



# The Window

The Newsletter of St. James' Episcopal Church in Fremont, CA

## We are going to miss you, Bob...

The Rev. Dr. Bob Honeychurch has been our rector since Sept. 2001. In these seven years, we have grown to love and respect Bob not only as our pastor but as a friend. We are lucky to have Bob here to guide us in our spiritual growth, to inspire and support our programs and to focus our vestries for the future. Many of us also have the good fortune to receive pastoral care from Bob.



August 3<sup>rd</sup> will be Bob's last day at St. James'. He will be working on the staff

of the national church, based out of the regional office in Los Angeles, and serving as the *Program Officer for Congregational Vitality*.

Bob is very excited about his new venture, and we wish him the best of luck. To celebrate Bob's ministry with us, we will have a single service at 10AM on Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>, and after the service, will gather to partake a BBQ and potluck brunch in the Parish Hall. If you would like to contribute to the thank you gift for Bob or the BBQ brunch, please note that on your check. Sign-up sheets for the BBQ brunch are in the Parish Hall. There are also cards in the Parish Hall on Sundays, if you would like sign one of them.

Bob, thank you for sharing your journey with us at St. James'.

Sylvia Ma  
Sr. Warden

## What St. James' is looking for in an Interim Rector

### Some requirements for our Interim Rector as submitted to the Diocese by the Vestry

St. James' Episcopal Church of Fremont, California, is seeking a full time interim rector working five days a week including Sundays. Our rector of seven years has taken a position with the national church and will be leaving in August. We envision our Interim Rector will provide not only pastoral care for our congregation of 388 but to guide us in our search process for a new Rector.

St. James' is a diverse community of friendly folks. We pride ourselves on being welcoming and inclusive. Our website at [www.saintj.com](http://www.saintj.com) gives a detailed look at our services and ministries. Our average Sunday attendance this year has been 160 plus.

St. James' has a segment of aging and ailing parishioners, so we are looking for an Interim Rector willing and with experience in ministering to the seriously ill and house-bound parishioners.

We are also looking for someone with experience in the search and ministry review processes to help the parish conduct a healthy introspection, identify the weaknesses of our programs, and shepherd the Vestry as well as the congregation forward during this transition period.

Our Interim Rector should be supportive of our existing worship structures. This rector should be able to provide guidance of our various programs, especially to our youth and children's ministries. Our interim should be able to work well with our Altar Guild, acolytes, ushers, Music Director, and Liturgical Design team to plan, celebrate and preach in weekly worship services as well as special services in Advent,

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## The Stewardship Corner

### A New Life Motto

I have a confession. I am addicted to the comics in the newspaper. I have had this addiction since I learned to read. In fact I learned to read so I could read the comics myself since my father mumbled when he read them to me. "Pickles" by Brian Crane is one that I follow. Recently the grandmother in the comic stated: "I have a new life Motto. **Learn from the past. Prepare for the future. Live for the present.**" The grandmother puts on her jacket and her husband asks her "Where are you going?" She replies "Out to buy myself a present." Like many cartoons, there is wisdom among the humor.

"Learn from the past." can apply to an individual, to St. James' Church, to our state and to our country. Much of what we know about the past comes from studying history in school, reading books on history and through our own personal experience. Some of St. James' Church's history is recorded in records and photos but much is handed down in an oral tradition. We need to be deliberate in maintaining our history so that others may learn from it.

"Prepare for the future" is a must for survival. We need to prepare financially but more importantly we should study demographic and social changes that will impact ourselves, our church, our state and our country. We need to design a church that will attract and meet the needs of its future members.

"Live for the present." I believe that this is our main task at St. James'. We need to not dwell on the past or be overwhelmed by the future but make our time in the present count. We have the talent and the tools to continue to be a dynamic church. We know we have a special community and it is our community that will help us carry out the responsibilities that Jesus has given us.

Lynn Locher, Stewardship Chair

### Many Thanks

A huge "Thank You" to the anonymous person or persons who left two large bags of yarn for the Comforters Guild. We are very grateful for this generous donation. Enid Williams, her daughter Theresa Calabretta, and I sorted the colors and styles of yarn to replenish our nearly empty stash. This group knits and crochets items for the Convalescent Ministry, for Children's Hospital in Oakland, and for Alameda County's Pathways Hospice.

For questions or any information contact Valle Brokes, 510-793-6210, avbrokes@att.net.

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## Ladies Flatlanders

Ladies Flatlanders is quickly approaching. Ladies mark your calendars for Sept 3-7.

You can come from Wednesday to Sunday or as many days as you can. We will be camping at Thousand Trails Hollister again this year. This is a wonderful place to relax and connect or reconnect with new and old friends. There will be a sign up list in the Parish Hall. Thousand Trails requires the names of every camper on the arrival check-in list to enter the gate. If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact me at (510)790-8942.

Mary Casas

## Church Camp-out

### Final sign-up date is August 10th

The dates are August 14, 15, 16, and 17 at Emerald Bay State Park in Lake Tahoe. People can stay as short



or as long as they want we have all four sites for four days. We need to have an exact head count by August 10th so we can do the shopping without having to guess how many

people are going. Please sign up in the Parish Hall or call me.

Chris Perry (510) 441-2236

## Interim Rector *(cont. from page 1)*

Christmas, Lent, and Holy Week. This person will supervise directly or indirectly our paid staff: a secretary who works 20 hours per week, Music Director (10-12 hours per week), sexton (19 hours per week), and nursery attendant (Sunday mornings). Our interim should also have good communication skills and be a regular contributor to our monthly newsletter, the *Window*.

A successful candidate will be able to start during the October-November, 2008, time frame. We expect our interim period to be up to one year. Salary is commensurate with experience according to Diocese of California guidelines, with a range of \$65,000 to \$73,000 per year, plus benefits.

Janet Fischer, Jr. Warden

## Cheer on the A's this September



Oakland Athletics baseball presents Church Community Day! St. James' is gathering a group of fans to attend the A's game at McAfee Coliseum on Saturday, September 20, 2008 at 1:05 PM

Bring your family and friends to the ball park to see the A's battle the Seattle Mariners on what's sure to be a fine sunny Saturday afternoon.

For this special event, tickets for the game are just \$20 each if we can gather 25 or more fans! (Tickets would be \$24 if less than 25 are ordered.)

Because tickets need to be ordered as a group to receive the discount, we need sign-up and payment by no later 12:30 PM on Sunday, August 24. Sign-up is in the parish hall. Cash or checks (made out to St. James') can be forwarded to Meg Williams or Sylvia Ma. Tickets will be distributed to individuals before the day of the game.

Contact Meg or Sylvia in person or via the church office if there are questions. Unfortunately we'll be unable to order any additional tickets for this special group event after 12:30 PM on August 24. Don't delay!

Meg Williams

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## WALKa-ROCKa-thon a Rocking Success!

Great camaraderie was shared among Fremont Episcopalians from St. James' and St. Anne's. St. Anne's welcomed all participants beforehand with nourishment for the walk ahead. A group photo was taken, to mark the occasion, before the five-mile hike to St. James'. All who participated said seeing Fremont on foot and great conversation made it seem like a short five miles. There were participants of all ages, including toddlers in strollers (pushed by parents of course)! The course wrapped up at St. James' with more nourishment and lots of cheers! Hoorah for all us! It was a rip roaring success and earned a whopping \$1,805 for Winter Relief!

Many, many thanks to all who participated and sponsors!

Johanne LaRocque  
Social Ministries and Congregational Care cluster

## Facilities Update

This has been a very busy past couple months at St. James'! We have selected a concrete contractor for the repair and replacing of much of our existing walkways. We had four bids, and have selected a Fremont firm that is quite reputable and offers a better finished product than the others. The scheduled start date is Monday July 28th. It will be completed before Sunday August 3rd. If you are at the church during this period, please stay away from all this activity, including where you might park your vehicle.

The bathroom renovation project in the big church will be starting within 3-6 weeks. When this project is complete; we'll have nice, new, handicap accessible rest rooms. We will have a presentation on the Bathroom Renovation project at the 10am hour on a Sunday in the late summer, please see details in the Sunday announcement.

We have also been repairing doors and locks throughout our campus for better security and to make them more "user-friendly". Additionally, we are hoping to add more exterior lighting in the "not too distant" future. Finally there are new bulletin boards in the parish hall; each will have news and updates of the various ministries here at St. James'.

Scott Kennedy, Facilities Cluster

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## Godly Play Storytellers and Doorkeepers Needed

Before we know it, the new program year will be beginning. There are currently several openings for doorkeepers and storytellers in the Godly Play program at St. James'. If you believe God might be calling you to minister to and with our youngest members in their formation as Christian people...or you would just like to know more about this ministry, please speak as soon as possible to Sylvia Sweeney. There is a diocesan training event for new (and continuing) Godly Play team members in late August and it would be great to have you attend.

Sylvia Sweeney

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## Preachers for Children Sermon Sundays

St. James' is trying to put together a cadre of lay preachers to preach the children sermons on the second Sunday of each month. If you believe God might be calling you to this important joy filled ministry, please speak with Sylvia Sweeney. Prior preaching experience is not required, and there will be some training provided.

Sylvia Sweeney  
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## ABOUT THE SEARCH PROCESS

We have an exciting time before us in the life of our parish. The interim period is a time of reflection, introspection, and decision. The Vestry has met with **The Rev. Canon Michael Barlowe**, Canon for Congregational Ministries in our diocese, who outlined for us the procedures for the interim period. We will be following the schedule below. Please keep us and all of St. James' in your prayers.

### *During the Interim period:*

1. The Vestry assumes the legal role of the Rector, especially the Sr. Warden.
2. The Interim Rector is not a voting member of the Vestry, but is a person trained to help the parish through the discernment process.
3. The Bishop takes a more direct pastoral role in the parish.
4. This is a time of introspection and spiritual discernment.
5. This process will take about one year.
6. It is normal for lots of rumors to circulate during this period, so both the Vestry and the Search Committee need to communicate regularly with the parish.

### *Timeline:*

- I. An Interim Rector is hired and should begin soon after the Rector has left. All applicants are vetted through the Diocese.
  - a. A small group formed from the Vestry will interview candidates for Interim; names of applicants are given to us by the Diocese.
- II. After the Interim is hired, the Vestry appoints a Search Committee.
  - a. Vestry creates an application for the Search Committee to solicit volunteers.
    - i. Application should clearly outline the duties and requirements of Search Committee members.
    - ii. Vestry should also seek out people who have not nominated themselves to be on the Search Committee.
    - iii. Search Committee members must know the parish very well.
  - b. Vestry creates a budget for the Search Committee.
  - c. Vestry appoints 9-12 members to the Search Committee.
    - i. One or two members of the Vestry may be on the Search Committee. They may NOT be the Wardens.

- ii. The Search Committee must be a group of people who are dynamic, can work together and share the responsibilities and the work load.
- iii. The Vestry appoints the Chair or Co-Chairs of the Search Committee.
- iv. Michael Barlowe (or a member of his staff) will train the Search Committee for their work.

- III. The Search Committee creates the Parish Profile
  - a. This is done through a discernment process involving the entire parish.
  - b. While the profile is being created, the Vestry determines the compensation package for the new Rector.
  - c. The completed Parish Profile – including compensation package - is approved by both the Vestry and the Bishop.
- IV. After the profile is in place, the Search Committee starts evaluating candidates.
  - a. The Diocese conducts a preliminary vetting of ALL candidates.
  - b. The Search Committee visits the semi-finalists, and ends with 2-3 names to give to the Vestry. This process is confidential, and the names of candidates are not released.
- V. The final candidates may be asked to preach and celebrate for the Vestry, but it is recommended that they not do so for Sunday services nor visit the parish during a Sunday service.
- VI. Vestry calls a Rector, who must be approved by the Bishop.
- VII. Celebrate the next stage of our journey as a parish!  
Your Vestry is committed to keeping you informed every step along the way. If you ever have a question about the search process or where we are in that process, please ask your Wardens or any Vestry member. Thank you.

Janet Fischer, Jr. Warden



## Thank you, Sylvia Sweeney

The Vestry would like to announce that our Associate Rector, the Rev. Dr. Sylvia Sweeney has graciously agreed to stay at St. James' till Sept 30, 2008 to help us with our transition after Bob leaves.

Sylvia is tireless in tending to our spiritual needs, in supporting our Children Ministry, our acolytes, Liturgical Design, music program, our adult education program as well as providing pastoral care for our parishioners. Thank you, Sylvia, for ministering to us a little longer.

Sylvia's last Sunday with us will be Sept 21. We will have a party for her that day.

Sylvia Ma, Senior Warden

## Ice Cream Social

Members of St. James' hosted a successful ice cream social for the residents of Hillside Care Facility on Friday afternoon, July 18, 2008.

Everyone gathered in the solarium to enjoy lemonade, ice cream cones, as well as a selection of cookies donated by St. James' parishioners. We discovered a great song leader among the residents who helped lead us in singing some old favorites. This woman was full of pep and remembered words and tunes for many of the "oldies".

Staff members distributed additional ice cream cones to residents who are unable to leave their rooms.

The following people generously donated their time (and singing voices) to make a fun event for the residents at Hillside: Byron Bader, Bob Bell, Margaret Broun, Gail Blalock, Barbara Johnsen, Mel and Alice Johnson, Barbara Lyon, Sandra Motley, Ruth Poole, Joan Roberts, Paul and Nancy Svenson, Pat Vlastelica, and Chris Williams.

The popular puppet, "cc", also made a rare local appearance

Alice Johnson

## Healing Ministry

Join the St. James' Healing Ministry and the Bay



Area ThetaHealing Practitioners in Individual Sessions and a Healing Circle on Sunday, August 31, from 10 - 11 AM St. James' Episcopal Church in room EB #1. For more information, call either Padmini Nagaraj (510) 931-7488 or Rod Whitehouse (510) 673-8377.

## Save the Date!

### Back to School Sunday!

By now you all know about 2nd Sundays in which the 9 & 11 services have a more child friendly feel and a children's sermon. Watch your September newsletter for information on our special Back to School Sunday on September 14. This will be a true kids' Sunday at St. James' highlighting the gifts, talents, and ministries of our youngest members. If you are under the age of 18 and would like to be an usher, eucharistic minister, reader, choir member, oblationer, or an acolyte on that Sunday at either 9 or 11:00, please talk to Sylvia Sweeney or Jan Scrutton.

Sylvia Sweeney

### Financial Summary

	<u>6/30/2007</u>	<u>6/30/2008</u>
Operating Cash	\$30,720	\$24,019
Building Cash	5,251	9,848

### Year-to-date Summary

Pledges budgeted	\$128,000
Pledges paid	118,569
Unpledged contributions	5,761
Other operating income	<u>12,921</u>
Total operating income	\$137,252
Total operating expenses	<u>\$154,178</u>
Income less expenses	\$(16,926)

Next issue of *The Window* will be in September. We welcome your comments, pictures, essays, poems, cartoons, artwork, newsworthy items of interest, any group activity information and reviews.

**September Issue Deadline: August 15**



