



"Grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen."  
*Post-Communion Prayer, BCP.*

October 8, 2023

Dear St. Tim's Parishioners,

I am so deeply grateful to be with you in this community as St. Tim's Priest-in-Charge, and I'm excited to be kicking off our first stewardship campaign together! In reading your parish profile, I was drawn to this congregation because it was clear that you all are thoughtful and intentional in how you care for one another and the wider world – in liturgy that incorporates a wide variety of musical styles and invites children to gather around the table; in the Little Free Pantry and Compassion Week and plans to host the Lots of Love safe parking program again; in caring for the Earth both right here, with Lay Weeders, and more broadly, with the Creation Care Team; in Wednesday Night Dinners and Single Service Sunday Potlucks and coffee hour and all the ways people are fed and nourished here. In getting to know you over the last several months, I have found that care to be genuine and earnest, even amidst the challenges of life in Silicon Valley.

A lot has changed over the last few years, with clergy transitions on top of a global pandemic, and much of it hasn't been easy. Yet this parish has retained core commitments to showing up for one another and remaining open to the movement of the Holy Spirit. The heart of this place is steadfast and true, and we have many reasons to celebrate with overflowing gladness!

There are so many gifts that people offer in this congregation: time, energy, prayer, and financial contributions. Our Stewardship Campaign is about being intentional with our resources, and prayerfully considering how God is calling each of us to participate in the life of this community. I invite you to set aside some time in the coming month to consider the commitments on your time and to honestly assess your finances. Where might God be asking you to renew or stretch, to live faithfully and generously?

Your support is core to this congregation and what we are able to offer to the world. The majority of our budget comes from annual pledges, which pay for our common life together: staff salaries and medical benefits, upkeep of our grounds, musical resources, technology, and more. Moving forward with "gladness and singleness of heart" doesn't mean we all have the same opinions, but that we are all striving together, seeking to live out the love we have known and received in Christ. This stewardship drive, we ask that you consider making a commitment proportional to your income, so that we are all collectively reaching toward the goal of intentional giving. Whatever the amount, your contribution and generosity matter.

After you've listened and prayed about how you are called to share what you have, **please come ready to make your pledge at our In-Gathering Sunday on November 5th, as we celebrate the Feast of All Saints with a Single 10am Service and Parish Potluck.** Thank you for your love and faithfulness, and for your trust in the life-giving goodness of God.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nikky" with a small cross at the end.

The Rev. Nikky Wood, Priest-in-Charge

