



Good News

ST. TIMOTHY'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

JANUARY 2025

Pastor's Pen

In the Gospel of Matthew, John the Baptist and Jesus both say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near!"

"The kingdom of heaven has come near!" Jesus says this in chapter 4, but it actually flows naturally from the beginning of Matthew which starts with these words, "This is the family tree of Jesus, the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham..."

Messiah (Hebrew) and *Christ* (Greek) both mean "Anointed One." It's clear from the story of King David that we're learning about the King sent from God to bring the Kingdom.

The birth of Jesus, which we celebrate at Christmas, is the birth of the long-awaited Messiah. The nativity story in the Gospel of Matthew tells us about the Wise Men from the East (Epiphany). They honor the baby Jesus with gifts that show their recognition that he is a King.

At St. Tim's, we'll be going through The Story together in 2025. This is the story of our Creator and Redeemer. As we read about God's interactions with the world and his people, we realize that His Story is Our Story,

and it's actually THE STORY (of the creation and redemption of the world).

We believe Jesus is King. We trust in Jesus as our Savior. We trust in Jesus as our Lord (one who has authority, control, and power; acting as ruler). This belief is what brings definition to the Kingdom of God. This is one of the important concepts that Jesus shared in the New Testament.

We're honored to serve the King, and it's incredible to know that we're his ambassadors, spreading the good news of Jesus to the world and living as citizens of His Kingdom.

Even though this might not sound like our usual language, it's actually quite biblical. As we follow The Story, we'll be looking for the signs of Christ's rule and our call to live as ambassadors of the King.

I am convinced that this focus will deepen our faith this year, and bring a stronger sense of God working His purposes through our lives. It's going to be an amazing year!

Happy New Year,
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 \$134,000 of income from our investments that is not budgeted, which is included in our Offerings & Other Income. We anticipate a greater level of offerings during the month of December, 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. Administration has done a good job of operating with a much lower level of cost and investment.

Financial Performance (Year-to-date as of November 30, 2024)

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Approved 2024 Budget
Offerings & Other Income	\$831,141	\$953,817	\$1,250,000
Benevolences	(80,350)	(81,000)	(110,000)
Admin & Operations	(1,172,521)	(1,227,062)	(1,369,912)
Preschool	(15,139)	9,711	7,635
Excess/(shortfall)	(\$436,868)	(\$344,534)	(\$222,277)

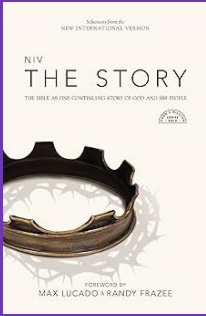
Final 2024 Financial Report will be in the Annual Report.



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.

THE STORY-STARTING IN JANUARY



The Story presents a chronological account of the Scripture, enabling us to deepen our understanding of the Biblical narrative and appreciate the historical context in which it speaks. *You may already have a book from last time we used The Story. If not, we have them available in the church entryway. See Shelley for the children's version.*

THE STORY BIBLE STUDY-STARTING JANUARY 8 @ 6:30pm

Pastor Jim will lead a Wednesday Bible Study class using the weekly readings for The Story. First class meets at 6:30 pm on January 8 in the office. Most weeks the class will meet in Room B1 (next to Cafe Lydia).

THE STORY-JANUARY/FEBRUARY READINGS

- 1/5: Ch. 1- Creation
- 1/12: Ch. 2- God Builds a Nation
- 1/19: Ch. 3- Joseph
- 1/26: Ch. 4- Deliverance
- 2/2: Ch. 5- New Commands & a New Covenant
- 2/9: Ch. 6- Wandering
- 2/16: Ch. 7- The Battle Begins
- 2/23: Ch. 8- A Few Good Men... and Women

Bookmarks are available for the reading plan as well as a webpage: www.stlcsj.org/the-story



GEOFF SCHULLER , CONTEMPORARY MUSIC LEADER

Geoff Schuller has been a member of St. Timothy's since around 1990 and quickly joined the choir, which Roxann Gallagher led at that time. Years later he heard the music that was coming from so many great Contemporary Worship artists and he knew he wanted to play that kind of music! And he has, since the early 2000's, when he and Roxann started the first Contemporary Worship Team at St. Timothy's.

He has served on that team steadily over the years and now it's his turn to lead the team. Here's what he said about that opportunity. "It's been a real joy to be a part of the Contemporary Worship Team at St. Timothy's, and it's been great to see how the team has grown and developed over the years. Some of us have been here for a long time - like Tim Stahlke, John Castro and I - and others have joined more recently - like Katherine, David, Belle, Marley and more. And I'm excited about what we will do together, going forward."

As Geoff leads the team, the goal is to find great new music for us to sing together, welcome even more people to the team, and give them the opportunity to grow and lead worship on Sundays. If you know of anyone who would like to join or have any other thoughts or feedback, you can email the team at sttims.worship.team@gmail.com.



Annual Congregational Meeting

**Sunday, February 2 @ 12:30 pm
Fellowship Hall**

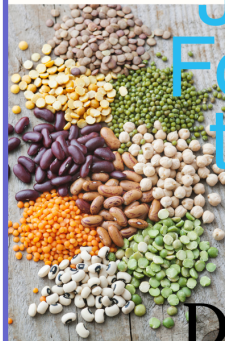
**Annual Reports will be available
January 24, 2025.**

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.



South Valley FISH Food Pantry

**JANUARY
Food Item of
the Month**



**1 OR 2 LB
DRIED BEANS**

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

GROW GROUPS

GROWING IN FAITH.
TOGETHER

The Christian life is uniquely lived with one another. **GROW GROUPS** are smaller gatherings of community that support and journey together into a closer relationship with Jesus. All are welcome and encouraged to experience a more personal expression of our community.

This season, we will dig deeper into **The Story** as we explore how the story of God's love connects to the story of our lives today!

Next Grow Group Session begins the week of 1/5!

Come find your community and the perfect group for you!

Email Pastor Joe @ Joe.Hill@stlcsj.org



CHAPA PARTNER VISIT JULY 10-20, 2025
WE'RE VISITING OUR FRIENDS IN ETHIOPIA!
WE'D LOVE FOR YOU TO JOIN US!

Katy and Michael Stamos are thrilled to be leading this wonderful adventure to Chapa! During our visit, we'll have the opportunity to meet our HopeChest Friends, observe the impact of CarePoint programming, encourage in-country staff, build lasting friendships, and be immersed in another culture. Relationship building will be at the core of our experience. We're hoping for a "Go Team" of 6-10 people to take this trip together. Please reach out to either Katy or Michael for more details or to secure your spot on the team.

We're asking for "Go Team" commitments no later than January 8, 2025.

A \$300 deposit will be due at this time.

Katy: katy.stamos@stlcsj.org. (408) 621-2918

Michael: michaelstamospersonal@gmail.com

(408) 202-2562



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



MONDAY-THURSDAY 8:30 AM TO 4 PM

FRIDAY 8:30 TO 3 PM

Office closed January 1 and January 20

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

St. Timothy's Lunch Bunch Program

Thursday, January 23

at 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall

\$15 per person

LUNCH: 5 different soups along with salad and bread. Drinks and dessert always included.

PROGRAM: Paul Wilson, Head Librarian of the San Jose Public Library system will talk about what the library has to offer and it's more than just books. He will tell us about the latest electronic help that we can expect from the library, and how we can access books or other items that our library does not stock.

Reservations preferred for this event, so please call Betsy Grandey at (408) 629-6093 or email at egrandey@yahoo.com.

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!



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.

Thursday, 10 am – 12 pm,

beginning January 9, 2025

Room B1 (next to Café Lydia)

Suggested donation for workbook: \$20

Sign up here: <https://www.griefshare.org/groups/178405>

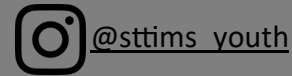


st. tim's students

Rob Walter, Director of Youth Ministries

rob.walter@stlcsj.org

or 408-264-3858, ext. 122



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 8.**

6TH - 12TH GRADE STUDENTS DEVOTIONS & DONUTS

Sundays from 10:15-10:45 am
Upstairs

We will be reading The Story along with the congregation. Reading Plan:

1/8: Ch. 1- Creation

1/15: Ch. 2- God Builds a Nation

1/22: Ch. 3- Joseph

1/29: Ch. 4- Deliverance



SKY ZONE[®]

TRAMPOLINE PARK

JANUARY 29

\$10

FUN



SaN jOsE

FREE

January 11, Sat, 4-6 PM

**Celebration Crafts Games Food
The Power of the Other**

[www. STLCSJ.ORG/MESSY/](http://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/305126437



PLAYTIME

Hey Kids! Bring your parents.

January 5, 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

**HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

The STORY books for Children and for Little Ones are available in the Sunday school classrooms.



ST. TIMOTHY'S CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

23
24
25

January Newsletter

“...Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!”
2 Corinthians 5:17

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We hope that Christmas was wonderful for you and your family and that 2025 enters with peace and joy.

The children have returned to school after the long holiday break and are very happily adjusting. It is heartwarming to see the children excited to see their friends and teachers and play with exuberance after being away for so long. My hope is that they always find learning to be a joyful experience! January will be filled with wonder for the winter season and a lot of fun, winter activities like Pajama Day.

Our annual Christmas program was wonderful and amazing! The children reminded us of the true meaning of Christmas, acting out the story of Jesus' birth and singing their songs of praise. They all shined bright as the star that welcomed Jesus into the world.

Re-enrollment begins **January 13 – January 17**
for our returning families.

Open House will be on **Saturday, January 25**
from 9:00am-11:00am, with open enrollment
beginning on January 27.

Please help us spread the word to your friends and family!

January Dates to Remember

January 1-6: NO SCHOOL

January 6: Staff In-Service – NO SCHOOL

January 7: Students Return

January 13-17: Re-Enrollment begins for
returning St. Tim's families

January 17: Pajama Day

January 25: OPEN HOUSE (9am-11am)

January 27-31: Open Enrollment Begins

January 30: Coffee with Parents
(8:45am-9:45am)