

Ka Leo o Timoteo

The voice of St. Timothy's

Thoughts of St. Francis

“Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.” (Hebrews 12:1)

Beloved in Christ,

The season has now turned to Fall and it's already the month of October. The COVID-19 Delta variant surge our state experienced in August and early September seems to be behind us. Although in this pandemic, are we ever sure of anything anymore? I've been on active duty with the National Guard for 3 months and the mission has been extended through the end of the calendar year. I miss my St. Timothy's family! I realize that even though I am with you sacramentally on Sundays, I am missing so much of the day-to-day routine of our congregational life. I feel like I'm on Mr. Toad's Wild Ride—grab on tight, for you're in for quite a ride! Given these realities, we do well to remember to breathe...to make choices that support sanity...to pace ourselves.

It seems fitting that The Feast of St. Francis on October 7 serves as a doorway to the Fall and all that follows. The Francis we've come to know did not begin life that way. Like many of the young men he ran with during his youth, he was more interested in partying than attending to his father's business. Ask Francis what he wanted to be when he grew up, his answer would have been “a knight.” In the age of the Crusades, boys were captivated by the weapons, the armor, and the lure of winning a glorious name on the battlefield, and Francis was no exception. But his first real taste of war left a dramatic impression and caused him to wonder if he had made the right choice. After his release from military service, he had a dream in which Christ seemed to be calling him back to the battlefield as a soldier in the pope's army, so he procured a horse and new armor, and set off for Rome. But while he was still on his way, a second dream clarified the first. Christ was calling him back home, to a future that was yet to be revealed. The next morning, he mounted his horse and turned it toward home.

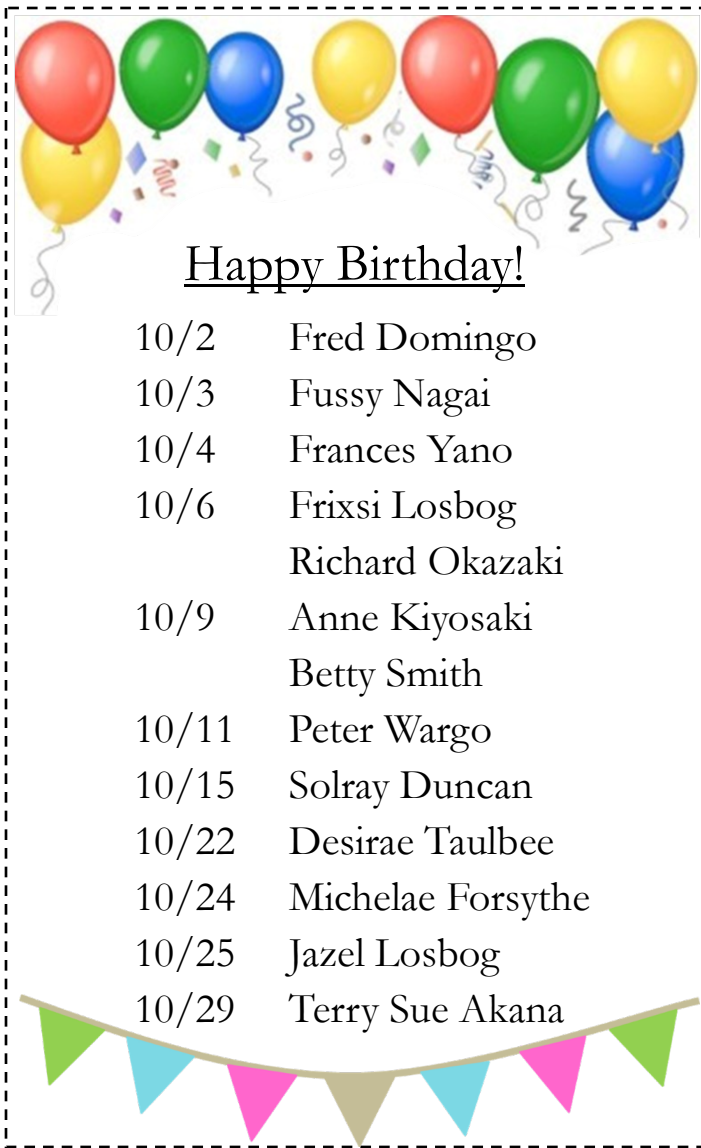
Outside the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi, a large sculpture captures that moment of turning. There sits Francis, the would-be knight, still arrayed in his battle armor, slumped down in his saddle, his head and that of his horse, too, drooping, their spirits dejected and downcast. His dream of glory has died, and he is headed back to an uncertain future. The introspection that followed changed the trajectory of his life. He renounced his wealth and became “wedded to Lady Poverty.” Francis has become known around the world for his humility in relying on the power of God, for his spirit of gladness and gratitude for all of God's creation, and for his compassion for the poor and outcast of the world.



Franciscan spirituality has always been about both action and contemplation. St. Francis proclaimed the gospel of compassion and care for creation while being in solidarity to the poor. He also spent months in the mountains and forests about Assisi praying in deep contemplation. I don't think I need to go off to the mountains and forests to pray alone, but I do need to hear Francis' voice calling me back to center; pointing me to the Christ who promises rest for all this struggling, burdened world. The issues and challenges facing our friends, neighbors, families, and our nation and world won't go away on October 7—but the spirit and the groundedness with which we engage them might change. At least, that's my hope. The Franciscan way of living is to live knowing that all of creation is the place to encounter God. The world is full of signs of God's presence. May we listen to the voice of Brother Sun and Sister Moon and find it our joy to love and serve the Lord.

Blessings,

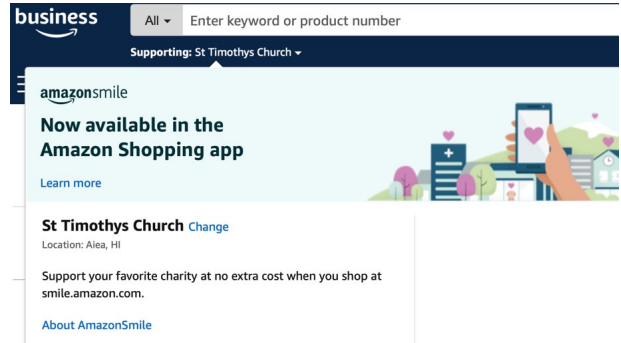
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Happy Birthday!

- 10/2 Fred Domingo
- 10/3 Fussy Nagai
- 10/4 Frances Yano
- 10/6 Frixi Losbog
Richard Okazaki
- 10/9 Anne Kiyosaki
Betty Smith
- 10/11 Peter Wargo
- 10/15 Solray Duncan
- 10/22 Desirae Taulbee
- 10/24 Michelae Forsythe
- 10/25 Jazel Losbog
- 10/29 Terry Sue Akana

Amazon Smile



If you shop on Amazon, you may have seen the “ads” for smile.amazon. However, you may not have checked it out. Well, it’s a great way to make small donations over a period of time to your favorite charities. Amazon has committed to donating 0.5% of all eligible purchases to charities their customers designate. It doesn’t cost the buyer anything to take advantage of Amazon’s donation. Your Amazon account is the same, all the security and purchase procedures are the same, and there are no surcharges. St. Timothy’s office and several of our congregants use the smile.amazon.com site, and with just those few accounts, STEC has received \$50-\$250 over the last 3 years. As with many things, the more the merrier, so please consider using Amazon Smile.

To get started, just type smile.amazon.com into your browser. You can then sign in to your Amazon account and search for “St. Timothy’s Church Aiea” to select our church as your charity of choice. Thank you so very much for your consideration. It’s such an easy way for St. Tim’s to fund our operations. If you have any questions, please call the church office.



Adult Formation:

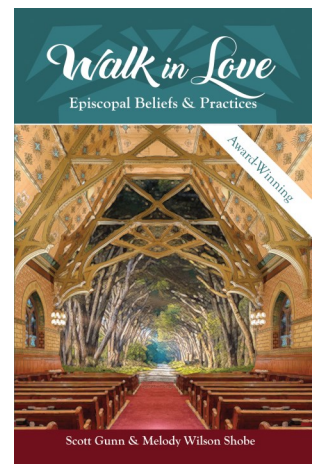
On October 6 at 7pm, we will be continuing our Adult Formation class on Zoom. We are reading chapters from *Walk in Love*, by Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson Shobe. This course takes us on a journey through *The Book of Common Prayer*, the Christian life, and basic beliefs of our faith and covers topic such as the liturgical year, the sacraments of the church, habits of daily prayer, and the teachings of Anglican Christianity. See how our prayer shapes our belief and our lives and how our beliefs lead us into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

Even though we pray the words of *The Book of Common Prayer* each week, many of us don’t know where these prayers come from, what they mean, or how they call us to live daily lives of faith. Each week, participants will gather for a short lecture on one section of *The Book of Common Prayer*, exploring what each liturgy says and how it is typically used in our communities.

Classes run each week and you can drop in any time. See the “Grow” tab of our St. Timothy’s Website: <https://www.sttimothysaiea.org/grow> for more information.

Class Schedule:

- 10/6 Chapter 4 A Wonderful Sacrament: Eucharistic Beliefs
- 10/13 Chapter 5 Be Known to Us in the Breaking of Bread: Eucharistic Practice
- 10/20 Chapter 6 Grow in Grace Through the Years: Confirmation and Marriage
- 10/27 Break
- 11/3 Chapter 7 Both in Mind and Body: Confession and Healing
- 11/10 Chapter 8 For the Benefit of Your Holy Church: Ordination



My Grateful Heart Story

by Jana Dove

Hello everyone. During this stewardship campaign, I was asked to speak to the theme of A Grateful Heart. Mine is indeed grateful, and I hope you enjoy my story.

One Sunday morning when I was twelve, my dad woke us up and said, “I’m going to church. Who wants to go?” Well, up to that point, as a family, we never went to church, nor did we talk about church, God, Jesus, or the Bible. So, at the age of 12, I learned my dad was raised in the Episcopal Church, I was baptized into Christianity, and confirmed into the Episcopal Church. Like most kids at the time, I attended EYC, junior choir, and my parents hauled all 8 of us to weekly Sunday services.

When I was 19, the Episcopal Church had gone through some major changes, most of which I did not understand and so I resisted them. I used those changes as an excuse to drop out of church for nearly 45 years. Funny, I’ve always said 30 or 35 ... but last night I did the math. I left the Episcopal Church for 45 years. Seriously, 45 years!

Then in 2013, my parents died within 9 weeks apart and my father-in-law died 4 months after they did. I was bereft. And I spent months of soul searching – mostly focused on how to honor my parents now that I had lost them.

In Fall of 2014, one Saturday, my good friend Bette Kalohi called to say “I am going to St. Tim’s tomorrow. Come go with me.” I said “okay, see you at 0730”. This may have been the most influential invitation of my life. As I walked into the church courtyard, I had this feeling of being grounded – solidly home. Strangers walked up to introduce themselves, the greeter hugged my neck and gave me a kukui nut lei. And at fellowship, a raft of people stopped by. What I remember most was that so many had J-names: Joanne, Jeanne, Jeannie, Jean, Janet, Jane. As a Jana, I thought this was God giving me one more “thumbs up” on St. Tim’s.

From Day 1, I reconnected with the 21st Century Episcopal Church and its core values. Those values aligned with my personal core values – joy, love, peace, acceptance, inclusivity, forgiveness, joy. I connected with the people of St. Tim’s because they -you- live those values. I see it in your faces, in your ministries, in your devotion to St. Tim’s.

Yes, my heart is grateful. I have received so much joy and love from St. Tim’s. I devote my time, my accounting skills, and my pledge – not as repayment – but as “paying it forward”. I do this so St. Timothy’s remains a home for all of us, and those yet to come – people like me who need a faith-home.

As I wrap this up, I hope my story will encourage you all to review your stories – how has the Episcopal Church and St. Timothy’s influenced your lives. How can you “pay it forward” for those yet to come?



ANNUAL PLEDGE CAMPAIGN: “Every Perfect Gift” is underway! Our annual pledge campaign runs Sept 12- Nov 14. We thank our “Gratitude Speakers” for their participation in making this year’s campaign. You may turn in your pledge cards by mail or by placing them in the offering plate. All pledges will be gathered together and offered in prayer on Nov 14. Questions? See Louis Robison, Stewardship Chair.

Every Perfect Gift



From the Bishop's Warden

The Gift of Talent

“Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above...” James 1:17, NRSV

Dear St. Timothy's 'Ohana,

Every message about our pledge campaign begins with Gratitude, and I am so very grateful for all the ways that this community has met the challenges of this year and found common ways to share a community of love and joy with our neighbors. Thank you.

Our campaign theme this year is about Every Perfect Gift and it reminds us how everything that we receive and everything we give comes from God. In Fr. Dan's letter to us at the start of the campaign, he focused our attention on the gift of Time in the trifacta of Time, Talent, and Treasure. I would like to highlight the gift of Talent.

Talents, the blessings with which we are imbued by our Creator, are even more beautiful when they are freely given, as I have seen you do so often in our life together. Talents are a double gift – by Grace you have received them, by Grace and you generously share them.

“Well I am not talented! What can I give?” some might say. But you are, each of you, wonderfully gifted. The pandemic has affected much of how we do things at St. Timothy's and limited some of the ways we offer our God given talent. However, we have so many opportunities for varied talents! Just look at the adjacent page and see if any of those ministries are ways you can share your individual skills.

I have appreciated your talent in the way you give your wisdom, counsel, and experience to our committees, and guilds! We see it manifest in the way you raise your families and teach your children and grandchildren to be loving! You have stepped up with willing hearts for the church BBQ. I have tasted your talent in our potlucks and at coffee hour (they will be back!) Each of you has something you do well, and I am grateful that you share those talents with our community and our neighbors.

As you receive your pledge materials this year, and learn more about Every Perfect Gift, please know that your guidance and support are deeply appreciated by me and by this community. I thank you for sharing your gifts with us.

Jane Murakami

Bishop's Warden

Sharing our Talents- Opportunities for Varied Ministries:

Put your gifts to work in the Church and the Community! When it comes to offering up our talent, we have a number of ministries designed to help members and visitors put their faith into action through a variety of opportunities. The mission is to help engage individuals and groups through service to each other and the larger community. Explore opportunities to serve, learn, grow, and care for each other as a church family and the wider community around us.

- * **Acolytes** - adults and youth in 4th grade (age 10) and older can serve as Acolytes at St. Timothy's. Acolytes help during the Sunday morning worship services by participating in a variety of duties, including carrying the cross in procession (crucifer), and carrying the gospel book (gospeller). They also assist the celebrant in preparing the Altar for the Eucharist. All youth from age 10 are encouraged to serve as acolytes, and trainings are held as needed.
- * **Aloha Ambassadors** - greeters welcome all attendees, and offer additional information to help visitors feel welcome. You can greet at that doors of the church and around campus before and after church. The time commitment is approximately 30 minutes.
- * **Altar Guild** - part of a team that cares for the candles, linens, and sacred vessels used in worship as well as prepare the sanctuary for worship.
- * **Bookkeeper** - someone who can help St. Timothy's with our QuickBooks, Accounts Payable, and Accounts Receivable, among other financial things.
- * **Campus Menehune** (Grounds Keeping) - helping to keep our campus looking beautiful and welcoming: mowing grass, trimming hedges, weeding and weed whacking.
- * **Counters** - assists in counting and recording the Sunday Offerings.
- * **Directory/Database Volunteer** - we ask for updates to parishioners' contact information. A person skilled at database entry, and who's willing to be trained on our system, volunteers to enter updates during weekday office hours.
- * **Lay Eucharistic Ministers** - Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs) are confirmed parishioners who administer the chalice during communion at the Sunday services. They serve on a rotating schedule, and training is required.
- * **Lectors or Lay Readers** - they are parishioners (adults or youth) who read the scriptural lessons or lead the Prayers of the People at the Sunday services. Lectors serve on a rotating basis, and training is required.
- * **Live worship operator** - helps ensure that the live stream is running smoothly.
- * **Newsletter/Communications** - creates and maintains the website, weekly email, social media, newsletter, and signs.
- * **Outreach Cooking** - part of a team that prepares, cooks, and serves the hot meal on Dinner with Friends Tuesdays.
- * **Outreach Foodbank** - part of a team that shops at the Hawaii Foodbank for items used in our Outreach meal program.
- * **Outreach Pantry** - part of a team that helps to organize, prepare, and distribute supplemental food bags on Tuesdays.
- * **Photography** - takes photos of Church events for the newsletter, archives, and web page.
- * **Sanctuary Greenery** - maintains and moves greenery in and out of the sanctuary for worship services.
- * **Sunday post-service campus close up** - someone who can check to make sure the campus is secured after Sunday activities.
- * **Sunday School** - you're more than a voice for a child, you're an advocate. As a volunteer in the Children's Ministry, you inspire the next generation. Teach the Bible lesson to children of the church. You and other adults will instruct on Sundays.
- * **Ushers** - part of a team, rotating throughout the year. Some of the duties include greeting churchgoers as they arrive, helping to orient guests and newcomers to our church, handing out the bulletins, assisting with seating, recording service attendance and answering questions. Ushers can also serve at special services during holidays, holy days, and funerals.

Please contact the church office if any of these volunteer opportunities appeal to you. We would love to have you join one of our ministries.



Every Perfect Gift



From Stewardship Committee Chair

The Gift of Treasure

“Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above...” James 1:17, NRSV

Dear St. Timothy’s ‘Ohana,

Our theme this year, Every Perfect Gift, highlights all the ways in which we have been blessed by God and how that inspires us to give back to our neighbors, our church, the world. I am pleased to continue the messages you have received from Fr. Dan, our Vicar, and Jane, Bishop’s Warden, recently as we focus once again on the annual campaign. In my message to you, I want to focus on our gifts of Treasure, the financial gifts that we make to our community to support our mission.

This year has been so different from other years in terms of what has been asked of us as individuals and as a community. I want you to know, because I have heard your stories and walked with you this year, that I know some of us are struggling with finances, with isolation, with uncertainty. Over and over again, I learn that it is the God we encounter at our church and Jesus who we follow by recognizing him in each other, that keep us together, that provide the consistency in a shifting world.

Every dollar that we raise has a face behind it, a story, a purpose, a mission! We use our financial gifts to serve God, to care for each other, and to show our love for our neighbors. What greater gift can there be? I am grateful for how each of you supports our ministry in our community.

If you are ever in doubt about the impact of your giving, look about you. Whether you have seen your church family through a screen this year or in pews as we have been allowed, every person you see is part of the story of your giving. As you consider making your gift or your intention to give this year, I ask that you also consider how you have been impacted, and how you will impact this church and our neighbors. What is the story of your gift, how will it unfold? How will your blessing be a blessing to others? This is the spirit behind our theme of Every Perfect Gift.

This year I invite you to make your perfect gift, reflective of the gifts you have received from our Creator.

Louis Robison

Stewardship Chair

My Grateful Heart Story

by David Caldwell

As I prepared to organize my thoughts on what God might be calling me to say to the congregation a few weeks ago, I remembered that Louis had mentioned that he had asked me to speak, in part because he knew that I was a regular participant of the Wed. morning Bible study. So, I decided to let the scripture readings for that Sunday be my guide. As it happened, we were reading from the Letter of James, and the very first sentence of the reading was as follows:

“Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.”

As someone who had spent over two decades being a teacher of religion at ‘Iolani School, and who felt that God had called me to that role, and who had encouraged others to teach, I didn’t quite know what to make of that piece of advice from James. But as I pressed on, I landed on a metaphor that stirred my thoughts,

“...look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs.”

James, of course, was speaking of the need to bridle the tongue, but I recognized those winds as all the ways the world beyond the church can buffet my own interests and desires, and entice me into paths that are not always Christ-centered. It is through my spiritual family here at St Timothy’s, through corporate worship, personal dialogue, and bible study that I am able to find direction and meaning in my own life. It does take some discipline on my part, but as Jesus tells us in Matthew, “...my yoke is not heavy and my burden is light.”

And suddenly, I remembered Esma, one of my religion students from long ago, a young Muslim girl who was one of my best students, always engaged in the class, and only too willing share her own faith story when appropriate. As it happened, one day, we had been discussing the story of Jacob’s ladder, where Jacob as a young man has had to leave his own family, setting out on a journey to find his uncle. And, as he slept, he had a vision of a ladder reaching from the stone upon which he rested his head, reaching up to very portal of heaven, with heavenly host ascending and descending upon it. When he awoke, he pledged that if God would help him prosper, he would give 10% of all that he had to God, hence the beginning of the tithe.

As class ended, I felt pretty good about the lesson. Then Esma came up to me as she was leaving, and simply said, “You know Mr. Caldwell, Muslims give 2-1/2% to God.” And I responded, “Yes, of course, but it is a bit like apples and oranges, because Muslims are offering 2-1/2% of their entire wealth, whereas Christians are basing their giving on their anticipated income for the coming year.” She got a big smile on her face, and confirmed what I had said. “Exactly right!” And then she hesitated at my desk, and I could see she wanted to share more, so I asked her, “Esma, how does that work in your family? Do your parents just sit down and make their best guesstimate as to what they are worth?” “Oh no, Mr. Caldwell, it’s not like that at all. My Dad, is determined to get it right, almost like one of those gymnasts who goes off the bars or over the vault and wants to stick the landing, he really wants to nail it. He goes around the house taking an inventory of everything, even looking up the blue book value of our cars. And he turns it into a game for me and my brother, so we go to our rooms and work out the value of our things. Mr. Caldwell, he even makes me take out my Hawaiian gold jewelry so he can weigh it to get an accurate value of it based on current prices.”

And, as Esma was sharing all this with me, I could see the joy and pride she was feeling based on her father’s simple act of giving. It was an act of piety. And I took away two things from that encounter. First, I realized that the giving of alms, faith-based giving, is a thread that binds people of faith together the wide world over. And, secondly, I was left hoping that someone, someday might remember me as Esma remembered her Dad, as someone who gave prayerfully, generously, and joyfully for all the blessings God has bestowed on me.

I have also come to realize that while there are many ways to share our time, talent and treasure in God’s cause, the church has a need to develop a budget in order to make plans for the coming year, and in that sense, our giving is like the small rudder that James spoke of, for it allows us to faithfully be directed to fulfill our mission to serve all God’s people in ways big and small.

In closing, I just want to leave you with the words of a 19th century spiritual hymn, that says “We are, climbing, Jacob’s ladder. We are, climbing, Jacob’s ladder. We are, climbing, higher and higher, soldiers of the cross.” And in the words of James, “Every generous act of giving, every good and perfect gift, is from above, from the Father of Lights, in whom there is no variableness, neither shadow due to change.” Amen

ST. TIMOTHY'S
Episcopal
CHURCH



COMMUNICATIONS SURVEY

St Timothy's needs your help to improve communications between the church and the church community. Please assist us in identifying ways in which to better communicate by completing the questions listed below and returning this survey. In order to prevent duplication, please complete only one survey per family.

Once you've completed the survey please either leave it in the wire basket on the black table, mail back to the church office, or take a picture of it with your phone and email to: office@sttimothysaiea.org.

Name (Optional): _____

Number of family members attending St. Timothy's: _____

I. What is your preferred method of receiving and sending church communications?
(Mark before the circle associated with your preferred method – if more than one, place a number before the circles to identify priority, e.g., 1,2 3 etc.)

- Email.
- US Mail.
- Text Message.
- Cell Phone.
- Home Phone.
- ZOOM.
- SKYPE.
- Twitter.
- Other (please list recommendation/s): _____

II. What is your preferred method of making contributions to the church?
(Mark before the circle associated with your preferred method – if more than one, place a number before the circles to identify priority, e.g., 1,2 3 etc.)

- Tithe intention through paper pledge.
- Offering at live church service.
- Donation online through St Timothy's web page.
- Designate St Timothy's as a legal beneficiary (e.g., will, life insurance, etc.).
- Other (please list recommendation/s): _____

III. Do you have any additional suggestions/recommendations?

St. Francis of Assisi

On October 4, The Episcopal Church celebrates the feast day of Francis of Assisi, an Italian friar, beloved saint, and one of the most venerated individuals in Christian history. He founded the Franciscan Order for men, the Order of Saint Clare for women, and he is also widely known for his love of nature and animals.

Perhaps the most famous prayer attributed to St. Francis is:

*Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
where there is hatred, let us sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light; and
where there is sadness, joy.
Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.*



But did you know St. Francis is also credited with these inspiring and challenging quotes?

- *Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible.*
- *If you have men who will exclude any of God's creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men.*
- *While you are proclaiming peace with your lips, be careful to have it even more fully in your heart.*
- *All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle.*
- *A single sunbeam is enough to drive away many shadows.*

Collect for the Feast of St. Francis:

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

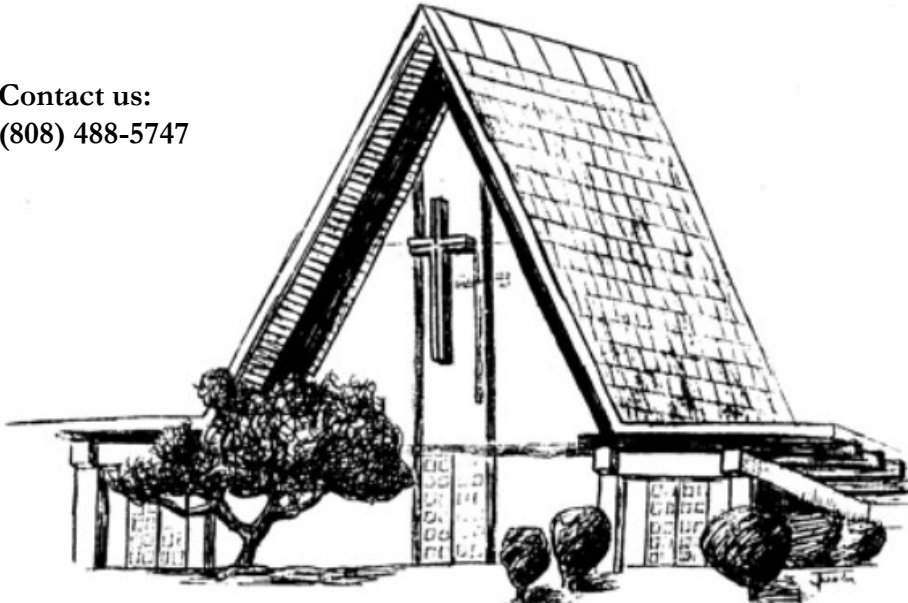


ST. TIMOTHY'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
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'Aiea, HI 96701-5012

Contact us:
(808) 488-5747



From St. Timothy's archives

St. Timothy's Events

Classes, Meetings, & Services

Sunday

8:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist Rite II
(in person and live streamed)

10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist Rite II
(in person and live streamed)

Wednesday

11:00 a.m. - Bible Study
(online only)

6:00 p.m. - Evening Prayer
(live streamed only)

7:00 p.m. - Adult Formation
(online only)

Calendar Highlights

October

3 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

5 Outreach Pantry

10 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Bishop's Visit

12 Outreach Pantry & Dinner

17 Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
Bishop's Committee Meeting

19 Outreach Pantry

22-23 Diocesan Convention

24 Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

26 Outreach Pantry & Dinner

31 Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost