The Window

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

Called to serve in new and loving ways

June 2013

A Practice of Examination

Saint Ignatius of Loyola promoted a practice of prayer that centers on the imitation of Jesus – an emphasis on the mind, heart, values, and loves of Christ. Saint Ignatius would instruct his followers that to know these aspects of Christ, one would need to look clearly at what Jesus said and did. At the very center of Jesus' life was his constant and intentional connection to God. Jesus also embarked on a journey that modeled living as an authentic human being under the gaze of a loving God. Jesus embodied forgiveness of sins, healed the wounded, sick, and possessed, and gave great hope to those who were both socially and economically downtrodden. Jesus also spoke of the transformation of the world and person to a place of joy, peace, justice and love.

Ignatian spirituality attempts to move people from a sense of disconnectedness from the life of Jesus, from God, and from other human beings to a place where one feels the incarnation of God in creation, in other persons, and in self. One of the reasons I love this expression of spirituality is that it does not seek to separate us from the world, but affirms both our human potential and the on-going failings of ourselves and humanity.

Saint Ignatius created a method of prayer called the examen (or The Examen of Consciousness). I find this to be an extremely accessible way of praying. The examen is a short, daily period of prayer that allows an individual to seek and find God in the very ordinary rhythm of life.

Traditionally, there are five steps: 1) recall that you are in the presence of God, 2) give thanks to God for what you received, and look at what you gave, 3) ask for the awareness of the Holy Spirit so you can examine you actions with patience and honesty, 4) examine how you are living by reviewing the day, and 5) pray words of reconciliation and forgiveness for others and for yourself, expressing sorrow for sin, thanksgiving for grace, and praise for God.

A more modern, and perhaps more accessible road map would be to spend some time each night before you retire and breathe in God and ask for the Holy Spirit's guidance. Once you've quieted down, begin examining your day with these questions:

What surprised me today?
What inspired me today?
Did I experience hurt today?
Did I experience love today?
What felt life-giving?
What felt life-taking?

For the good, give thanks to God. For the not-so-good, forgive or ask forgiveness. And in all, understand that the Spirit of God blows through all of it.

Happy praying.

Lori

Stewardship Corner

"All Things Come From Thee"

For several months I have been asking myself and the Stewardship Team "what are we going to do this fall to promote stewardship?" A better question might be "what are we going to do this fall to ***celebrate*** stewardship?"

Celebrating stewardship sounds like a strange concept because mostly we think of parting with something, namely, our money. But stewardship is so much more than that. Certainly it means financial offering because let's face it, without money, our church cannot operate. But stewardship also means using our resources wisely, giving of our time, performing special acts of service, volunteering to help others, and so many other things. Stewardship refers to God giving us something to take care of and expecting us to do something with it and protect it.

What has God given you? ***Money***…that you might provide for your house, but also for God's house. ***Talent***…that you might use your skill to promote God's Kingdom. ***Time***…that you might spend some of your time in service or worship of God.

"…and of thy own, have we given thee."

Gail Blalock, Chair
Stewardship Committee

Volunteer Appreciation Day

Calling All Volunteers

We hope everyone who volunteers their time and talent always feel appreciated for all you do for St. James' and our community. To show our appreciation, St. James' has started a tradition of honoring our hard working volunteers in June.

Please plan to attend the services on June 16th where we can recognize and offer a heartfelt thanks for all the time and talent you give.

The 8:00 am service will be followed by a Thank You Cake, and the 10:30 am service will be followed by an Ice Cream social on the patio.

Bob Bynum and Ralph Locher
Parish Life Committee

Don't Forget Your Pledge This Summer!

Pledge payments traditionally fall off during the summer months. Parishioners may be on vacation, but the church has to continue to pay its bills every month.

Please remember to keep up with your pledge this summer. If you will be away, you can always drop your pledge envelope in the mail (after affixing a stamp, of course!).

Enjoy your summer, and remember St. James'!

Thank you.

Janet Fischer
Sr.Warden

FAITH FORMATION
JUNE 2 AND 9, 2013
RUMI

You may be asking what is a Rumi? Until recently I had the same outlook on him. This two-part class will explore a number of subjects: Who was Rumi? When did he live? What did he do? How does it affect the world and us today? What did he teach? Are his teachings universal and/or ecumenical? What about his poetry and music? Is he inclusive in his teachings? Who is Shams? And what is a *ney*?

In the class we shall explore "The Ecstatic Faith of Rumi" with a conversation between Krista Tippet and Fateham Kashevaraz. We will discuss topics based on their conversations.

Bring a favorite poem: Be prepared to discuss why you selected it, what you think its theme is, and how does it speak to your spirituality?

Bring a Bible or read the Song of Solomon chapter 4, verses 1 through 7 before class.

I realize this is a tough assignment – to come *prepared* for the class – but the class will be more rewarding if you are prepared.

Place, Date and Time: EB-1 on June 2nd and 9th at 9:15 am

Bruce Roberts

DUCKS *for* BUCKS RACE RESULTS

On Saturday, April 27th, St. James' participated in the Fremont Kiwanis Annual Duck Race on Lake Elizabeth for the ninth year in a row! St. James' parishioners had 460 rubber duckies in the race and while none of our ducks made it to the finish line in time to win a prize, St. James' did receive a check in the amount of $1,278 for its participation.

Winners in the ***"for St. James' Ducks Only"*** prize drawing were:

$50 Macy's gift card - Greg & Luke Scheffele
$50 Elephant Bar gift card - John Kimber
$25 Starbucks gift card - Bob Bell
$25 El Patio gift card - Cathy Knotts
Ducky Beach Towels - Penny Trant
Priceless Ducky Umbrella - Cathy Knotts

Thank you to all who sponsored ducks in the race this year and your continued support over the past nine years. Your generosity has helped raise much needed funds for many St. James' programs and also for the community.

As we look forward to next year, we hope a volunteer or two will step forward to continue this fun filled event at St. James'.

Tom & Gail Blalock

Why Christmas in July?

When Christmas creeps back into our stores in late September and carols are heard for weeks before they appear in worship, why would we decide to make our Vacation Bible School (VSB) about Christmas, spreading the red and green, the glitter and the hype even further across our calendar? And why would our Children, Teen & Family Coordinator want, and our Rector agree, to decorating our space for the week with as many of the commercial Christmas images as she can find?

When I first proposed Christmas in July as a VBS theme and started collecting people's old decorations, I knew some people wondered if I really wanted the secular as well as the religious themed things they had and were surprised to find, I did. I have warned our VBS team that I hope to create an over the top expression of Christmas to greet the kids when they arrive on July 22nd.

But why? Why not just tell the Christmas story as we hear it in the Bible, set in a desert country, where the colors of brown and yellow might seem more seasonal than green and red?

This summer we really do plan to tell the Christmas story, the story of the young couple spoken to by angels and then sent on a long journey at a time they would most want to be safe at home, the story of shepherds isolated in the hills being told in a glorious display of the birth of an important child and who went to celebrate his birth and of wise people led by a star to meet the baby savior. We want to share the news that that baby was the most important gift and is not packed away with the decorations; we want to share our excitement about this most precious gift from God who enabled us to understand that God truly walks with us on earth.

(Continued ~ Why Christmas in July?)

When we decorate our space using all the colorful lights, decorations, tinsel and glitter we want to connect the children to memories of Christmas' past and layer our teaching of Jesus on top of them. Just as our memories of Christmas are built from each experience we have, the best music, smells, tastes, so can theirs be. We pray that when they experience Christmas again, at home, in stores or wherever they may be, they remember the stories we will share at St James' this summer and recall the importance of the baby Jesus and the welcome they received at VBS.

Jan Scrutton

Work Party at St. James'

St. James' Church work party is scheduled every third Saturday of the month from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, unless there is a conflict and we have to postpone or change the date. We invite anyone who can spare an hour or two to join us as we work to maintain our beautiful campus.

The work party is also a great time for new parishioners to meet and have fellowship in a more comfortable and "relaxing" setting. We trim bushes, sweep up, mow, weed, plant and the big event every year is the trimming and cutting of the trees.

After the work party we go to lunch at the Round Table Pizza down the street. The pizza is on us, just a small way to say thanks for all the work you do to keep our campus looking so great.

So, if you find you have some time when the next work party comes up on June 15th, drop on by, you are always welcome.

St. James' Work Party

K-6 Day Camp

Christmas in July

July 22-26

9am - 12 daily

Registration forms now available from church, the office or saintj.com

Remembering Brad

After Brad's memorial service in April, a good friend that we had both gone to Irvington High School with, Natalie Durham gave me an envelope of some old news clippings and photos. Natalie's mom was going through some things and thought Brad's parents might want to have them. They were newspaper articles and photos of the summer of 1972 when Brad's Boy Scout Troop and the Durham family had taken a 180 mile backpack hike around California up through the Yosemite and Tahoe/Sierra area.

Around camp, Brad was known as the preacher and said prayer at meals and conducted outdoor services during their trip. Even as a young man, Bard was a person of strong convictions in his faith knowing Jesus as his Savior and loved sharing Christ with others.

I am quoting from one of the articles written for the local newspaper, chronicling this trip. On this day in the second week of their adventure, the group '"held a makeshift religious ceremony in the greatest cathedral on earth. Brad spoke of the sights we had seen during past seven days, commenting in particular on how some people are not as careful of the outdoors, as they might be.

HIS PRAYER, said amid the creations of God, witnessed by our small gathering, gave extra meaning to an already meaningful excursion, with these words:

"God gave us this Earth for our own use as a home, but some men have very foolishly misused it, by leaving their garbage, and other matter, upon it's face, in it's waters and in it's air.

Now let us here, go forth this week in our own way, help to preserve and return, this wilderness to the way it was before man.

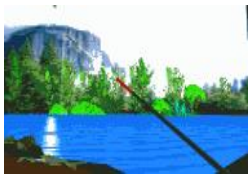
(Continued ~ Remembering Brad)

And let those who pursue the road home, to help in whatever way they might, to preserve this, our fragile Earth."'[1]

This was the Brad I always knew and loved. I miss you, my dear friend.

Penny Trant

[1] Rose Marie Durham, The Argus/Daily Review, August 1972



Men's Trip to Arnold

It's still not too late to sign up for St. James' 6th Annual Men's Trip to Arnold. This year the trip is scheduled from 08/15 - 08/18. The tentative cost, depending on attendance, should be about $120 per person.

We play golf, fish, hike, ride bikes, tell stories, relax and enjoy each other's company. We may eat out one or two times but for the most part it's shared cooking, eating, and cleaning.

Some come all four days while others come just for the weekend. Carpooling is highly suggested. Look for a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall and get in on this wonderful time.

If you have any questions, please contact Gregg at 510-795-1870 or email to dgfeeney@comcast.net

Gregg Feeney

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Financial Summary April 2013

Fund Balances	4/30/2012	4/30/2013
Operating Fund	$ 73,540.18	$ 45,421.16
Building Investment		$ 10,000.00
Building Fund	$ 34,981.26	$ 47,063.71

Year to Date Summary Operating

Pledges Budgeted	$ 78,936.64	$ 81,207.34
Pledges Paid	$ 69,835.00	$ 73,818.87
Unpledged Contributions	$ 1,934.00	$ 2,015.00
Other Op Income*	$ 7,377.82	$ 9,144.39
Total Operating Income	$ 79,146.82	$ 84,978.26
Total Operating Expenses	$ 74,850.53	$ 80,098.20
Income less Expenses	**$ 4,296.29**	**$ 4,880.06**

*Includes Fundraising

Sunday, July 21

St. James' Feast Day Celebration

May Vestry Meeting Update

The Vestry met on May 9th to discuss the issues of the month, and were joined by Scott Whitaker who presented an exciting opportunity to join Abode in supporting a new program.

Through the Abode Services' "My First Home" program, we have the opportunity to support young adults who have "aged out" of the California foster care system and help establish them in the community. The Vestry asked Scott to pass on our support to Adobe when he next meets with them. We look forward to hearing more details of how we can help in real terms in due course, which will be shared with the whole St. James' community.

Our Rector announced the appointment of our new Parish Administrator, David Goldstein. The Rector and Junior Warden conducted the search process during May and we are thrilled to welcome David. With the appointment, we have changed our office hours to Monday to Thursday, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm as this now overlaps the hours that Lori and David are both in the office. Please be sure to welcome David when you're next visiting church during the week.

The Vestry meets every second Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm in the parish hall and any member of the community is welcome to attend. If you have an agenda item that you'd like the vestry to consider and discuss, please send an email to the Senior Warden, Janet Fisher at srwarden@saintj.com.

Minutes of past Vestry meetings can be found on the St. James' website, saintj.com.

Mike Scrutton
Jr. Warden

The Comforters at St. James'

Many people have expressed interest in creating afghans for the Linus Project, as well as continuing to participate in the Prayer Shawl Ministry. But, for most of us, carving out time to attend yet another meeting is difficult. So, to facilitate our work, I have created a page on our web site listing all the resources we need to participate in the Comforters.

Please visit saintj.com/comforters for information and links to patterns for both knit and crochet. We'll have a periodic ingathering to collect your finished projects.

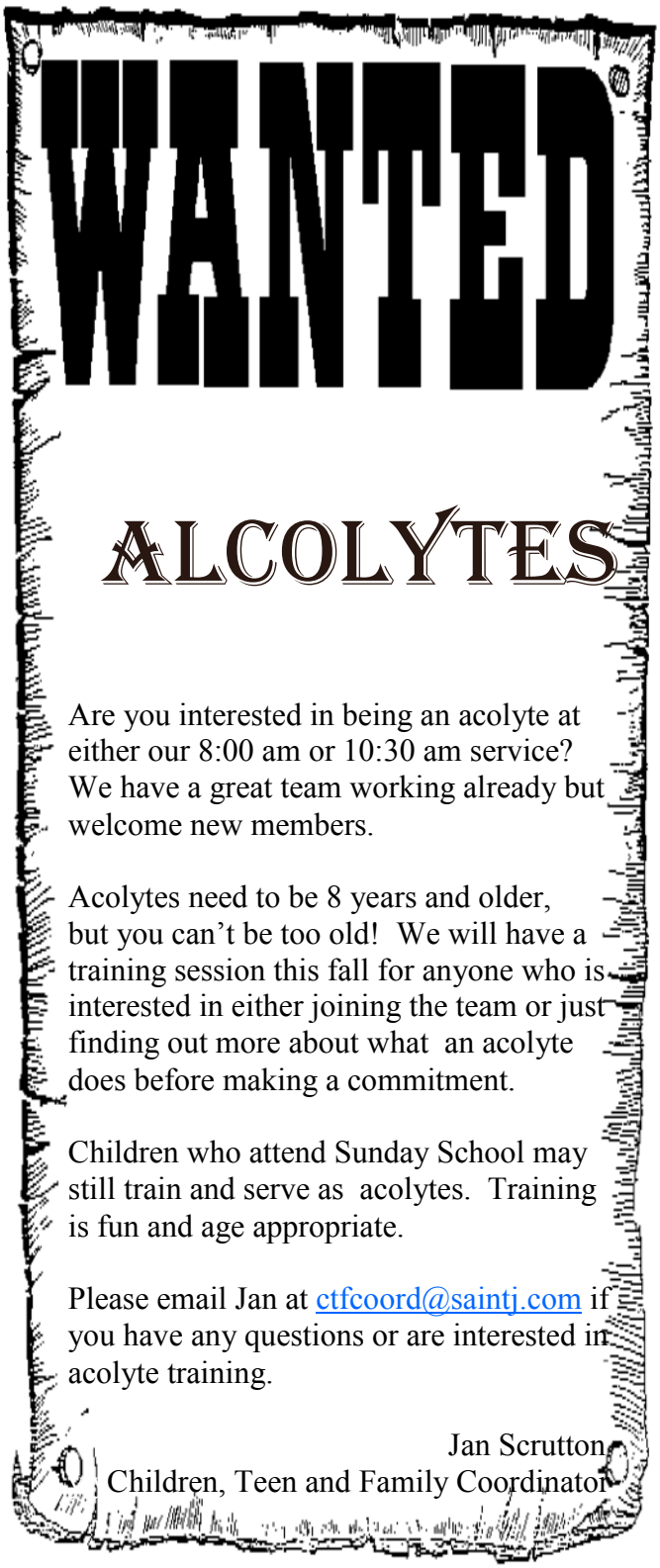
If have any questions, please email Janet Fischer at comforters@saintj.com .

P.S. We have plenty of prayer shawls on hand for the time being! So if you've been working on shawls, now would be a great time to try your hand at the afghans.

Janet Fischer

The next issue of ***The Window*** is in July. 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 by:
Date Issue Deadline: June 15th



ALCOLYTES

Are you interested in being an acolyte at either our 8:00 am or 10:30 am service? We have a great team working already but welcome new members.

Acolytes need to be 8 years and older, but you can't be too old! We will have a training session this fall for anyone who is interested in either joining the team or just finding out more about what an acolyte does before making a commitment.

Children who attend Sunday School may still train and serve as acolytes. Training is fun and age appropriate.

Please email Jan at ctfcoord@saintj.com if you have any questions or are interested in acolyte training.

Jan Scrutton
Children, Teen and Family Coordinator

ST. JAMES' PRAYER LIST

Most Holy God, we pray for:

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, Robert, Robert, Dave, Shawn, Ethan, Paul, Darren

Those Who Need Guidance and Direction: Kenny, Corey, Hailey, Bon

Those Who Need Comfort and Healing: Barbara, Marilyn, Paula, Selina, Ann, Verna, Michael, Doug, Jack, Pamela, Frank, Kelli, Rick, Sammiie, Sharyn, Rob, Louise, Pam, Claudette, John & Family, David, Claudette, Bob & Bobbie, Sandie, Arienly, Betty

Families expecting children: Tarha and Joey, Hoa and Erik, Lorena and Luis

Those Who Have Passed Away: Ray, Brian, Don

SUBMITTING PRAYER REQUESTS

To add someone to the "Special Prayers List", please complete a pew card and place it in the offerings plate at Sunday Service or send an email to the church office with the name and reason for prayers. After six weeks, names are removed from the list. Please renew your request as needed.

For the St. James' calendar, please refer to our website saintj.com

June Birthdays

3 Charles Paratore
Bryneth Fuller
4 Kitty Reed
Dorothy Balderston
Nancy Castaneda
5 Ivy Sankar
9 Bob Doherty
Beverly Sanders
12 Bob Dobbin
16 Chris Lubwama
18 Jennifer Evans
22 Mark Locher
Tim Spencer
24 Arlinda Cosby
25 Sylvia Clayton
Robert Lovelette
26 Gregory Miller
27 Marlene Benedict
28 George Vlastelica
Pat Vlastelica
29 Lorin Decena
Emma Feeney

June Anniversaries

3 Stephen and Allison Ferro
21 David and Judy Colby
22 Charlie and Judy Peeler
24 Keith and Sherea Westra
25 Jim and Frankie McLeod
27 Joan and John Kimber
28 Tim and Pam Young

Please note: If your birthday or anniversary is incorrect or your name(s) is not listed, please email the appropriate information to admin@saintj.com

Thank you!!

SAINT JAMES'
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Thornton Avenue at Cabrillo Terrace
PO Box 457
Fremont, CA 94537-0457
WEB: saintj.com

WORSHIP TIMES

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

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY: 9:00AM -1:00PM

STAFF

The Rev. Lori Walton ..... lori@saintj.com
The Rev. Ken Parris ..... deaconken@saintj.com
Music Director ..... music@saintj.com
Children, Teen & Family Coordinator…… .....
…….ctfcoord@saintj.com
Office Administrator .....admin@saintj.com
Treasurer .....treasurer@saintj.com
Newsletter submission .....window@saintj.com

VESTRY

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Janet Fischer

Junior Warden..... jrwarden@saintj.com
Mike Scrutton

Christian Formation .....christianformation@saintj.com
Alison Saichek

Social Ministries/Congregational Care .....socialministries-congcare@saintj.com
Gary Gearheart, Beverly Mosier, Donald Razzolini

Communications/Welcoming .....communications-welcoming@saintj.com
Dave Nelsen, Jack Rux

Parish Life……..... parishlife@saintj.com
Bob Bynum, Ralph Locher

Facilities….....facilities@saintj.com
Al Casas, 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