



# The Window

The Newsletter of St. James' Episcopal Church in Fremont, CA  
*Called to serve in new and loving ways*

January 2013

## A God Who Rises Up

Many years ago, I sat in a corporate office as a secular employee, and stared off into space as I contemplated the best way to restructure a particularly complicated shipping tariff. Someone walked by the door and, seeing me staring off, yelled out, "get back to work!"

I knew this person was half joking, but I also realized that there is an element to truth in our western-culture mindset. If we are not *doing something*, then we must not be *doing anything*. Productivity is the honored result of our time. Accomplishing things, ticking off items on our to-do list. It's the measurement of our success.

This characteristic of getting things done bleeds into our spiritual lives as well. We work hard to meet God. We structure our prayers and design our liturgies, we read spiritual books and have religious discussions, all so that we might find our way to God. So often, we think of the spiritual life as a journey from where we are to where God is, with only our own agency getting us from here to there.

But what if we switched that around? What if we imagined that, standing still, God might just come to us? In essence, we don't need to *do anything* other than be open to the possibility for God to rise up to meet us. One of the reasons we hold silence in our services, most distinctly in Advent and Lent, is to allow us a moment to do absolutely nothing

but be present. No words, no movement, no task to be done. Just silence so that God can speak, move, and impact.

It is hard to believe that 2013 is here; time moves quicker each year. And with the New Year are so often those to-do lists, the things to check off, and the tasks to accomplish. This year I will organize the closets, take better care of myself, be better about being on time... Whatever it is for you, add this one item: This year I will *do nothing* except allow God to meet me.

In the words of author, priest, and general spiritual guy, Brian C. Taylor:

*"God is forever reaching towards us, trying to get our attention through nature, creativity, suffering, diverse people, difficult circumstances, surprising turns of events, and yes, sunsets and smiles of loved ones too. God is forever breaking through the veil of the ordinary, stirring things up for us.*

*This is the coming of God into the world, the Incarnation that is always new. This is...the initiative of a God who rises up to meet us where we are, and carry us forward in the great current of life."*

May each of us know the God that is there to meet us just as we are right now. May each of us have a year blessed with many God encounters.

Happy New Year.

Lori

## Stewardship Corner

“I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me.”

*(Matthew 25:35)*

For me, this verse is typical of the St. James' Community. We are living in times of extraordinary change. It seems that every day there is a new crisis needing to be fixed and new needs to be met. As God's children, we cannot simply stand by. St. James' Church has always been generous. That is why it is so important that we all return a pledge so that our 2013 budget can be prepared and presented for approval at the Annual Meeting later this month.

As of the writing of this article, 82 pledges totaling just over \$229,000 have been submitted. This is less than a year ago, but I have tremendous faith in the people of St. James' and believe that in the coming days those who haven't pledged yet will do so showing that we are as strong as ever.

“Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything you may share abundantly in every good work.”

*(2Corinthians 9:7-8)*

Let us all begin this *New Year* by giving as generously as we can. There is no gift that is too small every gift is important. Give thanks to God for all that you have been given!

Thank you.

Gail Blalock, Stewardship Chair

## Las Posadas

Prayers, laughter, candlelight meditations on Mary, a delicious Mexican meal, the youth group leading of the procession to find shelter for Mary and Joseph, and the entertainment by our own children's choir and musicians and the Irish musical instruments performance by the students of Sacred Heart and Our Lady of Grace Nativity Schools of San Jose: all these elements provided a Las Posadas evening of joy on the first Sunday of Advent.

John Maloney



*Photos by Bruce Roberts*



## Winter Relief Home Warming Update

We've hit the ground running this year with our Winter Relief Home Warming Program. Last year was a great one for Winter Relief, with participating faith communities

sponsoring twenty-two families' moves into housing, and we're looking forward to an even better time this year! We're so excited about all the communities that have joined us to make a difference in the lives of these families.

The impact that our faith communities have on the families we work with through Winter Relief is invaluable. At our last meeting, Krish and Poonam, a formerly homeless couple who participated in last year's Winter Relief, expressed their gratitude for all the help they received from their sponsoring church. They were happy to report that their new home is working out well. It's close to Krish's workplace, easing his commute and letting him add shifts to his schedule. Meanwhile, Poonam has also found work as a broker for a local real estate company.

With help from the Home Warming faith communities this year, we hope to create homes and success stories for more families like Krish and Poonam. Our biggest challenge this year is matching affordable housing with our rapid-rehousing program. The demand for rental housing has increased significantly with Silicon Valley leading the way for job growth. It takes more financial resources to house the clients.

The St James' community has come through as always with generous donations of gently used household items, gift cards and cash. We are still in partnership with Harbor Light Church and we pool our resources with Harbor Light as well as with some of the faith communities listed below. Our storage unit is full and we are anxious to get our family to sponsor in early 2013. I'll give you a more timely update in January after our next meeting.

Thanks to the 2012-2013 Home Warming faith communities!

Centerville Presbyterian Church  
Christ The King Lutheran Church  
Corpus Christi Parish  
Family Bible Fellowship  
Niles Discovery Church  
First United Methodist Church  
Fremont Congregational Church

Harbor Light Church  
Holy Spirit Catholic Church  
Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Church  
Newark Community Church  
Newark First Presbyterian Church  
Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish  
Sisters of the Holy Family  
South Bay Community Church  
St. James' Episcopal Church

If you have any questions regarding the Winter Relief Home Warming Program, then contact Scott Whitaker at 510-739-0904 or Gregg Feeney at 510-795-1870. Thanks for all the continued support.

Gregg Feeney

## December Vestry Highlights

- ◆ The Vestry spent much of the meeting discussing the 2013 budget. Right now it is being fine-tuned and it will be finalized at the January Vestry meeting. Everyone is invited to hear a presentation on the 2013 budget at the Faith Formation hour between services on January 13.
- ◆ Next year's Vestry was discussed along with the need for new members. We currently do not have enough nominees to fill the four openings. This is an important part of keeping St James' moving ahead. If you have any interest in filling a spot or questions about serving on the Vestry, please talk to Janet, Lori or me.
- ◆ The last of the stained glass windows have been restored and reinstalled in the Little Church.

Laura Winter, Junior Warden



## Music Notes

Thanks to all who participated in the wonderful music this Christmas season! We especially thank Simone Salmon who played the harp at our 11:00pm Christmas Eve service!

We are always accepting new choir members into our Adult Choir and Children's Choir! The adult choir rehearses on Wednesday nights from 7:30 - 9:00pm, and the Children's Choir rehearses on Sundays at the end of the 10:30am service.

Happy New Year to all! Please see me if you would like to join us in making a joyful noise to our Lord!

Jennifer Carini, Music Director

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## Your Pledge in Action

Join Lynn Locher, treasurer at 9:15am on Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup> to review St James' budget for 2013. Find out if your pledges and other income will cover the cost of running a church that serves its members and the community.

Lynn Locher, Treasurer



Our annual meeting is fast approaching. On Sunday, January 13, join us in Education Building Room #1 between services at 9:15am for an update on our 2013 budget and the endowment funds. The following Sunday, January 20, we will have **ONE** service at 10am in the main church, followed by a short break and then our annual meeting at approximately 11:30am. We will enjoy a slide show of the past year's events, receive reports on all of our activities, and elect four new Vestry members and two new deanery representatives. It is so important for all members to attend, but even if you don't consider yourself a member, all are welcome!

Janet Fischer, Sr. Warden

## Christmas returns to St James'

**Save the date! 22-26 July 2012**

As the holiday season draws to a close and you sadly pack away those lights and cards, be encouraged – we can celebrate it all again in 6 months time!

Our VBS theme for 2013 is Christmas in July. This is a wonderful opportunity to retell the greatest story of all and have time to expand on its importance to us all and remind ourselves that Jesus is not packed away when the crib scene is taken down.

Please put the dates on your calendar if you know a child who may enjoy coming or if you are interested in joining us as a volunteer.

So while you put away the Christmas decorations, keep in mind some of the things we could use. Your old Christmas cards (fronts only please, no writing/messages), used paper and old decorations might all be useful to us, and we will start gathering them in January. Please do not give us anything you would like back – we will recycle anything we can't use. We also need around 40 shoe boxes, with lids!

If you have lights or lawn decorations we can borrow, please keep them, and we will ask about them nearer the time.

Thank you. Jan Scrutton. [ctfcoord@saintj.com](mailto:ctfcoord@saintj.com)

The next issue of *The Window* is in February. We welcome your **comments, essays, poems, photos, cartoons, newsworthy items of interest, art work, any group activity information and reviews.**

Email your submission to [window@saintj.com](mailto>window@saintj.com)  
by: **February Issue Deadline: January 15th**

## **READING MUSIC 101** **JANUARY 27 AND FEBRUARY 3, 2013**

Look at the picture. Do you wonder, what ARE the lines and circles on the lines of music in the Hymnal? Have you heard phrases like "Every Good Boy Does Fine" in your youth but can't remember them anymore? And what about FACE?



You should come to Music Reading 101! Our Music Director, Jennifer Carini, will teach the beginning elements of reading music in two thrilling sessions! Jennifer has been teaching children how to read music for the past 19 years...she is confident that YOU can learn too!

We are calling this a Faith Formation class because, per Canon 24, Section 1, says in part, "music is used as an offering for the glory of God and as a help to the people in their worship in accordance with The Book of Common Prayer...." And what better way to make that offering than to understand the meaning behind, in this case, all those circles and lines, not discounting the words of course.

So where and when? Classroom EB-1 at 9:15 AM on Jan. 27 and Feb. 3, 2013. Be brave. Jennifer is a gentle teacher. She loves to bring you along with her.

Bruce Roberts

## **Food and Fellowship Dinners**

The next scheduled Food & Fellowship pot-luck dinner is scheduled for Saturday evening, January 19<sup>th</sup>, starting round 5:30pm at the home of Ralph and Lynn Locher located at [82 Zacate Place, Fremont](#). This is a wonderful opportunity to break bread and drink in with your fellow parishioners in a more informal atmosphere. Should you wish to attend, please either sign up on the list posted in the Parish Hall or contact Ralph Locher via email [relocher@comcast.net](mailto:relocher@comcast.net) or by phone (510)792-2248. You will be contacted during the week of the event about a food or a drink item to bring to share.

The deadline for signing up is Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup>.

Submitted by Ralph Locher for Parish Life Cluster

## **Hillside Christmas Gifts 2012**

The "Giving Tree" gifts kept coming in until there was a room full of 69 packages with bright Christmas wrapping. Wednesday, Dec. 5th was a little damp at 1:30, but not the spirits of the 17 St James' folks who were on hand to leave a gift for each resident.

Bob Doherty transported the gifts from church, Bud Pearson was leader of our Christmas song fest and Bruce Roberts took photos of the activities. Byron Bader brought his granddaughter along and Paul, Nancy & Chris Svenson bolstered our singing. Nancy, a member of the "Fremont Sweet Harps", a harmonica group, invited the "Sweet Harps" to join us, so we really had some musicians behind us.

We did put some residents to sleep, but there were others who got into the spirit when we were singing. We, Lauren Doherty, Alice Johnson and Sandra Motley, Thank You and Applaud You for kindness

and giving to this Ministry. Smiles, laughter and God's Love were there for everyone.



Sandra Motley

*Photos by Bruce Roberts*

## Who in the World are We? a Discussion on Anglicanism

Interested in knowing more about what an Episcopalian is? Interested in sharing with others what it means for *you* to be an Episcopalian? Curious about this thing called the Anglican Church? Join the Reverend Lori Walton in a four-week course specifically designed to explore our particular way of being Church. This discussion is for every one, from “cradle Episcopalian” to those just dipping a toe into the Anglican waters.

*Note: If you are considering being received or confirmed into the Episcopal Church, this course serves as preparation. Speak with Lori directly.*

**Sign up in the Parish Hall so we know you're coming!**

***Tuesdays, January 22nd, 29th, February 5th and Monday, February 11th, 7:00-8:30pm.***

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## Coffee Hour Shake-Up!

We're shaking up coffee hour and changing the way we do things! Beginning January 20, coffee hour will be hosted by parishioners and ministry groups, and supported by the Kitchen Crew.

What does this mean? It means you'll have an opportunity to share in this treasured fellowship event by signing up to bring food to share with your fellow parishioners. Those attending the 8:00 service will provide food for the hour following, and those attending the 10:30 service will provide food for the hour following the later service. The Kitchen Crew will provide beverages and clean-up (though assistance with clean-up is *always* welcome).



Look for a sign-up sheet on the Flower, Candle, and Coffee bulletin board in the Parish Hall, and show off your culinary skills (or shopping skills) by feeding the masses. Further instructions will follow.



## Mark Your Calendars for the Season of Lent!

**February 12th, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, followed by the Children's Ashes Service.**

**February 13th, Ash Wednesday Services, 7am, 12pm, and 7pm.**

**Tuesdays in Lent, February 19th - March 19th, Soup Suppers and Study.**

# TENTH ANNUAL JOHN McCUTCHEON CONCERT

## ABODE SERVICES

Many years ago somebody told me that most relationships last about seven years. I find it remarkable that St. James' and John McCutcheon's relationship has lasted ten years, ten years in just a few weeks. This year for the first time a portion of the proceeds from the Concert will go to Abode Services. A supporter of Abode Services from the beginning, St. James' and St. James' congregation have long aided Abode with time, talent and treasure, but this will be the first time we have designated concert proceeds to Abode. So, to all who buy tickets to the Concert, thank you very much for contributing to Abode Services, working together to end homelessness in our community.

## A LITTLE ABOUT JOHN MCCUTCHEON

You didn't buy your ticket only for the Abode Services contribution, you bought it so you could hear John McCutcheon's stories and songs accompanied by his banjo, fiddle, guitar – 6 and 12 string, hammer dulcimer, and piano – (in alphabetical order) playing. A touring folksinger for forty years as of 2013, he has recorded 35 plus albums for which he has been nominated for a Grammy seven times, all the while supporting workers, needling politicians and celebrating heroic deeds. And you may remember from previous concerts he Entertains with a capital E as well. You may well guess that John enjoys playing at St. James'. He does because he has fun singing for us.

## NEW NEWS – FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

John McCutcheon will donate \$1 for each CD/DVD/book sold at our concert to Friends of the Library in Fremont. A non-profit organization founded in 1965, it holds book sales three times a year to raise additional funds for the Library to purchase equipment, books, and children's programs.

## THE PARTICULARS

When: **Monday, January 21, 2013 at 7:30 PM**

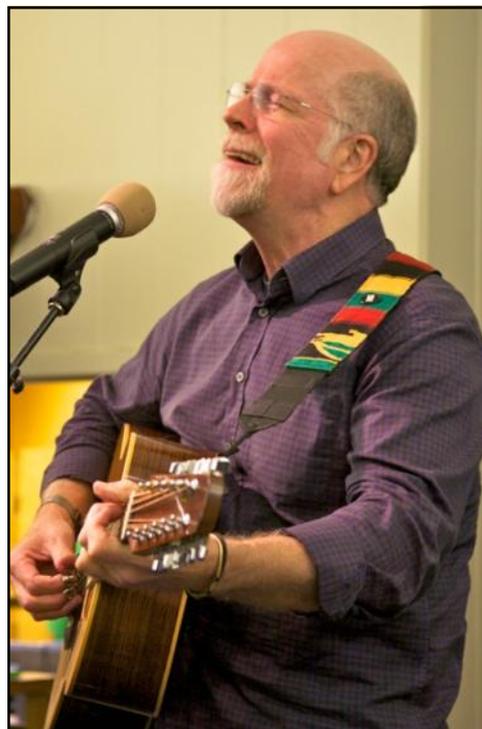
Where: St. James' Episcopal Church (Club Saint J for one night)

Tickets: Can be purchased each Sunday morning in the Parish Hall until the concert. Or call the Parish Office at 510-797-1492. For each ticket, cash, check, or credit card it's \$25 for adults, \$15 for children, under five years old for free.

## THE PRIZE DRAWING

At the Concert Intermission we will draw for prizes at the now Annual Prize Drawing. Prizes include restaurant gift certificates, Dave Nelsen's turned bowls, vintage wine, framed photos. See the prizes each Sunday at Coffee Hour and place your tickets in the bag for the item you want. Tickets are \$1 each or...a real deal...6 for \$5, 12 for \$10, etc. Tickets will be available until the drawing is actually held.

**Remember**, a gift of John McCutcheon Concert tickets isn't something that will gather dust on a shelf; it's a gift for a friend or loved one's mind, psyche, memory, and experience. And you get to sing along as well when you take them.





## St. James' Prayer List

*Most Holy God, we pray for:*

**Those Who Need Comfort and Healing:** Eileen, Clara, Edna, Philip, Noah, Florinne, Anna Mae, Meganne, Lynn, Floyd, Lorraine, Bob, Jay, Bobbie, Paula, Carlos

**Those Who Need Guidance and Direction:** Nadia, Kenny, Paul, Rhonda, Deja, Jordon

**Those Who are Traveling:** Rev. Christina Cobb and Family

**Those in the Military:** Scott, Jarrod, Bryan, Megan, Erica, Theresa, Mark, Tim, Louis, Military Children of ACBSM, the families and Marines of Dark Horse Battalion, Caitlin, Emily, Robin, Robert, Adam, Darren, Robert

**Families Expecting Children:** Candace, Marley Stephen, Ann and David, Jana and Mike, Erica, Amaya, Lacy

**Those Who Have Passed Away:** Tim, Joyce, Jody,



## January Birthdays

- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Miles Archer     | 6 Tom Blalock      |
| Barbara Kostick    | 10 Caylyn Ramsamy  |
| Esther Wothaya     | 15 Avis Gonzales   |
| 2 Chelsea Drescher | 20 Stephanie Casas |
| 3 Stephen Ferro    | 25 Byron Bader     |
| 5 Gail Culver      | 28 Maggie Shalar   |
| Laura Winter       |                    |



## January Anniversaries

*Love is the condition in which the happiness of another person is essential to your own.*

- 1 Brian & Evelyn Cohran  
Marc & Philippa Slayton
- 14 Amos Muwonge Harriet Nabbaale
- 19 Rod & Jackie Whitehouse
- 21 Alan & Alison Saichek

**Please note:** If your birth month or anniversary is in this month and your name(s) is not listed or the information is incorrect, please email the appropriate information to [admin@saintj.com](mailto:admin@saintj.com)

Financial Summary November 2012		
Fund Balances	11/30/2011	11/30/2012
Operating Fund	\$ 72,346	\$ 74,947
Building Fund	\$ 36,150	\$ 11,574
<b>Year To Date Summary Operating</b>		
<b>Pledges Budgeted</b>	\$ 214,436	\$ 217,076
<b>Pledges Paid</b>	\$ 216,974	\$ 201,486
Unpledged Contributions	\$ 7,491	\$ 5,064
Other Op Income*	\$ 15,255	\$ 15,787
Total Operating Income	\$ 239,720	\$ 222,337
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 219,137	\$ 220,709
<b>Income less Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 20,583</b>	<b>\$ 1,627</b>
*Includes Fundraising		



[Calendar link](#)



# SAINT JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Thornton Avenue at Cabrillo Terrace

PO Box 457

Fremont, CA 94537-0457

[WEB: http://saintj.com](http://saintj.com)

### WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAY SERVICES 8:00AM & 10:30AM  
FAITH FORMATION SUNDAY 9:15-10:15AM  
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15AM  
YOUTH GROUP SECOND SUNDAY 6:30PM  
WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST 10:00AM

### OFFICE HOURS

TUESDAY THROUGH FRIDAY: 9:00AM-1:00PM

### STAFF

The Rev. Lori Walton ..... [lori@saintj.com](mailto:lori@saintj.com)  
The Rev. Bob Dobbin ..... [deaconbob@saintj.com](mailto:deaconbob@saintj.com)  
The Rev. Bill Mosier ..... [deaconbill@saintj.com](mailto:deaconbill@saintj.com)  
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Children, Teen & Family Coordinator .....  
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Office Administrator ..... [admin@saintj.com](mailto:admin@saintj.com)  
Treasurer ..... [treasurer@saintj.com](mailto:treasurer@saintj.com)

### VESTRY

Senior Warden ..... [srwarden@saintj.com](mailto:srwarden@saintj.com)

*Janet Fischer*

Junior Warden ..... [jrwarden@saintj.com](mailto:jrwarden@saintj.com)

*Laura Winter*

Christian Formation ..... [christianformation@saintj.com](mailto:christianformation@saintj.com)

*Nancy Castaneda, Stephen Ferro*

Social Ministries/Congregational Care ..... [socialministries-congcare@saintj.com](mailto:socialministries-congcare@saintj.com)

*Gary Gearheart, Beverly Mosier*

Communications/Evangelism Cluster ..... [communications-evangelism@saintj.com](mailto:communications-evangelism@saintj.com)

*Mike Scrutton, Jack Rux*

Parish Life ..... [parishlife@saintj.com](mailto:parishlife@saintj.com)

*Bob Bynum, Donald Razzolini*

Facilities ..... [facilities@saintj.com](mailto:facilities@saintj.com)

*Brad Hoffman, Bud Spalding*

Vestry Clerk: *Elizabeth Hart*

### Other Important Coordinators

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors: Janet Fischer  
Children, Teen and Family Ministries: Jan Scrutton  
Altar Guild: Ruth Poole  
Treasurer: Lynn Locher  
Ushers: Burtin Hart

### The Window Staff

Ralph Locher  
Marilyn Rose  
Jack Rux  
Penny Trant  
Laura Winter