

# Ka Leo o Timoteo

The voice of St. Timothy's

## Every Perfect Gift

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

St. Timothy's 'Ohana,

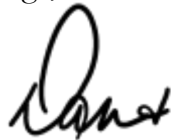
Every pledge campaign begins with Gratitude, and that is how I want to begin my message to you as we begin our Annual Campaign this year. Over the past year, I am inspired by your generosity – by your faithfulness and commitment to St. Timothy's, by the single acts of love and kindness, and by the seen and unseen work you have done in the service of God and our church community. Thank you, I cannot say it enough.

Our pledge campaign this year focuses on our gifts; not just on the things we wrap with paper and bows, nor the things we put in envelopes or give from our bank accounts, but all of the gifts that we give throughout the year. We frequently talk about the three-legged stool of Time, Talent, and Treasure when we discuss our gifts, without really focusing on the power of each of those elements. I am grateful and aware of the ways in which you have given all three, and today I want to focus on your time.

Time, they say, is the greatest gift, because it is a gift that we cannot replace. When we give of our treasure or our talent, they come from “renewable” streams, to some extent. But time, once given, cannot be taken back or reclaimed. This is why, despite the limitations the pandemic has placed on our ability to gather together, I am inspired by the ways that you give of your time to this community. Whether these gifts of time are measured in hours spent supporting a ministry, participating in our services, volunteering in the community, or in minutes spent on the phone or in person reaching out to each other and taking care of each other, this community is generous with its time!

In this season where we uphold our gifts, I hold you up in light, love, and leadership. Over the coming weeks you will be hearing more about our gifts from our leadership, in our liturgy, and in our common life together. You are a gift, each of you, and you are gifts to each other and to a world in need of our love; certainly blessed with every perfect gift that comes from God above.

Blessings,



**Every Perfect Gift**   


## Foodland Give Aloha Campaign St. Timothy's Episcopal Church Code is: **78541**

During the month of September, you can make a donation to St. Timothy's Episcopal Church at any Foodland or Sack N Save checkout, and Foodland and the Western Union Foundation will make a donation to our organization too.

How to Donate:

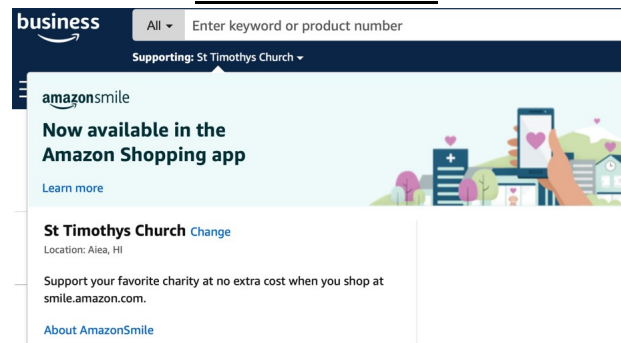
1. Shop at Foodland or Sack N Save!
2. Show your Maika'i card to the cashier at checkout.
3. Tell the cashier our code and the amount of your donation (up to \$249).
4. Review your receipt to confirm the following appears:
  - a. Our organization name.
  - b. Your donation amount.
  - c. Your Maika'i number.



Please use the labeled envelopes at the welcome table to hold your donation receipt and place into the offering plate or you can mail in your donation receipt to the church office. Your donation with Foodland's Give Aloha will then be applied to your pledged donations.

Mahalo for your support!

## 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.

## Happy Birthday!

9/5	Simeona Geston
9/8	Jane Murakami
9/9	Tadayoshi Iwami
9/11	Amy Chun
9/15	Ed Alakai
9/16	Deion Bacayan
9/19	Charmaine Chong
9/22	Merlina Ballesteros Maile Puahala
9/23	Lauralee Kawamata
9/25	Vickie Domingo
9/26	Michelle Lamb

## COVID Update:

The current COVID-19 Delta Variant surge is causing grave concern here in the Islands. In Honolulu County, the Mayor's Office confirmed that there are no changes with regard to churches. Social distancing of six feet between groups of no more than ten is required.

For Episcopalians in all Counties, social distancing of six feet between household units ("groups"), masks to be worn by everyone throughout worship (indoors or outdoors), and no singing are the current "Delta Variant" norms. Please note, 'Ohana Sunday is suspended for the month of October. We will have two services at 8am and 10am. All services will be livestreamed.

Again, stay safe and keep praying.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Every Perfect Gift

### What is the best gift you have ever received?

Makana kā ho‘i! What a gift! Over the years I have received many gifts from students, friends, and family members. When we think of a “gift,” we typically think of a thing such as a coffee mug, a gift card from Starbucks, or an “ugly” sweater at Christmas. Other gifts in my life have been camping at Bellows with my family, bird hunting with my grandfather, baking with my grandmother, not to mention my education, a chance to study abroad in New Zealand, the birth of our child, or a surprise 25th ordination anniversary celebration.

### Every Perfect Gift

What do such gifts offer, aside from the pleasure of the possession or experience? **They teach us about living in the moment**, and appreciating what one has. They also taught us generosity, for the delight we have in experiencing such gifts called us to share such moments and experiences with others. **This is the relationship between receiving and generosity, and it’s a pattern, that, once it takes root in us, continues in perpetuity.** The more we practice generosity, the more abundance we recognize around us.

### Every Generous Act

It is our practice to sing the Doxology as our gifts - the elements of the Eucharist and our offerings — are brought to the altar for blessing. We do it “Hawaiian Style” in the Hawaiian language— “Ho‘onani i ka Makua mau...” “Praise God, from whom all blessings flow...” These words remind us of the font from which springs all generosity, all love, all gifts. In offering our gifts at the altar, we reflect on the cycle of giving and receiving God’s abundance that first began when light was made manifest in the Creation, in the calling of prophets, and in the gift of God’s own son on Earth. **As we share our gifts through the Eucharist and through our service to the world, we participate in the ongoing creation of abundance and generosity.**

### What is the best gift you have ever received?

The theme and image for Every Perfect Gift are wrapped in the metaphor of the butterfly and chrysalis. Of all the metaphors of a gift that could be used, why did we decide on this one?

To the ancient Greeks, the butterfly represented the image of rebirth and freedom. The word they used for butterfly was psyche, and if you are thinking that sounds familiar, you are correct! It also means spirit. The humble and beautiful butterfly contains the philosophical and spiritual idea of the soul breaking free from its shell — free to **discover, to inspire, to create, to communicate, to share.**

These are also spiritual gifts, gifts that when we free ourselves to serve in the world, we need and share with others; and they are gifts of our stewardship. **As we share our time, talent, and treasure with our church and with the world, we unleash those same gifts in our communities: discovery, inspiration, creativity, communication, and sharing.** Through the ministries that are enabled by our gifts, the inspiration we show to our neighbors to unlock their generosity in the world, and the stories we tell about ourselves and our experiences, we participate with God in an abundant vision for the world. **Every perfect gift comes from God above.**

---

## Every Perfect Gift My 2022 Promise



In gratitude for Every Perfect Gift, I/we have received, I/we promise \$\_\_\_\_\_ for ministry.  
I/we plan to fulfill this pledge  weekly  monthly  semiannually  annually.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

- Please contact me about setting up payments from my checking account/credit card.
  - Please contact me about including the church in my estate plans.
  - Please contact me about making my gift through stocks or securities.
  - I will make my gift online this year, please look for my gift.
-

## BBQ Fundraiser Postponed

After much discussion, it is with a heavy heart that we have decided to postpone the annual Paniolo BBQ fundraiser. Considering the recent surge in the Delta variant of Covid-19, Gov. Ige's recent Executive Order, and concern for the safety and health of our St Timothy's family, the committee determined it was in the best interest of congregation to postpone the fundraiser to a later date (not yet determined).

We made tremendous progress in planning, and we will be able to build on that when we start back up again. AND we had such a heartwarming turnout of volunteers! We want to thank every one of you for your offer of time and talent and hope we can call on you again when we get back up and running.

We have been so blessed with a caring, vibrant church community. This "bump in the road" called Covid will pass and we will be the stronger for it.

Take care of each other. Be safe. Get vaccinated. And laugh often!

God bless,  
Bette Kalohi (For the Committee)



Annual Income	Weekly Income	Beyond the Tithe		Tithe	Proportional Giving								
		15%	12%	10%	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%
\$20,000	\$385	\$58	\$46	\$38	\$35	\$31	\$27	\$23	\$19	\$15	\$12	\$8	\$4
\$25,000	\$481	\$72	\$58	\$48	\$43	\$38	\$34	\$29	\$24	\$19	\$14	\$10	\$5
\$30,000	\$577	\$87	\$69	\$58	\$52	\$46	\$40	\$35	\$29	\$23	\$17	\$12	\$6
\$40,000	\$769	\$115	\$92	\$77	\$69	\$62	\$54	\$46	\$38	\$31	\$23	\$15	\$8
\$50,000	\$962	\$144	\$115	\$96	\$87	\$77	\$67	\$58	\$48	\$38	\$29	\$19	\$10
\$60,000	\$1,154	\$173	\$138	\$115	\$104	\$92	\$81	\$69	\$58	\$46	\$35	\$23	\$12
\$70,000	\$1,346	\$202	\$162	\$135	\$121	\$108	\$94	\$81	\$67	\$54	\$40	\$27	\$13
\$80,000	\$1,538	\$231	\$185	\$154	\$138	\$123	\$108	\$92	\$77	\$62	\$46	\$31	\$15
\$90,000	\$1,731	\$260	\$208	\$173	\$156	\$138	\$121	\$104	\$87	\$69	\$52	\$35	\$17
\$100,000	\$1,923	\$288	\$231	\$192	\$173	\$154	\$135	\$115	\$96	\$77	\$58	\$38	\$19
\$120,000	\$2,308	\$346	\$277	\$231	\$208	\$185	\$162	\$138	\$115	\$92	\$69	\$46	\$23
\$150,000	\$2,885	\$433	\$346	\$288	\$260	\$231	\$202	\$173	\$144	\$115	\$87	\$58	\$29

## A Prayer on the Commemoration of Sept 11th, 2001

This day, O God, we remember the tragedy of the events of September 11th, 2001 and the war and terrorism that emerged from its shadows. God of grace, call all the peoples and nations of the earth to cease from strife, that all may join to fight not one another, but their common foes of want and ignorance, bigotry and hatred, disease and suffering. Lead all people out of the way of death and into the way of life; away from destruction and to the building of a new world of justice and peace, liberty and joy. Great Redeemer of all, hear our prayer, and end the dark night of cruelty and fear, and bring in the dawn of mercy and reconciliation, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

### Virtual Gratitude Prayer Rally on September 11

Join us as we participate in our first ever Senate District 16 Virtual Gratitude Prayer Rally via Zoom on Saturday, September 11, 2021 from 10 am to 11am.

This virtual community gathering will be held in commemoration of the National Day of Service and Remembrance, a federally recognized event which falls on the anniversary of the 9-11 terrorist attacks.

“This year, with the world’s sad conditions due to COVID, natural disasters or ravages of war, it may be challenging to focus on positive aspects of life. But we recognize that we still have a lot to be grateful for. We have reasons to hope,” said organizer Senator Bennette Misalucha who represents Aiea, Pearl City, and lower Halawa.

This prayer rally is envisioned to be an interfaith event with churches from diverse backgrounds. St. Timothy’s church will be among ten churches in the area which will deliver a message, a meditation, or prayer. Musical interludes include performances by Mrs. Hawaii USA 2021 Lei Llanos, Honolulu Symphony violinist Daniel Paddilla, Broadway star Kristian Lei and an ensemble from Pearl City High School.

To view the event on Zoom, please register at the link: <https://tinyurl.com/prayerrally2021>.

The event may also be viewed on the FB page of Senator Bennette Misalucha. For more information, please call Senator Misalucha’s office at 808-586-6230.

### Adult Formation:

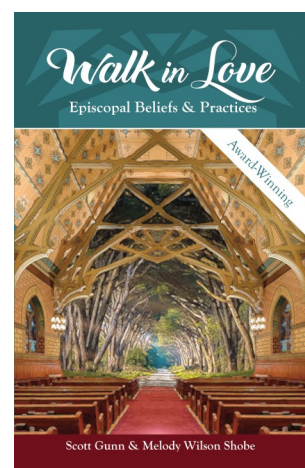
On September 8 at 7pm, we will be starting a new Adult Formation class on Zoom. We will be reading chapters from *Walk in Love*, by Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson Shobe. This course will take a journey through *The Book of Common Prayer*, the Christian life, and basic beliefs of our faith and covers topics 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:

- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| 9/8   | Chapter 1 Not Only With Our Lips, But in Our Lives: Beliefs and Practices |
| 9/15  | Chapter 2 The New Life of Grace: Baptismal Beliefs                        |
| 9/22  | Chapter 3 The Covenant They Have Made: Baptismal Practice                 |
| 9/29  | Break   |
| 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                 |



## STEWARDSHIP, TITHING, AND PLEDGES - WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Every year in congregations across the church, the attentions of vestries, Bishops' Committees, and clergy turn toward thoughts of "the every member canvass," "annual campaign," "stewardship," and "tithing" (words that for the most part are not part of the average 21st century American's vocabulary). It's hard to ignore the bottom line as the church forms the budget for the coming year. We hope to glean pledges toward the operating budget for the coming year so we can know whether or not we can commit to salaries, our campus buildings, programs, and projects. Even more, we hope to encourage everyone to remember the abundant gifts with which we have all been blessed by God and that we give freely out of that abundance.

We will hear the words "stewardship," "tithe," and "pledge" being used and I wanted to offer some definitions that can help us sort out the connections and misunderstandings between money and faith.



### Stewardship/Mālama

Until the late twentieth century, "stewardship" was equated with something called The Every Member Canvass [sic]. The Every Member Canvass was often also called "the Stewardship Campaign". Stewardship meant giving to the church, giving money. And tithe was the word used to describe what someone gave to the church, whatever the amount. Stewardship, tithe, every member canvass, all pointed to the same thing: money to the local church.

Then sometime in the 1980s, a corrective movement hit the wider church. It began to see that "stewardship" was about a whole lot more than money. Simply put, Stewardship came to be understood as "all that we have, and all we do, all the time." It is rooted in the belief that who we are and what we have and the life we live and the world in which we live is all a gift from God: "the earth is the Lord's and all that is in it," says the Psalmist. And we are stewards of all that God has given.

A steward is a manager, a person who has charge of a household or possessions of another. In our case, we are stewards of God's household, God's possessions, whether that is nature, children/grandchildren, buildings, time, talent, or money. If we realize that all the stuff we have belongs to God and we see ourselves as the stewards of it, then we hear the call to mālama or care, protect, tend, and mindfully use it as God would have us use it. This makes much more sense than simply "giving 10%" back to God.

Continued on next page.

## Tithing

Speaking of 10%... Ten percent is a good guideline, a goal especially when it comes to giving away our money. It is the biblical standard and comes from the spirit of Jacob's promise in Genesis 28:20-22: 'If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God, and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house; and of all that you give me I will surely give one-tenth to you.'

Tithing is a discipline. It is also an extraordinary faith statement, a way of reminding ourselves that God is God, that we are God's people, and that God provides for us, even when the household budget is tight. We cannot escape the historic practice that tithing is giving away 10% of our income, either to individuals in need or to organizations that make known God's compassion, justice, and transformative power. However, the ultimate goal is not a firm 10%, but rather a sense of offering something tangible back to God. We have a spirit of abundant generosity with all that we have, with all that we do, all of the time.

Therefore, when it comes to our tithe, it is appropriate that we NOT focus so much on income alone. Ideally, we give ourselves to God, 100%. And we also give generously from the resources we have been given. We are God's stewards, the means, the conduits, if you will, for God's stuff to be used for God's purpose. For several years now, the Episcopal Church has declared the tithe to be "the minimum standard of giving." Realizing that many Episcopalians are far from giving away 10%, the Church encourages people to "strive to tithe", or to work toward ten percent by giving a percentage rather than a set dollar amount, even if it's just two percent to start with, and working to increase that percentage year by year.



### Making a Pledge

Pledging itself has little to do with stewardship. Rather, it has to do with commitment and with budget planning. Pledging is to make a commitment to support an organization. When people are able to estimate their giving ahead of time and pledge a particular amount, then the Bishop's Committee is able to determine a budget for the year and establish certain priorities, commitments, and expectations. Even people who are averse to pledging can be convinced of its merits when it comes to making commitments to staff and program. As a church we must be transparent and clear about our needs.

It gets complicated, too, when we realize that more and more people are living in times of fiscal uncertainty or fixed incomes in retirement. Some are living with large debts or are supporting children or grandchildren with school expenses or tuition. A pledge is not a binding contract, but a promise to help fund the mission of the church/St. Timothy's. We would hope that those who do pledge take their budget into careful consideration and give out of their abundance. If at some point people need to adjust their pledge (up or down), it is handled as a pastoral matter, privately with the priest. We should also say this: It is not good stewardship for people to defer rent/mortgage or loan payments, borrow money, take on more credit card debt or otherwise put themselves at financial risk in order to give to the church.

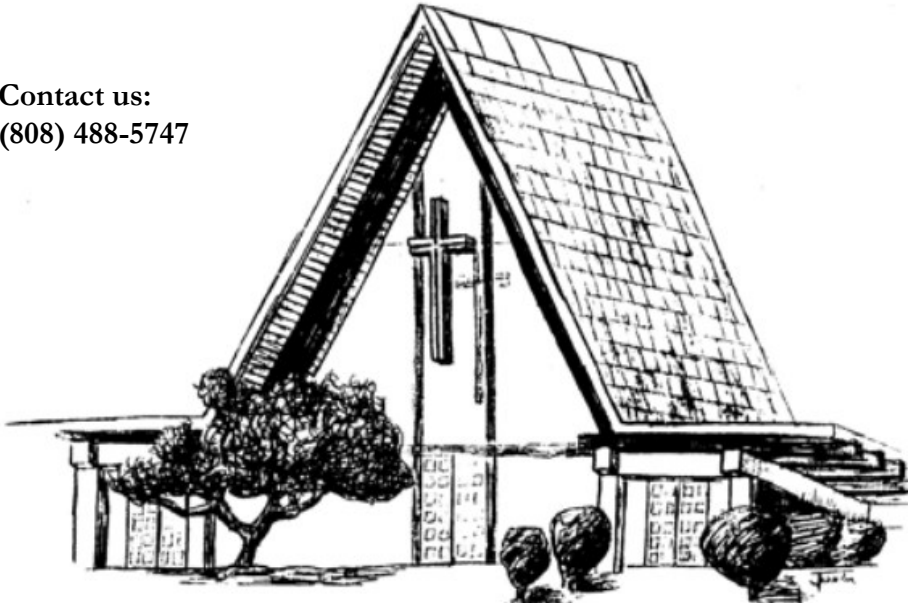
As much as the local church needs pledges and funds, the goal is not to meet the budget, but rather the transformation of souls into the Way of Jesus. Clear and open teaching about stewardship and the tithe, about giving and pledging, helps to get us there.

ST. TIMOTHY'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church  
98-939 Moanalua Rd  
'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

#### September

5 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

7 Outreach Pantry

11 National Day of Service and  
Remembrance

12 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

14 Outreach Pantry & Dinner

19 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Bishop's Committee Meeting

21 Outreach Pantry

26 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

28 Outreach Pantry & Dinner