



### Our Mission

St. Timothy's Church calls people to unity with God and empowers them to thrive in our changing world. We are a covenant community that shares the love of God and proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed. We provide opportunities to make a difference in the world.

# 2014 Annual Report

**St. Timothy's Episcopal Church**  
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## From the Rector

At the Annual meeting we will elect new servant leaders for the Vestry of 2015. Our Vestry is comprised of servant leaders with a variety of skill sets and passions for ministry, the care of the facilities and parish finances. The Vestry is described by the Episcopal Church Foundation as “the body within the congregation that, with the clergy, leads the parish.” Among Vestry members, two of the duties are managerial, facilities and finances, ensuring adequate resources and effective stewardship. The third, along with the rector, is in leadership - identifying goals, engaging in short- and near-term planning, and communicating with the parish and the wider community.



St Timothy's Vestry demonstrates and models Christian love and patience, serving as leaders and examples of what it means to be a healthy Spirit-led Christian community. Serving as a parish leader, a Vestry member strives to create and maintain a healthy spiritual life through regular worship, study, prayer, and service.

This year we have one candidate willing to serve for one year to complete a term, and four who are answering a call to serve for the three, three-year terms. The blessing of this is we have more than three, willing to serve

full terms.

The challenge is how we will take this from winning and losing, conflict and competition to inviting the Holy Spirit to speak with each of us today in a way we can hear and respond to the Holy Spirit's influence in our decisions. It does matter what you will discern and decide.

I see this moment as suggesting we have a parish with leadership strength, both well-known and newly involved, with numerous individuals ready to take part in this servant leadership work. I see this as recognition you are listening and responding in ways that you can be the hands, heart and face of Jesus.



I am trusting that each of these servant leaders who are willing to serve, are not here for personal recognition but their goal is expanding the Kingdom of Heaven joining the returning Vestry.

With that in mind, I began last week assembling a list of the work, strategies, research, short- and near-term planning initiatives, programs, services and decisions we need to be engaged in as a Vestry.

I didn't consider persons or skill sets, just the needs. And you know what, the list is way longer and more varied than one Vestry year can accomplish. I am believing and trusting the Holy Spirit guidance in discerning and influencing our work together for 2015. And trusting it will not be the Vestry's alone, but that many of you will say yes when asked to be part of ministry initiatives discerned by the Vestry.



In addition to the Vestry, we will also choose five delegates and several alternates to represent us at the diocesan convention in Salinas on Nov 6-7. I want to encourage you

to become a delegate if elected, especially if you haven't ever represented a parish at a diocesan convention or haven't served in recent years. The convention represents the unity and variety of the body of Christ. Its decisions shape diocesan life and every parish.

It is interesting that every year during the Season after the Epiphany we look at the early ministry of Jesus and the disciples, at the same time as a parish we are looking at the year ahead and our call to share the good news of Jesus. On the second Sunday after the Epiphany, we heard from John's gospel the calling of the first disciples. Today it is Mark's gospel as Jesus begins gathering a group around him to help in the ministry God will prepare them for. We know some of their names, James, John, Andrew, Peter. They were fishermen and it looks like they were accomplished in their profession.



Later in Mark's gospel we learn that Andrew and Peter have their own house and that James and John have hired hands. This presents a picture we may have missed of successful

fishermen, ones who were busy prospering at their trade. Yet they took time to respond to this call.

This leap of faith included trading something they knew - their schedules, previous commitments and livelihood - for something they didn't, where answering this call would take them. They didn't have the goal in mind and yet were committed to the journey with Jesus.

hope and hopes

Brother David Steindl-Rast who is a Benedictine monk writes, "There is a close connection between hope and hopes, but we must not confuse the two. We set our hopes on something we can imagine. But hope is open for the unimaginable." I've said it this way, we need to expect the unexpected.

The opposite of hopes is hopelessness. The opposite of hope is despair. But even in a hopeless situation it is hope that remains open to surprise.

The first disciples trusted in Jesus, not just the idea of a Messiah, but in the person of Jesus. And like the disciples, we are asked to trade what we know, our hopes, for the hope in what we will know through the surprising revelation of faith in Jesus.

Our course of action is not whether, but where we will place our trust, and our faith.

It is time to find ways to retool and carry forward the ancient and sacred connections of faith; the traditions and richness of our worship and community. It is time to transform from what has been to a new emerging generation.

We know our facilities and programs alone will not attract this emerging generation. If so, it would be overflowing each week. We know it is people that bring people, transformed and being transformed, hope filled people, inviting people to observe Jesus revealed in us and through us.

The days of asking, "What do you believe, have long since been moved to the side of the cultural road, the world is asking what difference does it make that you believe?"

God has called us, together, at this intersection of time and place to courageously shape an uncertain and unimaginable future, trusting God will continue to be with us, and guide us, especially now, and fill us with hope.

The same Holy Hope that the disciples claimed, the courage they replaced fear with, will transform us and this place into a community of gratefulness for what has been and what will be as we grow in our faith.



This is from Bob Dylan's grandmother. "Happiness is not the road to anything, it is the road."

Faithfully,  
The Rev. Ron W. Griffin, Rector

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## From the Senior Warden

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As I sat down to write the 2014 Senior Warden Report for St. Timothy's Church, I found myself searching to recall last year's stewardship theme. I was not quite sure why this keep popping up, almost nagging at me to remember. If like me, a detail such as this from last fall is now a bleep on your life radar screen, let me refresh our collective memory. The 2014 stewardship theme was ***Rejoice in the Lord.***

Why was this so important to remember? What was God trying to tell me? I was led to Philippians 4:4-9: "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Still wondering why.

We began 2014 with change, one could even argue a big change. We said goodbye to the 7:45am service and some friends. We welcomed The Point and new friends.

Change is hard. We are protective of our ways of doing things, our routines, our comfort with how things are right now. Don't rock my boat, please. We want to steer clear of the uncertainty, and often fear, that comes with change. But inviting God into how we process change, witnessing God in our midst, and rejoicing in Him, well, what a difference that can make. If we can trust in Him, and in each other, how different the outcome can look.

And, that is exactly what we did as a parish community. Our trust was tested and we came through the other side. Was it hard? Yes. Was it comfortable? Not always. And here we are a year later, a stronger and more connected faith community. The Point has facilitated many new relationships and we have become less defined by which service we attend. While getting there may have been difficult, the engagement of our parish in embracing The Point has been amazing.

I realized that this transition was exactly what was pulling me back to last fall. As a parish community, knowingly or not, through our trust and continued faith we are able to rejoice in the Lord, again and again.

My service on the Vestry these past two years has been a deeply meaningful experience. Our 2013 discernment process was personally powerful. I learned I have been an unknowing practitioner of discernment for years but had not been using it as spiritual tool. To ask God, welcome His involvement, can lead us to amazing places. Whether we realize it or not, we all experienced some discernment as we navigated The Point transition over 2014.

As Senior Warden in 2014, working closely with Father Ron and the Vestry, I saw our spirit tested and rewarded again and again. In personal ways across the congregation, and in larger decisions the Vestry faced. It has not always been easy, but we are moving forward. This has been a year of reflection and focus for the Vestry, working on some very specific aspects of the church grounds and the life of our parish.

If we remember to rejoice in the Lord, anything is possible. Invite His participation when we are challenged and be thankful for what comes. We are stronger for where we have journeyed

together and more prepared for what lies ahead.

Thank you for your faithfulness this year and for your support of the Vestry. I am excited to see where God will lead us in 2015 - How we will continue to grow as a faith community and the new ways we will discover to be the hands, face and heart of Jesus in our world!

Gratefully,

*Deanne Phillips, Senior Warden*



St. Tim's started the year with The Point, a new hour-long opportunity between services for prayer, study, worship and service. Services were shifted to 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. with worship feeding that central piece of time at The Point. Since then, we've had a multitude of class offerings investing in us being the hands and face of Jesus. Some of the offerings included disaster preparedness, Bible study, "Your Intentional Difference," St. Tim's Genesis Story, "Building Bridges: An Interfaith Dialogue," holy apps, "Your Body Temple: Nutrition," happiness, silent prayer and prayer beads, and Advent stories and wreaths. The vast majority of the offerings during The Point were thought up, created, and delivered by over twenty different parishioners from the entire Parish demographic. They have covered the four key pillars, and in some cases more.

Here are some highlights for the year:

	Epiphany	Lent	Easter	Summer	Fall Part 1	Fall Part 2	Advent
Service	Getting to Know St. Tim's Habitat for Humanity Medical Ministry Bicycle Ministry	Getting to Know St. Tim's Spiritual Gifts Grant Cuesta Outreach	Getting to Know St. Tim's Disaster Preparedness Alpha Omega Finance Orientation	Intentional Difference	Stephens Ministry Disaster Preparedness Manna Bags	Men's Group Discernment Disaster Preparedness Manna Bags	Manna Bags
Worship	Gratitude	Reading Music St. Tim's Genesis Story	Choral Singing St. Tim's Genesis Story	St. Tim's Genesis Story	Deanery Concert	Children's Choir	Advent Music
Study	Lord's Prayer Look Book Took	Looking at Lent Look Book Took	Holy Apps Body Temple	Confirmation Topics	Confirmation Topics Phillipians Body Temple	Building Bridges	Gospel Reflections Advent Stories
Prayer	Happiness Discernment	El Camino Silent Prayer Prayer Beads	Prayer Chapel: Rewind Life of Meaning	Prayer Chapel: Rewind	Prayer Force Prayer Chapel: Rewind	Prayer Chapel: Rewind Share, Save Spend	Prayer Chapel: Rewind

In addition to the class offerings during the Point, the Village Square concept was introduced. This has become quite a popular way for parishioners from both services to connect in community and explore ideas less formally than in Point classes. As we move into the second year of The Point, we will continue to look for ways to serve, worship, learn about, and pray to the Lord. I am looking forward to more great and rewarding times together, both in Village Square and in the classes!

*-Jonathan Trail, The Point Coordinator*

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## Worship



St. Tim's continued the "Almost" series with Epiphany, Lent, Easter, the Season after Pentecost, and Advent. These dinner events included the music team leading the parish in singing the service music, songs and hymns of that season. There also were activities, such as making Advent wreaths, which families could do together. This series is an important part of the church's spiritual life.

St. Tim's started the Holden Evening Prayer during the Wednesdays of Lent. Written by Marty Haugen, this sung liturgy is an important time of worship and reflection. Combined with a shared meal, this practice deepened our observance of the Lenten Season.

St. Tim's continued its new tradition of the Pentecost Blessing of the Bicycles and Barbecue. The church campus was a sea of red as parishioners and visitors from the community worshipped and then joined together for a meal on the church's birthday.



On October 26, the Rt. Rev. Mary Gray-Reeves blessed eight people for Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation. These parishioners studied with Fr. Ron leading up to this significant event in their personal and spiritual lives. The entire congregation was able to participate in this moment.



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## Music and Worship Arts

2014 was a year of progress and adventure for me and for our music and tech ministries. My personal high was taking a sabbatical over the summer. I spent three months traveling, studying and resting, and experiencing worship at a variety of churches in the Bay Area and New York City.



One of the significant benefits of my sabbatical was the establishment of a team of talented parishioners who took on the learning and practice of my duties, ensuring a smooth transition whenever I am away, as well as helping us move towards a leadership dynamic of lay-initiated ministry. The team helped establish cloud-based planning and scheduling programs that have greatly increased our efficiency.





There were several opportunities for shared worship and fellowship with other churches in our Deanery this year. We shared our Sanctuary with St. Jude's for Good Friday, combining the musical talents of our two churches to provide music for a Blues Good Friday celebration. St. Jude's offered a wonderful choir and brass ensemble to complement the singers and musicians



of St. Tim's. This energy carried over into this year's Deanery Concert. We offered our combined choir and instrumental ensembles, as well as fielding a Children's Choir, Praise Up!, for the first time in several years.

Our music and tech teams continued to provide a spiritually inviting atmosphere in service, using audio/visual media to lead the congregation in worship.

One of the goals established in 2013, and continuing in 2014 and the future, is to project music notation on the screen, to help the congregation learn and sing our musical offerings. The Tech ministry continues to be an essential part of our contemporary worship. We often find that teens and even pre-teens find a comfortable home in the middle of all the buttons and gadgets.

Christmas music was a joy this year, marked by a full range of musical gifts from our ministry. We had our Schoenstein organ in full cry courtesy of Will Watkins, a Festival Choir directed by Charlotte Griffin, our Instrumental Ensemble, and our usual band musicians; all these elements combined together to bring a richly diverse sound to the traditions of Christmas.

We give thanks for the faithful and abundant gifts given to God and to this Church by all musicians, techs and creative artists of the worship teams. We anticipate the good things God has in store for this wonderful community in the coming year.

*Peter Sammel, Music and Technical Director*





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## Children's Ministries

Children are a vibrant part of our ministry at St. Timothy's. Our worship and many of our activities are planned to include the children of our parish such as the Blessing of the Bicycles and the Almost Advent festival.



During the worship services, children are encouraged to participate in the service as acolytes, readers, and shell washers.

Younger children are invited to sing with the band during one of the songs and the youth in the parish are full participating members of the music ministry. Youth and children help run the sound board and projector for our services.

Our 9 am service is spirit-filled but accessible by younger children. One of the highlights of this service is the weekly children's homily. For some of the liturgical seasons we have a children's communion table that is always surrounded by children.

Godly Play is the centerpiece of our Sunday children's time. With the new format brought about by the Point, our children now have more time to interact with each other, the story, and their teachers. New this year is that the children and their teachers gather in Edwards Hall for their own Village Square to share refreshments and conversation before going to their class for a Godly Play story. We have a great group of teachers and door monitors and are always looking for more to join our team.



Periodically during the year we have special festivals with teaching and crafts designed to celebrate the different seasons in the church. St. Tim's Vacation Bible Camp, "Workshop of Wonders," was filled to capacity (50+) this summer with students ages 3-10 coming together to 'work with God,' through song, dance, games, scripture and food. This high-energy week includes many children from the community, as well as a cadre of St. Tim's adult volunteers. St. Tim's is now known as "the" VBC to attend!

Children at St. Timothy's are an integral part of our parish life and community.

*Wyn Schuh*

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## Rite 13

Our Rite 13 program is open to youth ages 10 to 14. Rite 13 celebrates the rite of passage from childhood toward adulthood through Bible study, prayer, rites of passage, outreach ministries and both serious and playful activities. Across the school year, the class welcomes students nearly every Sunday. We are grateful for the efforts of our adult volunteers including Paul Flynn, Madeleine Gerdes, Todd Hausman, Holly McCullough, Peter Sammel, Anne Wilde, Sam Stafford, Rob Roe, Shelly Hausman, Annett Trail and Fred Worley.



To kick-off the new year and welcome our new class of students, Rite 13 held a breakfast in September. Youth and adult helpers cooked a delicious meal to share.

Rite 13 adopted the manna bag program as its service project in 2013. The class and volunteers have produced more than 1,250 manna bags since taking over the program.

In October, Rite 13 participated in an Urban Adventure that led them through the winding streets of Chinatown and North Beach in San Francisco, creating memories and deepening friendships.

To continue the focus on service and giving, Anne Wilde guided the students through a morning of making “Share, Save, Spend” banks in the spirit of stewardship and how we can use our resources to multiply God’s blessings.

To close out 2014, the students put on a pageant for the Christmas Eve service called “The Christmas Story,” a performance they reprised for Almost Epiphany event in January. Many thanks to Julie Nelson and Joanna Shreve for the help bringing the production to life.

Looking through 2015, the students and volunteers of Rite 13 plan to:

- Continue our service program
- Explore the lessons of Rite 13 as well as “Your Faith, Your Life” by Jennifer Gamber
- Continue to grow and have fun as the students take their place in the body of Christ

*Todd Hausman, Youth and Rite 13 Coordinator*

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## Preschool

St. Timothy’s Preschool is a play-based, faith-directed program for 2-, 3- and 4-year-olds. The preschool is known for its warm and nurturing environment. It has a long-standing reputation as a “sharing, caring” preschool with heart. Currently, the school has 15 students who attend 2-5 days a week, as well as a new Wednesday morning program for 2-year-olds, and a new “Stay and



Play” program on Fridays.

In 2014, St. Tim’s revitalized its preschool. While the preschool has been here since 1961, it is serving families in a way like never before. In June, the church hired experienced director Janet Kolstad, formally of Los Altos Parent preschool and Ventana School. The school’s play-based, learner-directed atmosphere is supplemented with discussions of God and information about the church’s seasons.

New this year also were messy art play times for the community and outreach events at Thursday Night Live.

The preschool is providing parent education with presentations like “Teaching Your Child How to Resolve Conflicts” (Janet Kolstad) and Los Altos School District’s Alyssa Gallagher on “Teaching Methods for Creativity and Curiosity.” St. Tim’s Preschool also has been supporting families with resources to help them with their financial, emotional and logistical needs, furthering our goal of being the hands, face and heart of Jesus in our community.

### **2014 Successes**

- Connections with the parish and community, such as an Author visit, weaving project with congregation donated supplies, book sort party to update the school’s library, St. Nicholas visit and education, and weekly music class time with Music and Technical Director Peter Sammel.
- Improved parent communications with the school’s first parent orientation night, updated forms and handbook, improved fee schedule and fall parent conferences.
- Enhanced marketing including social media and neighborhood listservs. The school’s targeted marketing included flyers, banners, and paid advertising to thousands in the 94040 and 94041 zip codes through Facebook, Los Altos Town Crier and Mountain View Voice.
- Outreach events such as a booth at Thursday Night Live downtown in August and at the Palo Alto Menlo Park Parents’ Club preschool fair, as well as two Messy Art playtimes with prospective students and parents.
- Focus on increasing revenue through events such as the May 2 Rummage Sale and soliciting funds for the Scholarship Fund for students who may need extra help accessing quality preschool.

### **2015 Goals**

- form a community comprising of both church and school families
- provide summer camp that dovetails into VBS
- increase community outreach with parent education events



For more information, see [www.sttimothypreschool.org](http://www.sttimothypreschool.org)

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## Covenant Groups

Covenant groups are an enduring network of small groups whose members support each other spiritually through the highs and lows of personal and community life. We have eight groups meeting weekly to share their lives and faith, study and pray. We use a Bible study format called the Look Book Took, written weekly by Scott Boding, Julie Nelson, and Anne Wilde.

All groups are open and delighted to welcome new people at any time. Please contact Anne Wilde at [AnneAerobic@aol.com](mailto:AnneAerobic@aol.com) for more information.

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## Marketing and Outreach

**Website:** The past two years have been spent upgrading and making the St. Timothy's website a more dynamic site for keeping our parish informed and for providing up-to-date information for newcomers and others who are looking for a church home.



We have moved our events to a Google Calendar that parishioners can link to their personal calendar and have put a link to current activities in an agenda format on the front page of the website. The worship server schedule is in a Google spreadsheet that is linked to the website so that a common current schedule can be accessed by staff, schedulers and servers.

This past summer, Shelly Hausman and Wyn Schuh redesigned the St. Timothy's Preschool website to give it a fresh new face. This new site reflects the newly energized preschool under the direction of Janet Kolstad. The St. Timothy's website was redesigned in a similar vein and launched at the beginning of Advent. Over the next year, the site will be maintained and improved to be a dynamic reflection of our parish life. Based on Google Analytics, 55% of the sessions on our site are new visitors showing that our site is reaching out to our community.



**Outreach:** For the first time, Debbie Kendra, Annett Trail, and the Tuesday morning covenant group, hosted an outreach event, "Advent Traditions." Newcomers were invited to make a wreath, learn about the tradition of Advent, and socialize over lunch. The turnout was high (40 people) and the interaction was lively as women shared their stories and family traditions.

- St. Tim's made 275 sandwich lunches for the Mt. View Relay for Life event's cancer survivors and supporters in May.
- St. Tim's families braved wet weather in December to attend the Books, Inc. Fundraiser. A portion of the night's proceeds came back to the preschool, netting more than \$500 for the school to use to purchase new children's books. St. Tim's parishioners and friends also purchased and donated nine new books, which proudly display donation labels on the inside front cover.

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## Stephen Ministry

This year, seven active Stephen Ministers served St. Timothy's parish community providing confidential Christian caregiving. They are Jenny Aviet, Gwen Bindon, Darlene Frick, Sue-Ellen Johnson, Kandace Klemba, Bill Shreve and Donna Yobbs.

Stephen Ministers meet as a group twice a month for supervision and continuing education. Our foci in continuing education in 2014 were developing deeper spirituality, extending Christian caregiving skills and learning missional leadership skills.

All Stephen Ministers served at the altar, administering the healing prayer after communion each Sunday. Information, and an invitation to contact Stephen Ministry for assistance, can be found on St. Tim's web site.

A person who is hurting, or who needs someone to listen to them, may be referred to Stephen Ministry, with their permission. They do not need to be a member of the parish. Call the church office, send a note to Stephen Ministry via [www.StTims.org](http://www.StTims.org), or phone Gwen Bindon (408-531-9808) or Bill Shreve (650-941-6436), Referrals Coordinators.

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## Altar Guild



2014 was a rich and rewarding year for the Altar Guild at St. Tim's with both continued traditions and practices (creative and beautiful wall hangings by the Sanctuary Arts team, "Flowering the Cross" at Easter, progressive Advent decorating), and new additions as well (installation of the Eternal Candle).

This year we were happy to celebrate seven baptisms, and a wedding at St. Tim's – a wonderful opportunity for the Altar and Flower Guild to provide extra services.

I am so proud of, and thankful for, our amazing team of dedicated people who contribute weekly, sometimes daily, to the work of the Altar Guild, Sanctuary Arts, and Flower Guild.

Our 2014 team members:

Altar Guild: Cindy Jarvis - Director, Darlene Frick, Melissa Malley, Althea Parks, Marguerite Williams, Donna Yobs, Nan Zender

Flower Guild: Julie Hansen - Lead, Nyna Dolby, Karin Dutra, Annett Trail, Elizabeth Winchell

Sanctuary Arts: Karin Dutra - Lead, Madeleine Gerdes, Sandy Watkins

Pole Bearers: Doug Dutra, Karin Dutra, Allan Grimes Cindy Jarvis, and Peter Samuel

2014 Altar Guild Highlights:

Jan / Feb / Mar – The progression from Epiphany to Lent included switching wall hangings and vestments twice; we again were able to support Father Ron’s “Ashes-to-Go” ministry on Ash Wednesday.

Apr / May / Jun– The services and decorations for Holy Week and Easter were wonderful, and our team did a terrific job of decorating the Sanctuary with beautiful flowers, palms and wall hangings. While last year’s Pentecost Sanctuary Art project was dazzling, Karin’s inspired new yellow-orange-red Pentecost wall hangings were a big hit! Everyone felt they were warm and welcoming, reaching out to invite the congregation into worship.

Jul / Aug / Sep / Oct – The summer flew by, and led us to the October Confirmation / Renewal / Reception service in which Bishop Mary presided.

Nov/Dec – We continued the tradition of performing a new phase of Advent decorating each week of the season, leading up to the big celebration on Christmas Eve with green garlands, poinsettias, Christmas trees, the crèche, and the Advent candle that families took turns lighting at each service during the Advent season.

- *Cindy Jarvis*

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## **Spiritual Care Service at El Camino Hospital**

In 1967, the Spiritual Care Service was formed at El Camino Hospital. Men and women from a variety of faith communities have walked alongside patients and their families during times of crisis, transition and change, providing encouragement, comfort and hope. Their caring presence and supportive attitudes provide spiritual, religious and practical resources. They honor and respect each person's beliefs, recognizing them as integral to the healing process.

The Reverend John Harrison is the Chaplain and Director of the Spiritual Care Service for both the Mountain View and the Los Gatos campuses. The volunteers visit patients every day of the week providing prayers, listening to concerns, and reaching out to show caring communication. The volunteers offer to pray with or for patients and their families according to their needs or requests.

St. Timothy’s has been active in this ministry for several years. Darlene Frick has been a Visitation Volunteer since 2009 and serves on the Executive Committee as the Orientation Supervisor for the past three years. She also visits the El Camino Hospital Cancer Center offering a spiritual resource for patients during their chemotherapy infusions. Chuck Utley, also since 2009, has served as a Visitation Volunteer visiting patients and bringing comfort whenever needed.

The Spiritual Care Department is currently in an active campaign to recruit new volunteers. If you have questions or can commit to one to two hours a week after your initial training, please contact Darlene Frick at [darlenefrick@yahoo.com](mailto:darlenefrick@yahoo.com).



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## Men's and Women's Retreats



The men held their retreat in May with the theme "Everything is Awesome: Discovering Your Intentional Difference."

Thirty-seven women gathered at Mt. Hermon Retreat Center for relaxation and rejuvenation and the 2014 retreat "Darkness into Light." The speaker was the Reverend Julie Nelson. The women shared stories, hugs, laughter and prayers. **The next retreat, "Recognizing God's Voice Amongst the Noise," will be held February 27-March 1.**

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## Grant Cuesta Rehabilitation Ministry

This St. Timothy's outreach ministry was created in 2009 in response to a request for a non-denominational service for patients at Grant Cuesta Rehabilitation Center. The 30 to 45 minute service was designed to serve about 20 patients and to include music and prayers selected to fit patients' needs. A "Celebration Leader" from St. Tim's directs each service, scheduled for the first and third Sundays of the month. The opening portion of St. Tim's 9:00 am service is used at Grant Cuesta via DVD and creates a church-like atmosphere for the patients in attendance.

Success of the Grant Cuesta Ministry can be measured by their continuing high interest in the Sunday services, which average 25 to 30 attendees. The real heroes of this ministry are the "Celebration Leaders" from St Timothy's who plan and present the Sunday services. We are all thankful to Madeleine Gerdes, Laura Casellas, Pam Roe and Jenny Aviet, who continue to provide the love and prayers and blessings that mean so much to the patients at Grant Cuesta. And we invite interested individuals from St. Tim's to inquire about participating in this wonderful ministry.

*Chuck Utley*

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## Santa Maria Urban Ministry

Santa Maria Urban Ministry (SMUM) has had a long and strong relationship with the St. Tim's community. SMUM is a social service agency under the umbrella of the Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real. It is located in downtown San Jose in the Washington neighborhood, one block away from the Vine St./Almaden exit from I-280. The Ministry serves more than 1500 people a month with its food pantry, clothing and small household items closet, education programs for people of all ages, tax preparation service and seasonal programs like the Christmas toy give-away and the backpack distribution in August.





The Community of Santa Maria Urban Ministry would like to thank the St. Tim's community for its many wonderful donations this past year:

- The proceeds (\$4265) from October's Viva Santa Maria Dinner and Auction have enabled SMUM to purchase sleeping bags, blankets, easy-to-open food items, hygiene kits and new socks and underwear for its increasing homeless population.
- On a weekly basis, I transport in my Forester (it is often filled to the brim!) donations left in the storage bin outside of Edwards Hall (across from the tool shed.)

- The Love Bucket – the big straw basket always in place by the front doors of our church – is often filled with canned and packaged food items. These are also collected on a weekly basis.
- With help from you, SMUM distributed Christmas presents and backpacks to over 400 children this year.

The SMUM community is very, very grateful for the generosity of so many people at St. Tim's. If you would like more information about the ministry and other ways to serve there, please contact Joanna Shreve at [jrshreve@aol.com](mailto:jrshreve@aol.com).

*Joanna Shreve, Treasurer and Volunteer*

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## Facilities Team

### Bathroom Remodel

The bathroom facing the courtyard was remodeled to enable people in wheelchairs to access the bathroom facilities.

### Walkway at the Front of the Church Property

The brick walkway between the church and the courtyard had become a safety issue because it was uneven and collected moss during the wet season making it slippery. In the fall of 2014, we had the bricks taken up, cleaned, treated to prevent moss collection, and re-laid with new base rock, etc., to ensure a level path.



### Painting and Roof Maintenance

We repaired a small leak in the roof near the "Youth Room" and did some repainting. We also had the walkway roofs refurbished and the sanctuary roof inspected, including the adding of some resurfacing in key places.

### Lighting in Edwards Hall and the Front Parking Lot

We replaced all of the light bulbs in Edwards Hall with brighter and more ecological LED lights. When the parking lot lights burned out on the tall pole on the island in the parking area at the front of the church, we made the decision to have those lights retrofitted with LED lights also.

This retrofit is, again, a good ecological move, and the lights will last at least three times longer than the previous lights. The lighting is whiter, which also provides better vision capabilities at night.

### **Heater for Edwards Hall and the Guild Room**

Our boiler that provides the heat for Edwards Hall and the Guild Room stopped working in early December. It is an old boiler, which has served us very well for a number of years. We were able to find a replacement part that has the heat up and running. However, it is clear to the Vestry that replacing our heating system is going to be a priority in the near future.

### **Gutter Repair on the Sanctuary Building**

During the December rains, it became apparent that the gutters on two sides of the sanctuary were in need of attention. The gutters are so old that some of the seams have opened up causing water to pour through the vents and lighting fixtures, rather than draining the water off the roof properly. Thankfully, there are no leaks inside the sanctuary. With the help of our Facilities Manager, Steve Swayze, we will be having these gutters repaired when we have a long enough dry spell that will enable the sealing of the seams to hold.

### **Routine Maintenance**

The routine maintenance is taken care of largely by our Facilities Manager, Steve Swayze, and other capable volunteers. Steve makes sure that the carpets get cleaned, that inspections take place that the appropriate repair people are called in, etc. He stripped and stained all of the classroom doors on the courtyard (with the help of some volunteers). We are very grateful for his commitment to maintaining our facilities so well. He can always use help. If you would like to offer your services, he may be contacted at [steve@sttims.org](mailto:steve@sttims.org).

*Joanna Shreve, Junior Warden*

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