

*Saint Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church*

# CANTERBURY TALES

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✠ OCTOBER MESSAGE ON STEWARDSHIP FROM OUR VICAR ✠

**Blessed are Those Who Share a Common Life, for Theirs Is to Pledge**

*The Rev. Tim True*



I've experienced a kind of tension in being the newcomer. For, on the one hand, as the priest I have opinions, some of them quite strong, about the church's purpose, how a congregation should be managed, which ministries are important, which maybe aren't so important, and so on; but, on the other hand, as a newcomer I don't want to come on the scene with the air of an expert, claiming to have outside, almost secret knowledge that I will benevolently bestow upon everyone else. Expertise works in medicine, technology, civil engineering, and patron-client

relationships of the ancient Roman world; not so much in vocations more social in nature, like being a priest. Other people—people who are quite talented in leadership roles—have their opinions too. St. Thomas already has established ways of doing things. Coming in and turning over the tables might not always be the best approach. I will encourage and make changes in time, believe me; but making relationships needs to take precedence now. And thus, I have come to St. Thomas with the early agenda of simply getting to know the people of the congregation, of becoming a part of the fabric of St. Thomas; and waiting until later to bestow my, um, benevolent wisdom.

This is my early agenda, that is, with one exception: stewardship. January is not too far away. And January, in Episcopal-Church-speak at least, means annual meetings; ours will be on the 28<sup>th</sup>. And the annual meeting means the presentation of our 2018 budget. Which requires planning. Which requires the annual Pledge Drive. Which will be upon us shortly. Anyway, the word we use for this whole process is *stewardship*. So, yeah, since I began my tenure here on August 1, my early agenda really needs to include stewardship in addition to developing personal relationships. Whatever else you feel about it, stewardship is an important part of our life together.

But that's what church is about, isn't it? Our common life in Christ. We're accomplishing Christ's mission and ministry to the world together. And, like any other household, family, or corporate body sharing a common life, sustainability is an important consideration, a goal for us to achieve and maintain. (By the way, in case the topic of financial stewardship somehow feels unspiritual to you, Jesus in fact speaks about money more than any other single topic in the Gospels.)



# Stewardship

*a way of life*

So, while forming and developing personal relationships *and* tackling the annual Pledge Drive initially felt to me like two separate and distinct tasks, now my agenda feels more like one. Faithful stewardship and interpersonal relationships are not separate and distinct things. Rather, faithful stewardship is deeply intertwined with our common life: sustainability is essential for our common life and mission to continue, strengthen, and mature.

During this year's Pledge Drive, I urge you to consider stewardship in the same way: not simply a requirement for budget planning and making; but a privilege that allows us to enjoy the blessing of our common life. As you do so, here's what the Stewardship Committee has planned for us:

- Stewardship Letter: Oct. 19. Look for this letter in your email box announcing and explaining our Pledge Drive in more detail. Hard copies will be available in the narthex.
- Wine and Cheese Kickoff: Oct. 21, 6pm. Mark your calendar and plan to attend this important event where I will offer a prayer and we will enjoy fellowship with one another. This year's Advent Program will also be unveiled.
- Testimonials: Oct. 28-29; Nov. 4-5; Nov. 11-12. Hear members from the congregation share how God has blessed them through the spiritual discipline of stewardship.
- Ingathering and Blessing: Nov. 18-19. Pledge cards will be collected and blessed during worship.

Very glad to be sharing a life together with you,

Father Tim



*A mission of the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego, St. Thomas is a "pet-friendly" church that cares deeply for our beloved pets. We work with local senior citizens to provide food for their pets and support the Animal Friends of the Valleys. We also hold a blessing for the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, and welcome well-behaved pets to attend worship with us.*

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

## **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP -- Monday, October 2 at Noon**

The Book Discussion Group meets in the St. Benedict Conference room from 12 noon to 1 PM. The group is reading *Sons and Soldiers* by Bruce Henderson. This book explores the untold story of young German Jewish immigrants to the USA in the 1930's who were recruited by the US military and trained in intelligence to return to Europe to help with the war against Nazi Germany. Even if you have not been reading the book, please come and share your views and interests. This is an informal group that meets on the first Monday of the month and is open to anyone interested in lively discussions on diverse subjects. Please call or email Bill Liesman for more info.

## **BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS and PET FAIR—Saturday October 7 at 3 pm**

See Page 8 for Details

## **MEN OF ST. THOMAS (MoST) – Saturday, October 14 at 8:00 am**

MoST is an informal fellowship that meets each second Saturday of the month at 8:00 am in Julien Hall for a potluck breakfast, brief Bible Study, and assisting afterwards with maintenance and property projects at the church. All are welcome including friends and neighbors. The emphasis is on fellowship. Come join the fun!

## **BIBLE CHALLENGE—Sunday October 15 after the 10:15 Service**

This is an informal group that has been reading the New Testament in logical segments since January, but all are welcome at any time. Look for a table of eager Bible learners headed by Jon Floth in Julian Hall. Discussion this month centers on the letters of John and Peter, and the first half of the gospel of John.

## **AMALGAMA—Trovadores from Leon, Nicaragua—Friday, October 20 at 7:30 pm**

## **CANTERBURY TRAILS HIKERS –Saturday, October 21 at 8 am**

Meet at the church parking lot. The destination this month is Julian. See the details in the Narthex and contact Deb Mitchell for details 951-440-1919

## **WINE AND CHEESE SOIREE—Saturday, October 21 from 6-8 pm**

See the details on page 4

## **WOW-WOMEN OF WORTH- BREAKFAST—Saturday October 28 at 8:30 pm**

All are invited to attend this informal fellowship meeting in Julian Hall. This fellowship group meets each fourth Saturday of the month and assists with participation in and planning various church activities. Contact Andrea Liesman for more info.

## **WOW WINE TASTING GET TOGETHER—Saturday October 28<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-5 pm**

At Curry Vineyards and Winery, 42100 Main Street, Old Town Temecula. For more info contact Chantel Blas [chantelrossg@yahoo.com](mailto:chantelrossg@yahoo.com)

## **CANTERBURY YOUTH GROUP (CYG) EVENTS**

--Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> and Sunday October 1<sup>st</sup> --Canterbury Youth Group will host a fundraising bake sale after all the services. Please help by baking some awesome yummys. More information is posted in the Narthex.

--CYG participation at Diocesan Convention November 10—See details on Page 8

--Registration for Lumos!, a very popular Epiphany Retreat at Camp Stevens in January, now open at the Diocesan website <http://edsd.org>

## **INSTALLATION OF FR. TIM TRUE—Wednesday, November 1 at 7 pm**

See details on page 5

St. Thomas of Canterbury Pledge Drive 2018

# Wine and Cheese Soiree

Saturday, Oct. 21 6 – 8 p.m.

Kick off our 2018 Pledge Drive with this special Wine and Cheese Soiree in the church courtyard to mark the beginning of our stewardship campaign. Bring your favorite wine and cheese to share. Come and enjoy!

*"Faithful stewardship is deeply intertwined with our common life: sustainability is essential for our common life and mission to continue, strengthen and mature."*

- Rev. Tim True

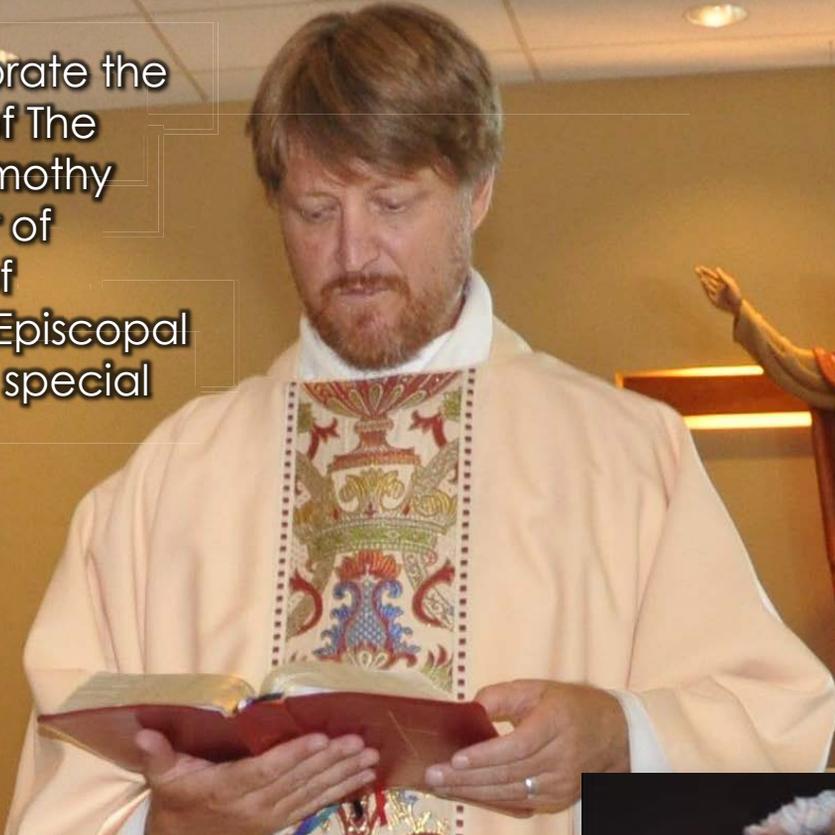
Sign up in  
the narthex



*Come celebrate the ...*

# INSTALLATION OF THE REVEREND TIMOTHY TRUE

Come celebrate the  
Installation of The  
Reverend Timothy  
True as vicar of  
St. Thomas of  
Canterbury Episcopal  
Church at a special  
service.



**All Saints Day  
Wed. Nov. 1, at 7 p.m.**

**The Right Reverend Katharine  
Jefferts Schori**  
assisting bishop of San Diego  
diocese, officiating



Service includes: Baptisms ~ Confirmations ~ Receptions\*  
Special Music

\*All members interested in baptism, confirmation or  
reception contact Father Tim as soon as possible.

# Health Update

*Dr. Ed Rather*



*On Sunday, September 24, I had the pleasure of being with Beth and Ricardo Vega as they checked the AED in the Narthex. This is done on a regular basis and I was so interested in seeing how the job was taken care of so efficiently. Thanks so much to both of them. Also, I thought it would be wise to mention the classic warning signs of an impending heart attack. These include chest discomfort or pain which lasts for various lengths of time, uncomfortable pressure or squeezing of the chest, referred pain to either arm, particularly the elbow, as well as to the neck, jaws, or back. Other signs include nausea, lightheadedness, and breaking out in a cold*

*sweat for no known reason. Women seem to have more signs or symptoms which are unusual, and these must not be ignored. The AED comes into play when signs of cardiac arrest are there which include sudden loss of responsiveness and irregular or lack of normal breathing.*

*A stroke or an impending stroke is another issue. The classic warning signs for us to remember include the algorithm F.A.S.T. These are facial drooping, arm weakness, speech difficulty or slurring of speech, and time to call 911, which should be done immediately. We are very lucky that our Temecula Valley Hospital has become a major center for both coronary events and stroke. As I have mentioned in the past, our eating and exercise habits are most important to help avoid these problems. Walking turns out to be a major benefit to avoid vascular events, and, once again, it is most interesting that dog owners who walk their dogs regularly are much more likely to keep up with regular exercise, regardless of weather. Once again, this emphasizes the benefit of having a pet in our daily lives!*

*Another important issue was brought up by our "loving" senior warden. This involves the need for us, as we grow older...or if we have a permanent medical problem... to own and use a medical monitoring device. We don't plan on falling, etc., so we ALWAYS need to have this with us... not lying in the drawer beside the bed, like my mother used to do! It is easy to wear it around your neck or on your wrist!*

*Another extremely important topic is the epidemic of opioid overuse. Parishioner Andrea Liesman has asked us to consider this abuse, the overprescribing, the lack of insurance company information available, and the huge drain on medical costs in general when dealing with opioid addiction. With any health care reform legislation being considered by Congress, I think it is imperative that we include education and proper treatment/rehab for those patients, many of whom have become unwittingly involved. A letter/email to the proper authority is definitely worth our time, and always ask your doctor about a medicine's side effects. Look for more on this topic in this space soon.*

*Thanks go to both Andrea and Peter for their suggestions. So, off my soap crate for this month!*

*As always, your friendly, but retired, dermatologist.*

*Ed*

# SIGNS and WONDERS



Signs and Wonders is a ministry of two “crafty” women, Pam Bowen and Jean Hicks. Pam makes inspirational displays by repurposing signs and objects she finds in thrift shops. Jean makes greeting cards, some with religious themes, from her huge stash of materials at home. The cards and signs are on display in the narthex/hallway, and you can help yourself to them. Any donations put in the box go to evangelism, spreading the good news of God.

Pam and Jean have always been creative but have found more time to express their hobbies since their children have flown. They want to share their gifts with everyone without the burden of selling. Thus, their wares are free, in hopes that messages of love and faith will bless the homes and hearts of people far and near.

The logo for Signs and Wonders was designed by Pam, setting a rainbow over a whale’s tail. Early followers of Jesus kept asking him for “signs,” but he told them the only sign they would get was the “Sign of Jonah.” (Matt 12: 38-45). What Jesus meant by that is much debated, but Pam put the whale’s tail to stand for the Sign of Jonah and capped it with a



**SIGNS & WONDERS**



rainbow---another wonder/sign of God’s promise not to wipe mankind out in another flood (Gen 9: 8-17). So, the logo combines two images from the Hebrew scriptures with an allusion to the New Testament.

Please take a minute to appreciate Jean’s cards and Pam’s signs. Some new seasonal signs for fall and winter will be coming soon, as well as cards with Halloween and Christmas messages. Perhaps someone you know needs a Sign or Wonder!

# St. Thomas Youth Attend EDSO Youth Group Olympics

On Saturday September 23 Canterbury Youth Group (CYG) joined other youth groups around the diocese for the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Youth Group Olympics which was held at St Dunstan's Episcopal Church. Six youth from CYG participated. We joined youth from four other parishes including St. Bartholomew's and Christ Church, Coronado. There were approximately 21 youth in attendance. The event was hosted by St Dunstan's youth group and organized by Charlette Preslar, who packed the event with get to know you activities, lunch and fun games such as a duathlon, equestrian event with human ring toss, tic-tac-toe, balloon golf, and of course, dragon's tail!



All who attended had a wonderful time and are looking forward to the next Diocesan event, which is Youth at the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Diocesan Convention at St. Bartholomew's in Poway. It's not too late to sign up.

**November 10<sup>th</sup> COST:** \$45

**REGISTRATION:** Open now through October 19<sup>th</sup>.

**WHO:** Youth in grades 6-12.

**Registration Includes:** Lunch, Dinner, Snacks, a Hands on Service Project, Workshops and more....

The next local CYG Event will be a Youth Dinner Sunday October 22, Restaurant TBD. Mark your calendars.

## Pet Fair and Pet Blessing

A Special and Unique Community Event at St. Thomas

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Pet Blessing and 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Pet Fair will be held **Saturday October 7, 2017 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**, leading into the regular 5:00 p.m. Saturday Service. The actual Blessing is anticipated to be about 4:15 pm.

There will be a brief meeting for volunteers on Sunday October 1, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. between the two services.



# BEANIES FOR KIDS

Do you like to knit or crochet?  
Want to help kids undergoing chemotherapy?  
Join us in making Beanies for Kids!

You can knit or crochet beanies at home and/or join fellow stitchers

**Monday, October 2nd, 7 – 9 pm**

Barbara Bundy's home

Contact Barbara at [bjbundy@verizon.net](mailto:bjbundy@verizon.net) for directions & more information

## Member spotlight

# FRANK AND LISA SIMPSON

Frank and Lisa Simpson joined St. Thomas of Canterbury when they moved from Anaheim to Temecula in April 2015. They have 5 adult children, 3 grand children and 2 pugs. They both have been working for Marriott International for over 30 years and always seem to be traveling. This summer they celebrated their 27<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Europe.



Lisa is a US Master Swimmer and thus the reason for their first European adventure. She participated in the 2017 Fina World Masters Championships in Budapest where she swam the 50, 100 and 200 Breaststroke, and 200 and 400 Individual Medley events. Lisa said, *"Swimming and competing with others from around the world is what I love about this event. I love seeing my name and the American Flag up on the board with other countries."*



Frank is a Hungarian descendant as his maternal grandparents were both from Hungary. During one of their days in Budapest, they drove to the village of Abod where his grandmother was born. The village was small (population 200) and it took only 5 minutes to drive through it. Upon leaving, they met an elderly lady named Gallo (pronounced Palli) who only spoke Hungarian. An English speaking neighbor named David who was visiting his relatives that day heard them talking. With his help translating, they discovered they were all related as cousins!

## *Member spotlight: Frank and Lisa Simpson continued ...*

Gallo knew Frank's grandmother and showed them where his grandmother was born and lived. David took them on a tour of the village, church and cemetery where Frank's great-grandparents and relatives were buried. *"The Holy Spirit was upon us that day. He helped me find my family,"* said Frank.

Upon conclusion of the swim meet, they traveled to Paris, Venice, Florence, Tuscany and Rome.

While in Tuscany, they spent the day with the Executive Chef at the Renaissance Tuscany Resort, touring, shopping and preparing traditional Italian cuisine they enjoyed for dinner. Walking amongst history, competing, eating and meeting so many wonderful people across the world is what Frank and Lisa cherished most. Lisa said, *"People tell me how lucky I am to do the things I do. But, I believe God has blessed us with opportunities and we don't want to waste them!"*



## *Community engagement* **BLOOD DRIVE**



Sunday, Sept. 24 St. Thomas hosted a community Blood Drive from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Lifestream set up their bloodmobile bus in the parking lot and welcomed community members. A big thank you to all who gave blood and made the event a success.

The next Blood Drive at St. Thomas will be held Dec. 10.

# St. Thomas' Music Ministry

## Diversity in Church? I Was ROTFL

by Stephen Sturk, music director

I was ROTFL (rolling on the floor laughing) when I read that our Diocesan Convention in November will have a workshop titled “Can Church Be MultiCultural?” Here at St. Thomas of Canterbury in Temecula, we experience diversity and multiculturalism at practically every service that includes music! Now that I think about it, the hour from 10:15 to 11:15 on Sunday is perhaps the most diverse time we experience during the whole week.



Think of it: the hymns and songs that we sing on a typical Sunday come from many traditions spread over many centuries. The words of these songs are even more diverse: everything from Hebrew Psalms written in 1500 B.C., to poems by 2nd Century Christian writers, to the best contemporary authors.

We might have a 10th Century plainsong hymn [155—All glory, laud, and honor] along with an Afro-American Spiritual [676—There is a balm in Gilead]. A 16th Century German Lutheran chorale [688—A mighty fortress is our God] might be sung at the same service with a hymn from Victorian England [199—Come, ye faithful, raise the strain]. We have tunes from Catholic France [324—Let all mortal flesh keep silence] and Protestant France [302—Father, we thank thee].

Our Hymnal 1982 is particularly rich in Early American tunes from many different religious sects: The Shakers of New England in 554—‘Tis the gift to be simple; the Methodists in 493—O for a thousand tongues to sing; the Baptists in 685—Rock of ages, cleft for me. Then there are folk songs from dozens of countries, especially: Ghana, 602—Jesu, Jesu; Finland, 655—O Jesus, I have promised; Ireland, 488—Be thou my vision; and Israel, 401—The God of Abraham praise.

Most of our service music is written by contemporary American or English composers, including works written specifically for this place (my own “Canterbury Mass”).

The music at St. Thomas of Canterbury: now that’s what I call “diverse.”

### **500th Anniversary of the Reformation**

During October and November, we will be singing a greater number of German Lutheran chorales in celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. Martin Luther started it all on October 31, 1517, when he posted his "95 Theses" exposing corruption in the Roman Catholic Church.

### **Special Music for Vicar's Installation on November 1**

For the All Saints' Day celebration, we will be joined by the choir and handbell ensemble from Trinity Episcopal Church, Escondido. They will combine with our St. Thomas singers to present music for this special service.

### **Empty Seats Need Filling**

There are a number of empty seats in our choir area that are awaiting the addition of new singers. Joining our choir is EASY: just show up. We meet each Sunday at 9:15 in the Sanctuary; in addition to that Sunday's music, we try to prepare music for the coming weeks. There is NO mid-week choir rehearsal, making this a very light commitment. You are always welcome to give us a try. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to me after a service; I can also be reached by phone or email:

**Stephen Sturk, director of music, 760-443-9667, [sturkdma@gmail.com](mailto:sturkdma@gmail.com)**

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From the October Newsletter:

### **Fall Festival Friday October 21. Please save the date!**

The fun starts at 4:30ish. There will be games, food, prizes, and wine tasting for the adults. Please come in costume. There will be prizes for the best child and adult costumes. This is a fundraiser for us so to make it a success we need you and your family to come join us for this fun event. Entrance fee is \$5.00 per child, Adults are free. The entrance fee gives you unlimited access to the games and crafts. Dinner is \$5.00 per person and items at the bake sale booth will be priced as marked. There will be tickets on sale for the gift basket raffle and the 50/50 raffle.

Darlene Karnes-Versteegh, Director

*New St. Thomas women's group forms*  
**WOMEN OF WORTH**



Women of Worth (WOW) refers to the new St. Thomas women's group which meets on the fourth Saturday morning of every month at 8:30 a.m. in Julian Hall. The women bring a breakfast dish to share; there is a prayer, a short reading and fellowship.



The initial organizational meeting was held Saturday Sept. 2. There were 23 women in attendance. During this first meeting the women decided on a name for the group and the day and time the group would meet each month.

Attendees shared their backgrounds with regards to St. Thomas and communicated to the group where each woman volunteers their talent to the church, along with suggestions on where the church could use more volunteers on Sunday. It was insightful with good food and great conversation.





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### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

#### **Saturday**

5:00pm Holy Eucharist

#### **Sunday**

8:00am Holy Eucharist

10:15am Holy Eucharist

10:15am Children's  
Chapel/Sunday School

#### **Wednesday**

7:00pm Evening Prayer