

Envisioning 2019: Next Steps

At the end of July, we had congregational brainstorming session focused on what we wanted to do this next year. I asked people to put their names next to the ideas that they were most interested in and then I ranked those and published the top five in my August newsletter article. Here again are those top five:

- Walking Group
- Serve meal to homeless and whole community, including music
- Reading Group/Book Club
- Games, Cards, Bingo
- Distribute food, bring lunches to shelter

Last week three planning groups convened to begin to flesh out some of these ideas. The first group to meet were those people interested in forming a walking group. They considered many factors: places the group might go; what kind of publicity might be needed; whether a knowledgeable leader was desired; what supplies or snacks might be needed; how often to meet; and how the group would be led. This planning group was able to come to a fast consensus on most of these questions and has already set a date (11/10) for its first excursion. (See page 2 of this newsletter and fliers around the church.)

The second group discussed two related ideas of serving a meal to the whole community including people who are homeless and/or distributing food to people in need or at a shelter. This group had much to discuss as these ideas could be accomplished in many different ways. They considered how we are, through our service commission, already serving meals for I-HELP for Women, the Thomas Carman Food Pantry, and Dorothy's Place. They also discussed the other things that other churches and groups are doing in our community.

What got the most interest from the group was a plan to serve a community meal to all of our neighbors, no matter

who showed up. This might be people in need or people with plenty of food in their pantry. The main goal would be for us to form a deliberate connection with people in our neighborhood by sharing a meal and listening to music together. This Neighborhood Meal planning group has much more to discuss and plan and so they have set another planning meeting date: Sunday, October 21, at 1 PM. There were some people who could not attend the first meeting, and they would love the participation of others too.

The last planning group that met last week focused on creating a St. Timothy Book Club. This group, like the St. Tim Walkers was able to get fairly far along in their planning. They decided on the first book they would read together and also lifted up a number of other possible books to read. They decided to have a first orientation meeting on Sunday, October 14, following worship, so that meeting day/time and location could be settled. At that meeting they will also be able to review how the group will function and what makes for a good book club. So, if you are interested in this, please try to come on October 14, and if you cannot make that, please contact Carolyn Hawes.

What is exciting about each of these emphases is that they are deliberately focused on forming and deepening relationships within our congregation and, more importantly, beyond our walls. These are all activities that I hope we will be able to invite our neighbors, friends, and family members to come to, without them feeling that they have to join the church to do so.

That relates well to what we have been hearing in our current adult class about the future of the church and society. The future church will probably look different than the church we grew up in: less structured, more relational, less doctrinal
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St. Timothy's Treats and Treasures

PARKING LOT SALE

October 20, 2018
9:00am-2:00pm

Crafts, Antiques,
Baked Goods,
Fresh Produce, Cookbooks,
Housewares and More

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ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH FINANCES

August 2018	Actual	Budgeted	Diff
Income			
Offerings	\$9,998	\$10,002	(\$4)
Building Use	\$3,570	\$3,608	(\$38)
Faith Giving	\$400	\$708	(\$308)
Misc Income	\$1,114	\$500	\$614
Total Income	\$15,082	\$14,818	\$264
Expenses			
Loan Principal	\$623	\$623	\$0
August Net	(\$21)	(\$846)	\$825
<hr/>			
YTD 2018	Actual	Budgeted	Diff
Income			
Offerings	\$81,440	\$80,043	\$1,397
Building Use	\$29,027	\$28,867	\$160
Faith Giving	\$4,767	\$5,667	(\$900)
Misc Income	\$4,987	\$4,000	\$987
Total Income	\$120,221	\$118,577	\$1,644
Expenses			
Loan Principal	\$4,899	\$4,899	\$0
YTD Net	(\$6,176)	(\$8,302)	\$2,126

ly focused, more growth and learning happening through mutual support and discussion.

If any of this has caught your interest, I hope you will be able to attend one or more of the upcoming gatherings. In the near future, I also hope that we will be able to consider more of the ideas that were raised in our forum. It's all about how we can connect more deeply with our community. As I said in the August newsletter: "All of this work is the true work of stewardship: offering our interests, our gifts, and our resources for God's work in this place and time."

In the Grace and Peace of Christ,
Pastor Clark

SERVICE COMMISSION

We are planning ahead. I-Help is set for October. The next dates are Nov.7th and Dec.5th. You may sign up in the narthex.

Watch for ELC A Good Gifts catalogs and then for Advent calendars and an unusually decorated Advent tree.

Thanks for all the food pantry donations, but please **don't bring any more egg cartons**. We have enough for now.

Your Service Commission



MAGNIFICENT Marina Meander

**Saturday Nov 10th
9 am until about 12**

Goodwill Culinary Arts Program lot

Imjin Pkwy and 3rd Ave, Marina 93933

Call Dave at 858 243-3797 if lost! Real rain cancels!

St Tim's Walkers and Friends can expect to.....

See a Community Garden, pet a horse, walk across the world's largest unused parking lot, walk part of the home course of the 2016 women's collegiate disc (don't say Frisbee!) national champions, see two colleges, pass urban blight and perhaps discuss it, see several chapels, cross over and then under a former busy rail line, pass targets and Target, see the site of a former hoppin' military club before the ocean had other plans, pass and maybe pull invasive plants, see homeless encampments and maybe discuss that challenging social issue, visit the beach (optional), see an aquifer purification plant and consider our local water issues, and more! 3.8 nearly flat miles! Breathe fresh air, get fit!

Bring sturdy shoes, as we will be walking on pavement, gravel, and sand. Remember water, maybe a snack, and consider bringing a friend! Plenty of lunch options at the end if you choose!



REFORMATION DINNER

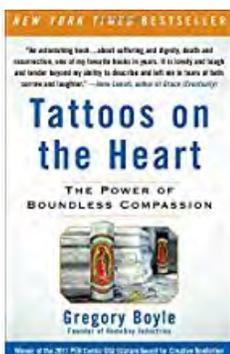
On October 28th a family style dinner is planned at Stammtisch Restaurant in Seaside. We will be gathering at 5:00pm to feast on roast beef, schnitzel, sausage, red cabbage, home potatoes, spätzle, sauerkraut and German bread and butter. The cost is \$30.00 a person. A signup sheet in the Narthex. Hope to see you there.

1204 Echo Ave
Seaside, CA 93955
Phone: 831 899-3070

Stammtisch
German Restaurant & Heustadel



Go to: <http://spselca.org/>
and scroll down to subscribe to the ELCA
Newsletter to keep current with what is going on .



ST. TIMOTHY BOOK CLUB

St. Timothy is forming a book club. If you are interested in joining this group, an orientation meeting is planned for **October 14 at 11:30am**. The book chosen for discussion in November is *Tattoos on the Heart* written by Gregory Boyle.

For twenty years, Gregory Boyle has run Homeboy Industries, a gang-intervention program located in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles, the gang capital of the world. In *Tattoos on the Heart*, he distills his experience working in the ghetto into a breathtaking series of parables inspired by faith.



NEIGHBORHOOD MEALS

A meeting to discuss organizing meals, including music, and inviting St. Timothy's neighbors and friends is planned for **October 21st after Worship Service**.



PRAYER VENTURES October 2018

- 1** Give thanks for our elders who share wisdom and inspiration, pass their faith on to others and contribute so much to our communities; pray we continue to engage daily the wisdom and gifts of our elders, are attentive to the needs of people as they age and work to ensure no elder is neglected or forgotten.
- 2** Give thanks for the faith, gifts and service of people of all gender identities and gender expressions, and pray our congregations and communities are welcoming and affirming safe places for everyone to thrive.
- 3** Pray for situations and people who are on your mind today, be they cause for celebration and joy or concern and healing.
- 4** *Feast of St. Francis* Pray the behaviors and values we learn from our redeemer, teacher and true example – Jesus Christ – are evident in our faith and daily life with respect to our neighbors, all living things and creation: simplicity and humility, respect and justice, compassion and love, and selfless generosity.
- 5** National Disability Employment Awareness Month reminds us that while our society and work places are making progress, they are not yet free of discrimination and obstacles for those who live with physical, sensory, intellectual, mental and developmental disabilities. Trusting in God's mercy and wisdom, pray we are advocates and agents for change that all God's people – with a wide spectrum of abilities and gifts – have equal opportunities for appropriate, equitable and supportive employment.
- 6** We remember people, communities and regions affected by recent flooding and widespread wildfires and pray for their safety, recovery and rekindling of hope and fortitude in the wake of devastation and loss.
- 7** Pray we work diligently to change our perspectives, behaviors and practices that make assumptions based on traditional roles or bias, undervalue or ignore the value and gifts of women and children in the church and society.
- 8** Pray for victims of domestic violence and all those it impacts, asking for protection and healing and that congregations and communities work together to care for victims, prevent violence and change attitudes, values, culture and institutions that – intentionally or unintentionally – encourage, hide or brush aside domestic violence.
- 9** The story of creation in Genesis imparts a sense of importance and purpose for relationships and community. Give thanks for relationships and communities that provide support, encouragement, hope and joy, and hold us accountable to one another; ask God to help us rebuild relationships that are strained or broken and to grant us wisdom and patience for working through conflicts in our communities and congregations.
- 10** Pray the bounty of fall harvests is distributed fairly and helps feed the world; give thanks for all those who work farms, ranches, fields and fisheries, and remember and give thanks for the countless people involved in moving our food from field to table.
- 11** Churchwide and synodical networks help connect people, organizations and resources for God's work in the world. Pray the Spirit is at work in and through our networks to equip and support leaders, gather new gifts and perspectives, and strengthen congregations and ministries to meet new and evolving challenges and opportunities.
- 12** Give praise and glory to God, creator of the universe and its mysteries, humanity in all its diversity, animals and wildlife, and the wonders and resources of earth that both inspire and sustain us.
- 13** Give thanks for the rich partnership and relationship we have with the Moravian Church in America, a full communion partner with the ELCA since 1999. Pray for the Moravian church and ask God to further our respect for one another and work together sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor.
- 14** Pray we grow to value what God values, even when it stirs discomfort or defiance in us.
- 15** Ask God to bless the numerous ways in which our congregations, ministries, members, synods, churchwide programs, organizations and ecumenical partners work together to care for our neighbors and spread the good news and hope of Jesus Christ.
- 16** Discouraged by life's challenges, the state of the world, the presence of evil and injustice? Finding it difficult to wake up in the morning and face life? Pray for reassurance of God's compassion, presence and power, and for the Holy Spirit to refresh

our faith and hope.

17 Give thanks to God for the concern and generosity of youth, individuals and congregations in achieving the \$515,000 goal of the Global Farm Challenge – the youth-driven fundraising challenge to help end hunger and poverty by supporting ELCA World Hunger’s agricultural programs and equipping communities around the world with livestock, seeds, tools, training and more.

18 Pray for leaders, volunteers and resource people serving on the staffs of our 65 synods; give thanks for their service and gifts, and pray the Holy Spirit will guide, inspire and sustain them for ministry in diverse and unique contexts.

19 With our every human thought and intention laid bare before God, pray for God’s mercy and grace promised through the life, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

20 Remember in prayer ELCA missionaries and those in the Young Adults in Global Mission program accompanying and serving in a variety of roles alongside our companions in Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and South Korea.

21 The ELCA and The Episcopal Church are committed to prayer, fasting and advocacy addressing cuts to public programs that are vital to hungry people who are living in poverty. Remember to pray for these concerns, our leaders and people in need on the 21st of each month through December 2018.

22 As children of God – disciples and followers of Christ – pray for humility, accepting that we are not granted privilege, praise or reward for being members of the body of Christ but are instead called to lives of service, sacrifice and witness for the sake of the world and our neighbors in need.

23 Pray for those who are running for public office and upcoming elections that what we stand for and decide reflects concern for the well-being of all communities and people, justice and care for people dealing with poverty, hunger and the need for health care; give thanks for the work of the ELCA Advocacy program, the ELCAvotes initiative and all those who have joined in these efforts.

24 Give thanks for the fruitful service and witness of our church in accompaniment with our brothers and sisters in Christ and companion churches around the world and for the programs, mission opportunities and resources of ELCA Global Mission that enrich these global partnerships and ministries.

25 With joyful hearts, give loud thanks and praise to God for the gifts of mercy, love and salvation we receive through faith in Jesus Christ.

26 Pray for the continuing work, resources and influence of the ELCA’s Book of Faith Initiative that encourages members of all ages, congregations and synods to explore our book of faith – the Bible – through reading, study, conversation and prayer.

27 Remember in prayer the Deaconess Community of the ELCA, a community of women – of all ages – using their theological training and gifts in specific areas of service in congregations, partner organizations, communities and the world.

28 *Reformation Sunday* Rejoice in God’s promise of the true freedom we have in the good news of Jesus Christ, that nothing stands between us and God’s love and mercy – no institution, authority or human decree.

29 Give thanks for the healing, hope and new life we have through the gift of being justified by faith in Jesus Christ and liberated from our sins, weaknesses and consequences of our human imperfection.

30 Pray that as a publicly engaged church we remember and remind one another of our call to participate in God’s work, in the thick of life, embracing individuals, families and communities that are hungry for hope and healing, justice and peace.

31 *Reformation Day* Give thanks for Martin Luther and other leaders of the reform movement who immersed themselves in prayerful study of Scripture, tough questions, lively discussion and careful discernment of God’s will for the church and our baptismal journey as children of God; pray we are open and responsive to how the Holy Spirit is still at work in us and the church today.

October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 I-Help 5:30pm	4 Christ in Our Home Noon	5	6
7 Worship Service 10:00am Blessing of the Animals	8	9 Altar Guild 1:00pm Service 3:45pm	10	11 Property Committee 9:30am Christ in Our Home Noon	12	13
14 Worship Service 10:00am Bookclub Meeting 11:30	15	16 Food Bank 4-7pm	17	18 Christ in Our Home Noon	19	20 Parking Lot Sale 9:00-2:00pm
21 Worship Service 10:00am Neighborhood Meals Meeting	22	23 Dagny Circle 1:00pm	24 Council Meeting 3:00pm	25 Christ in Our Home Noon	26	27 Men's Breakfast 8:30am Workday
28 Reformation Sunday Worship Service 10:00am Stammtisch Dinner 5:00pm	29	30	31			



Cathryn Chinn 10/14

Thomas Barber 10/23

Cheryl Plaskett 10/23

Nancy Opsata 10/25



Ross & Mary Lee Slater 10/29

GRAPE NUTS OATMEAL CRANBERRY COOKIES

There have been many requests for Marilyn Gibfried's cookie recipe. It can be found in the St. Timothy cookbook "Come to the Feast" page 93. Which is still available for purchase for \$10.00.