



# The Window

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

August 2013

## The Parable of the Mayonaise Jar

There's a parable that's been going around the internet for a year or so, but you may have recognized in different guises for many years. I've paraphrased it a little, and it goes something like this...

*A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, he wordlessly picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.*

*The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.*

*The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous 'yes.'*

*The professor then produced two mugs of coffee from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed.*

*'Now', said the professor as the laughter subsided, 'I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are*

*the important things - your family, your children, your health, your friends and your favorite passions - and if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house and your car. The sand is everything else - the small stuff.*

*'If you put the sand into the jar first,' he continued, 'there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff you will never have room for the things that are important to you.*

*Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Spend time with your children. Spend time with your parents. Visit with grandparents. Take your spouse out to dinner. Play another 18. There will always be time to clean the house and mow the lawn.*

*Take care of the golf balls first - the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand..*

*One of the students raised her hand and enquired what the coffee represented. The professor smiled and said, 'I'm glad you asked. The coffee just shows you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a coffee with a 'friend.'*

(Continued on Page 3)

## Giving Statements

Giving statements through the end of June were recently provided to those who have made a pledge to St. James' for 2013. This statement is not a bill but rather a reminder of the pledge you made and where you are at with respect to your pledge as of June 30<sup>th</sup>.

We all pay our pledge according to what works best for us. Some make weekly contributions, some monthly, some quarterly, and others choose to pay it all at once. I make my pledge contributions monthly because that works well for me.

Jan Brandt and I have stressed the importance of looking at your giving statement to make sure it is accurate. Imagine my surprise when I looked at mine, and something didn't seem to be right! Something was missing – could I have made a mistake? After going through my check register, I found that I had missed the month of March completely!

As I reflected on this year, March was an unusual month for me, I somehow just forgot. However, nobody sent me a bill, I didn't have to pay a late charge, and no services were cut off. God still loves me! I'm glad I received the statement and that I looked at it. Now I can work at getting myself back on track.

In Corinthians, Paul talks about the principle of regular giving; he asks the Corinthians to set aside a certain amount every week in proportion to each person's prosperity, so that the money will be ready and available when he arrives. Giving systematically is the key to faithful giving.

*“Now about the collection for God's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collection will have to be made.” (1 Corinthians 16:1)*

The summer months are usually filled with vacations and travel, and it's important for us to keep our pledges current while we're away. Our pledges to St. James' enable the Vestry to budget for the operation of the church, and the work of the church goes on while we're away. God doesn't take a vacation from us, so let's remember God and keep our pledges current while we're away. And, be sure to pay attention to your giving statement!

*Father, you are the most generous giver of all. Your giving isn't sporadic or hit-and-miss; you bless us all the time. Teach us to give as you give, with an open heart and open hands. Amen.*

Gail Blalock, Stewardship Chair

---

## Thanks To All Who Helped On Saint James' Day

On behalf of the Parish Life Cluster of your Vestry, we would like to thank everyone who contributed to Saint James Day. It was a great success and fun for all involved. It would be impossible to thank everyone by name and not forget anyone, so here is our note of thanks for making it an extra special day.

Thanks to all of you who arrived at 8:00am to set up all the canopies, chairs and tables. Thanks to everyone who prepared a dish of food. Thanks to the Filipino congregation for the pig. Thanks to those who remained afterwards to clean up. Last, but not least, thanks to anyone who attended this event and increased participation.

This was one of the finest examples of team work that we have ever seen.

Bob Bynum and Ralph Locher  
Parish Life Cluster

# The Parable of the Mayonnaise Jar

(continued from front page)

It's a cute story, but I wonder how it relates to us? The professor doesn't mention anything about religion, church or faith in his story, neither does he refer to community beyond immediate friends and family. When thinking about this story, I struggled quite a bit with deciding where I'd put my faith, spiritual discipline and other "churchly things" in the jar. My faith & relationship with God is definitely one of those golf balls, but what about things like reading the bible regularly, thoughtful prayer, welcoming and encouraging newcomers, service to the community, intentional giving, helping to run the youth group, attending committee meetings, or even fixing problems with the network\* at church? (\*insert your own talent here!)

It's easy to see how we sometimes can get bogged down with the little things only to lose focus on the bigger, more important things. It's a fun exercise to see how your own situation might relate to this story, but a bigger challenge would be to think about how we, the faith community of St. James', might place what's important to us in the jar. Where would we put our worship, liturgy, song, buildings & grounds, children's work, outreach, stewardship, spiritual growth, welcoming, social events, the web site and *The Window*. Our list is long, and I've only scratched the surface here.

The professor's parable is reflected in the story from St. Luke's gospel ([Luke 10:38-42](#)), when Jesus goes to visit Mary and Martha and while Mary sits at Jesus' feet to listen and talk with him, Martha was "distracted by her many tasks". When Martha complains that Mary isn't helping, Jesus puts her straight: "you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

At the Vestry Retreat at the start of this year, we adopted a core question which might help guide our thoughts and deliberations as a vestry: "How do we

make God present in our church, our families, our neighborhood, our town, our world?" I'm excited by the energy, passion and commitment we have at St. James' to serve, and to strive to make things better. It's a real challenge to make sure we're focusing on the important things.

However, we answer these challenging questions, two things are certain to me. Firstly, whether the mayonnaise jar is a metaphor for our lives, or our church – it was made by God. We are duty bound to fill it in a way that glorifies God, and reflects the trust God puts in us. Secondly, there's always room for a cup of coffee. See you at coffee hour!

Mike Scrutton, Junior Warden

<b>Financial Summary June 2013</b>		
<b>Fund Balances</b>	<b><u>6/30/2012</u></b>	<b><u>6/30/2013</u></b>
Operating Fund	\$ 71,778	\$ 45,711
Building Investment		\$ 10,000
Building Fund	\$ 27,626	\$ 47,159
<b>Year To Date Summary Operating</b>		
<b>Pledges Budgeted</b>	\$ 118,405	\$ 121,811
<b>Pledges Paid</b>	\$ 102,017	\$ 107,844
Unpledged Contributions	\$ 2,784	\$ 2,760
Other Op Income*	<u>\$ 10,159</u>	<u>\$ 13,216</u>
Total Operating Income	\$ 114,960	\$ 123,820
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$ 117,020</u>	\$ 118,779
<b>Income less Expenses</b>	<b>\$ (2,060)</b>	<b>\$ 5,041</b>
*Includes Fundraising		

# MSJHS Chamber Recital

# July 2013 Vestry Report

St. James' Episcopal Church hosted the Mission San Jose High School "Summer Chamber Recital 2013" on Monday evening July 15<sup>th</sup>.

Those attending were rewarded with performances by the MSJ Saxophone Quartet who played "Petit Quatuor" by Jean Francaix, "Four Piano Blues" by Aaron Copeland and three selections from "The Threepenny Opera." Additional pieces showcased Stella Han on violin and Calvin Leung on cello. Thomas Feng accompanied on the piano.

The guests enjoyed additional selections during the reception in the Parish Hall. Members of the quartet included St. James' parishioner Anthony Prickett (soprano sax), Daniel Yang (alto sax), Stanley Chiang (tenor sax) and Khanh Nguyen (baritone sax).

A recording of the recital can be found on the website at <http://saintj.com/wp/?p=1855>

Anthony and Khanh coordinated this evening's event and invited everyone to a second recital on Sunday afternoon, July 28<sup>th</sup>.

Alice Johnson

Your vestry met on the second Thursday when we enjoyed stimulating conversation and discussed various matters relating to the workings of St. James'. Among the topics discussed this month were:

- Our [Parish Retreat](#), to be held on campus on October 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Plans for our upcoming Mutual Ministry Review, to take place in the fall.
- Adoption of a new form for the Application for a New Ministry at St. James', which can be found on the [Reports](#) page of the website. If you have an idea or feel a calling to start a new ministry at St. James', please complete the [Application for a New Ministry](#) and turn it in to a member of the Vestry's Lead Team.
- The approval of \$650 for the repair of the organ in the main sanctuary.
- The progress toward obtaining bids for the repair of termite damage.
- Approval of funds to replace tools stolen from campus during a recent break-in.

As always, [minutes of past vestry meetings](#) can be found on the website.

Mike Scrutton, Junior Warden



*Photo by Bruce Roberts*

# Christmas in July

For five days in late July we put up the Christmas tree, hung the garlands and transported ourselves to the Christmas season. This year 32 children took part in Vacation Bible School, many of them returning for second or third years.



We learned about those characters in the Christmas story who watched and waited. About Bishop Nicholas who visited families and helped them with gifts in secret. We noticed the similarities between St. Nicholas and Santa Claus.

About Mary and Joseph who trusted God as they watched and waited for the birth of Jesus, and about the shepherds who watched their sheep on a dark hillside and the Magi who watched the stars. We thought about how we watch and wait for Christmas and reminded ourselves why the baby is so important and how he shows us his light for the whole world.

Each morning we greeted the kids with “Merry Christmas,” not the automatic greeting of a season but an enthusiastic morning welcome for a new day. We sang (and signed) each morning. Jennifer led us with new songs and old favorites, with actions (thanks to Olivia). We played games – races, a treasure hunt and parachute games. Even our snacks had a seasonal flavor with fruit and

veg Christmas trees, Santa pancakes and “sheep and lamb chow” trail mix.

During our crafts the children could pick from a variety of activities that gave them chance to try out new things but also to spend time with our volunteers. Giving our kids time is the most important thing we can do, whether it be to teach them something new, listen to them or just to sit together – and that is what so many people came along to do.

Thank you to everyone who gave up a morning, or a week, for VBS this year. On Friday, our final gathering time of the week was in the Little Church. That morning all the children made a Christingle, a simple idea that originated in Europe in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It consists of an orange (the world) with 4 sticks containing fruits and candy (the seasons and fruits of the earth), a red ribbon (the love of God and the blood of Christ) and topped with a candle (for Jesus, the light of the world).

Children, Volunteers, Parents and Grandparents filled the pews at the end of the morning. We sang and signed “Silent Night,” we lit our Christingle candles and prayed. The candlelight in the quiet church reminded us that we all watch and wait for the Christ child, regardless of the time of year.

Jan Scrutton



# Report from the Little Church Renovation Committee

In 2012 the Vestry commissioned the Little Church Renovation Committee to study and recommend repairs, maintenance, and renovation of the Little Church. We have been meeting once a month and submit written reports to the Vestry on a regular basis. The Vestry reviews each proposal and approves all funding.

Repairing and renovating our beloved Little Church is a multiyear endeavor. We made some headway in 2012 in defining this large and complicated project. The Little Church Renovation Committee continues to work on the proposed repairs in the Structural Report from engineering consultants at ESI. Our first priority is the health and safety of everyone using the Little Church.

Bruce Roberts and others have been interviewing contractors for the first phase of the renovation work of the Little Church. The work will include roof repairs to the sacristy and mechanical rooms, mold and asbestos abatement and electrical repairs. It also includes installing a new Ambry light. Repairs will take about 2-3 weeks; services will be held in the Big Church during construction.

In preparation for awarding contracts, Bruce Roberts and Jim Cunningham spoke to the Fremont Historian as required by city code. The historian said that the Little Church is a very valuable building to Fremont.

Although our Little Church has not been declared an historical building, its recognition is obvious. What we do to it will be examined so that it retains its historical significance. To that end, the historian approved the roofing changes to the Little Church and asked us to replace the 1950s-style aluminum window in the sacristy with a double or single-hung sash-type window to fit in with the rest of the building. The rest of the changes for the work now under bid were okay with them.

It will all come up again in the permitting process, but the process should be smooth since we have the initial evaluation completed and two bids so far for the roof, electrical, water damage and the heating duct repairs. We are expecting at least one more bid and will then examine the bids and let the Vestry know our recommendation.

Concerning the structural/earthquake work, we have received from ESI the final calculations and drawings of the crawl space retrofit. These repairs are required by building code for earthquake safety. We will be sending these out for bid. We have no estimate on how long the construction will take.

Questions or concerns about the committee's work should be directed to our chairperson, Sylvia Ma.

Jim McConnell



Parishioners Monique Manjarrez and Megan Tiller McDerby say their marriage vows as their children stand for them in their wedding ceremony which was performed by The Rev. Lori Walton on July 6<sup>th</sup> at St. James' Episcopal Church.

***What a wonderful celebration of Love.***

We wish them much love and happiness!!





**ST. JAMES' PRAYER LIST**  
*Most Holy God, we pray for:*



**August Birthdays**

**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, Adam, Robert, Dave, Shawn, Ethan, Paul, Darren

**Those Who Need Guidance and Direction:** Kenny, Robert, Leo, Heather, April, Eric, Brandyn, Muleeda, Jordan, Deja

**Those Who Need Comfort and Healing:** Barbara, Marilyn, Paula, Selina, Ann, Verna, Michael, Nonnie, Barbara, Laura, Neal, Tim, Vicki, Heather, David, Dermont, Jim, Anthony, Norene, Kathy, Barbara, Jean, The Lubwama family, Jennifer Carini and family, Griselda Prather and family

**Families Expecting Children:** Tarha & Joey, Hoa & Erik, Lorena & Luis, Lindsay & Robert

**Those Who Have Passed Away:** Don

- 2 Ralph Locher  
Tim Young
- 4 Griselda Prather
- 5 Molly Lubwana
- 6 Shalini Singh  
Kathleen Almond
- 9 Bonnie Nelson
- 16 Valle Brokes
- 17 John Becker
- 18 Becky Whitaker
- 21 Vivienne Paratore  
Phyllis Williams

- 23 Daniel Amadi  
Monique Manjarrez
- 24 Harriet Nabbaale
- 26 Rachel Whitaker  
Ken Trant, Jr.  
Paul Cudlip
- 27 Bobbie Tomkinson  
Barbara Johnsen  
Steve Vaccieri
- 29 Dave Nelsen



**August Anniversaries**

- 6 Mike and Jan Scrutton
- 8 John and Florine Becker
- 13 Bill and Bev Mosier
- 26 Scott and Martha Kennedy
- 30 Greig and Marsha Reeves

The next issue of *The Window* is in September. 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:  
**Date Issue Deadline: August 15<sup>th</sup>**

**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](mailto:admin@saintj.com)

Thank you!!

**For the St. James' calendar, please refer to our website [saintj.com](http://saintj.com)**



# SAINT JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Thornton Avenue at Cabrillo Terrace  
PO Box 457  
Fremont, CA 94537-0457  
WEB: [saintj.com](http://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](mailto:lori@saintj.com)  
The Rev. Ken Parris ..... [deaconken@saintj.com](mailto:deaconken@saintj.com)  
Music Director ..... [music@saintj.com](mailto:music@saintj.com)  
Children, Teen & Family Coordinator .....  
..... [ctfcoord@saintj.com](mailto:ctfcoord@saintj.com)  
Office Administrator ..... [admin@saintj.com](mailto:admin@saintj.com)  
Treasurer ..... [treasurer@saintj.com](mailto:treasurer@saintj.com)  
Newsletter submission ..... [window@saintj.com](mailto>window@saintj.com)

### VESTRY

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

*Janet Fischer*

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

*Mike Scrutton*

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

*Alison Saichek*

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

*Beverly Mosier, Donald Razzolini*

Communications/Welcoming ..... [communications-welcoming@saintj.com](mailto:communications-welcoming@saintj.com)

*Dave Nelsen, Jack Rux*

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

*Bob Bynum, Ralph Locher*

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

*Al Casas, Bud Spalding*

Vestry Clerk: *Elizabeth Hart*

### Other Important Coordinators

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors: Janet Fischer  
Children, Teen and Family Ministries: The Rev. Stephanie M. Green  
Altar Guild: Ruth Poole  
Treasurer: Lynn Locher  
Ushers: Burtin Hart

### The Window Staff

Ralph Locher  
Marilyn Rose  
Jack Rux  
Penny Trant  
Laura Winter