not alone in your pain. Come join us and be part of a 2-hour seminar where you'll hear practical advice and have support in walking through the challenges of this grief.

Saturday, February 7, 2026
10am to 12 pm
Room B1

Sign-up here:
<https://find.griefshare.org/events/283723>
QUESTIONS? Contact [Michelle](#)



A new Grief Support Group will begin in January. 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.*

Our Support Group will be using a program called GriefShare, which 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.

**Thursdays, 10 am – 12 pm,
beginning January 8, 2026
Room B1 (next to Café Lydia)**

Suggested donation for workbook: \$20

Sign up here: <https://find.griefshare.org/groups/282426>

St. Timothy's Lunch Bunch Program

Thursday, January 22
at 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall
\$15 per person

LUNCH: Soup, salad and bread. Drinks and dessert always included.

PROGRAM: Los Gatos Birdwatcher will provide info on wild birds in our area along with helpful hints on types of bird seed, bird houses, and other ways we can help our feathered friends.



Reservations are required, so please call Betsy Grandey at (408) 629-6093.

Lunch Bunch is a fellowship group for ALL. New attendees always welcome. If you prefer your own food for lunch, that is OK and there is no charge. Just come!



st. tim's students

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. **Cornerstone returns January 7.**



South Valley FISH Food Pantry

JANUARY
Food Item of
the Month
PEANUT BUTTER



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

Rob Walter, Director of Youth Ministries

rob.walter@stlcsj.org

or 408-264-3858, ext. 122



@sttims youth

6TH - 12TH GRADE STUDENTS
DEVOTIONS
 & 
DONUTS


 Sundays from 10:15-10:45 am
Upstairs 


Young Adult Fellowship
THURSDAYS
7:30 PM
CAFE LYDIA



JANUARY 2026 BUZZ

FUN



FREE

January 10th, Sat, 4-6 PM

Celebration Crafts Games Food
Fruit of the Spirit - LOVE!

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/messy-church-san-jose/events/312383084



Hey Kids! Bring your parents.
January 4, Sunday 10 - 11 am
St. Tim's Playground
5100 Camden Ave

- Play Together
- Free Brunch
- Free Coffee Bar
- Meet New Friends

For more information:
cm@stlcsj.org

CHILDREN'S CHOIR



Do you love to sing?
Come add your voice to our
children's choir!

No experience needed
4 - 12 years ages welcome

**JANUARY 25
10:15-10:45 AM**

St. Timothy's Lutheran Church
Classroom #C1

more information
CM@STLCSJ.ORG



ST. TIMOTHY'S CHRISTIAN
PRESCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE



5100 CAMDEN AVE, SAN JOSE, CA 95124

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 2026

9 AM - 11 AM

- Small Class Sizes
- Experienced, Loving Staff
- Nurturing atmosphere where students can grow spiritually, emotionally, and intellectually
- Stimulating curriculum promoting critical thinking, curiosity, and independence
- Age appropriate programs in music & science
- Emphasis on character development and moral values rooted in Christian teachings

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN OPEN HOUSE
TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE UNIQUE AND EXCITING
BENEFITS OF ST. TIM'S**