



The Window

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

April 2014

Sacred Space

The following article ran in the February Newsletter for Sacred Space, a church without walls in the City of Hayward, organized by Deacon John Trubina. Sacred Space meets every Sunday at 2:00. Since this article was written, their worship location has moved to a park further down B Street in Hayward. The location has changed, but the heart is the same. Everyone is welcome.

I recently read a blog that posed the question about whether or not our liturgy can act as an excuse to not share our personal faith with others. A valid question, I think; we Episcopalians love our liturgy. We invite others to come into our worship space, knowing that the structure, the music, the rhythm and ritual carry us along from start to finish. The prayer book offers well-intoned words, written with style and skill so that often, it speaks for us. Other than the invitation to pray our intentions, we hardly have to form our own words of offering to God or to others in public worship. Often, and I speak for myself, I move from the Opening Acclamation to the Dismissal to Small Talk at Coffee Hour, getting in my car to drive home without ever being challenged to articulate in my own words my personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

The first time I served the Sacred Space Hayward congregation, I admit I was jolted by the lack of structure and ritual. There is a standard liturgy that is used, but it is not the one I've come to memorize out of the prayer book. There is the liturgy of the word and then the liturgy of the table, but what happens in those two liturgical blocks has only echoes of what happens in my own parish on Sunday mornings. As I stepped back and observed, I saw a whole way of praising God that has been veiled in my own habitual movement through Sunday morning.

Without the structure of the prayer book, without

the visual aids of candles, stained glass and crosses, without rows of pews facing everyone forward, I began to see and hear things that re-awakened me to the presence of God in the midst of our own praise of God. The Sacred Space congregation uses only a sheet of paper as their guide to worship, and everything else happens as it happens. There are no straight lines – people stand, sit, or lay wherever they may be. The prayers are spontaneous, lively, and deeply personal. There are theologians who wax at length about the nature of God and there are mystics who bring forth their own visions of God. The people are more the sermon than the preacher preaching, and communion literally moves from the center to the margins. Every time I distribute the Body of Christ, I find myself walking to the edges of the park, bringing Christ to those not actively participating in our service, but still standing or sitting (or even lying down) with their hands outstretched to receive something they without a doubt know is theirs to receive. And in the moment of transferring bread from my hand to theirs, I know that they have, in their unquestioning connection to God, brought Christ to me.

The Sacred Space Holy Communion happens in the wide open and often chaotic space of a park situated between the City Hall building and the BART tracks. And yet, the intimacy between people and God is so present; one might think we were standing in the midst of a monastery or cloister. In the absence of the usual church accoutrements, the symbols of God are everywhere, marked on the faces of the congregation, formed in the words of their enthusiastic prayers, and lying in the outstretched hands that claim a piece of the Body simply because this congregation understands they are worthy of and created by God.

For each one of us, may it be so.

Lori

Stewardship Corner

The Earth Needs Your Help

On April 22, 1970, over 20 million Americans took to the streets, parks, auditoriums, and classrooms across the country to demonstrate for a healthy environment and a sustainable way of life. The events of that day led to the creation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Acts. It was the birth of the modern environmental movement. Today, over one billion people in 192 countries participate in Earth Day activities, making it the largest civic observance in the world. I think that's astonishing!

While April 22 is designated as Earth Day each year, many communities often schedule activities and celebrations the weekend before or after the 22nd. The City of Fremont, in partnership with Washington Hospital, will hold an Earth Day Fair on Saturday, April 26, at the Washington West Auditorium on Mowry Blvd. (Watch local media for more information). I encourage you to take advantage of events like this as they are a great place to learn more about recycling and waste reduction, composting, eco-friendly gardening, local sustainability programs, and energy saving at home. There usually are drop-offs for unused medicines, eye glasses, mercury thermometers, and batteries. And, there are always fun activities for kids. This year water, or lack of rain, is on everyone's mind and so I suspect there will be lots of good information on water conservation.

God cares deeply about his creation and we, as God's stewards, are charged to take good care of the environment. God's first assignment to humans was to work and take care of the earth (*"The Lord took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it."* Genesis 2:15). The Earth needs your help now, more than ever. What can you do? The following poem proposes a way to begin.

What You Can Do

When you see litter in the streets
And the air smells of pollution
When you feel like it's all piling up
Remember, there is a solution

There's something each of us can do
To keep the rivers clean
To keep fresh the air we breathe
And keep the forest green

Help clean a beach
Or recycle bottles and cans

Learn about the problems we face
And help others understand

It doesn't have to be a lot
If we each just do our share
So take time out on Earth Day
To show the Earth you care



Gail Blalock, Stewardship Chair

Holy Week

Palm Sunday

April 13

We will begin outside with a blessing of the palms, followed by the reading of the Passion Gospel from St. Matthew at the 8:00 and 10:30 services. A visual representation of Jesus' Passion will be displayed during the reading.

&



Easter

Wednesday April 16 Tenebrae

A Tenebrae Service of Shadows at 8:00pm, including Readings and Music in the Little Church, led by the St. James' Choir.



Maundy April 17 Thursday

A simple meal in monastic style will begin at 6:30pm. During the meal, we will have the a Liturgy of the Word and the rituals of foot washing and cross exchange.

We will continue with Holy Communion and the stripping of the altar.

Good Friday April 18

From 12:00-2:00pm

A Service of contemplation on Jesus' last days, with short reflections given by parishioners, prayer, and music in the Little Church.

From 2:00-3:00pm

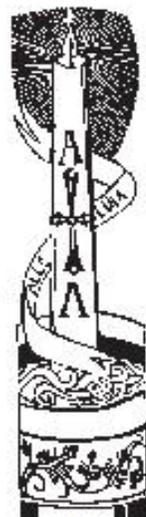
Walking the traditional Stations of the Cross on the grounds of the church, led by clergy with participation from those gathered.

Easter Vigil

8:00pm April 19

On the Patio with Fire, Stories and Song!

Followed by the Proclamation of Easter and Holy Communion in the Main Church.



Easter Principal Service

10:00am April 20

A Festive Service in the Main Church with music and Holy Communion, followed by the annual Easter Egg Hunt for Children.





ENTER YOUR ST. JAMES' DUCKS IN THE "DUCKS for BUCKS" BENEFIT RACE

Help St. James' & Your Community!

It's *rubber ducky* time again! You will soon be receiving a Duck Entry form for this year's Kiwanis sponsored Benefit Race on Saturday, April 26. If you've already purchased Ducks using the forms assigned to St. James', thank you. Additional forms are available in the Church office and Parish Hall, so take more to share with family and friends. Only the forms supplied through St. James' will benefit St. James'. Again this year, you will receive a bonus Duck for every 5 Ducks you purchase. In addition to the Race prizes, there will be some prizes available only to St. James' Duck sponsors. Once you've sent in your Duck entry envelope or left it at the Church (by Sunday, April 20), contact Bruce Roberts or Tom or Gail Blalock (after Church on Sundays or call 490-7565) to receive a St. James' drawing ticket for each Duck sponsored. Join in the fun and come to the Race on Saturday, April 26th at Lake Elizabeth it's a fun way to support St. James' and the Community.

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

Email your submission to newsletter@saintj.com
May Issue Deadline: April 15th



CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICES

Contemplative Practices continues every Sunday morning (except for Easter morning) at 9:30 in EB1. During the month of April we will look at the *Examen*, an Ignatian practice, and begin our exploration of *Metta*, or *Lovingkindness* meditation. No meditation experience necessary! Check out our web page at <http://saintj.com/wp/ministries/adult-faith-formation/contemplative-practices/> for the schedule and list of resources. Please join us!

Janet Fischer for Faith Formation

A Service of Remembrance

for those who have died

For those who wish to take time out to remember a loved one who has died, we will have a general Service of Remembrance. This service will be a short gathering of prayer and ritual to draw to our hearts and speak the names of the person you'd like to remember.

Saturday, May 31st

10:00am in the Little Church



COME AND JOIN THE ADULT CHOIR FOR EASTER!!!

We will once again sing Handel's masterpiece, the Hallelujah Chorus! If you would like to sing with us, please come out and join the fun! I can teach you the music at Wednesday rehearsals, plus hook you up with YouTube videos that will enable you to practice your parts at home!

The rehearsal schedule is:

Wednesday, April 2nd 7:30pm - 8:15pm

Wednesday, April 9th 7:30pm - 8:15pm

Sunday, April 20th 9:00am - 10:00am

Please contact me at music@saintj.com with any questions or concerns! Please join us - the more the merrier!

Jennifer Carini, Music Director

Vestry Meeting

The vestry met on March 13th, 2014. We start each of our meetings at 6:30 sharing a meal provided by a vestry member. The business portion of the meeting begins at 7:00 with an opening prayer. Our meetings end by 9:00 and we conclude the evening in the Little Church with Compline. Vestry meetings are open to the entire congregation and everyone is welcome to attend.

We discussed re-investment of funds which have been invested in CD's and are about to mature. We agreed to re-invest in new CD's with a 3 year term.

We received a report on the success of the McCutcheon concert and discussed how much of the proceeds St. James' will be donating to Abode Services.

There has been a proposal to install Holy Water Fonts at the entrances of the Church. The font for the Little Church will be a gift from Barbara Johnsen in memory of Phil. The font for the Main Church will be a gift from Karen Koonze in memory of Tim.

We divided ourselves into three groups to work on different aspects of the new ministry, Congregational Care. I look forward to sharing more news about this soon.

Dave Nelsen, Junior Warden

Financial Summary February 2014

Fund Balances	<u>2/28/13</u>	<u>2/28/14</u>
Operating Fund	\$ 37,724	\$ 36,054
Building Fund	\$ 58,154	\$ 42,158
Year To Date Summary Operating		
Pledges Budgeted	\$ 40,604	\$ 40,708
Pledges Paid	\$ 36,879	\$ 34,899
Unpledged Contributions	\$ 480	\$ 1,185
Other Op Income*	<u>\$ 3,027</u>	<u>\$ 2,279</u>
Total Operating Income	\$ <u>40,386</u>	\$ <u>38,363</u>
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$ 43,118</u>	<u>\$ 53,115</u>
Income less Expenses	\$ (2,733)	\$ (14,751)

*Includes Fundraising

A Celebration of Commitment

On the Seventh Sunday after Epiphany we welcomed our Bishop, the Right Reverend Marc Andrus. During his visit, Norene Sun was baptized, Jim and Katie Cunningham and Mary Morkved were confirmed and John Butterfield reaffirmed his faith. A Big Thank You to Monique Manjarrez for the cake she baked for the reception.



Thank You for a Super Supper



On March 4th we celebrated Shrove Tuesday with our annual Pancake Supper feast. 122 plates of pancakes, scrambled eggs and sausage was served to a hungry house. A big thanks go out to the youth who served plates and the ladies who wrote the tickets and managed the money. This help enabled the men to focus on the set-up, cooking, making plates, serving drinks and ice cream and cleaning up in the kitchen. 23 gentlemen took part in the fun - and you did a fantastic job - Thank you all.

Dave Nelsen, Junior Warden



Eastertide Faith Formation Classes

Water for the Journey: The Baptismal Covenant in the Lives of the Faithful

Come explore the origins, significance and meaning of your baptism in the Christian tradition and the importance of the Baptismal Covenant in keeping you, the faithful Christian, connected, engaged and “hydrated” as you journey through the sometimes arid and parched experiences of life. We will delve into the Jewish origins of ritual immersion. The various meanings tied to water among the nomadic peoples of the Holy Land. How God uses water in the Bible. Understand the origin and meaning of the baptismal rite in the church. How the baptismal rite came to be and why the Baptismal Covenant is tied to this rite. Understand how the Baptismal Covenant is a personal pact between you and God. Learn how at your baptism you were “ordained” into the Priesthood and Diaconate of All the Faithful. Start a process of discernment to determine how God is calling you to use your gifts for the furtherance of God’s Kingdom. Whether you were baptized this past Easter or by John the Baptist himself, you will learn how to keep your “canteen” full for the journey of life.

This presentation will be made in four parts. You are welcome to attend as many of the presentations your schedule permits. While it will be more meaningful for the individual to attend them all, each session is self-contained. All are welcome to bring their dinner with them to class.



When: Tuesday Evenings (April 22 & 29, May 6 & 13), 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Where: St. James’ Episcopal Church, Fremont, Room EB1

Presenter: Deacon Ken

Cost: FREE!

Encountering Eve

A springtime gathering for women to spend time contemplating and discussing the story of Eve and our own stories of origin.

*Saturday, May 10th at Saint James’ Church
9:30am through 2:30pm*

Lead by Rev. Lori Walton and Janet Fischer

Sign up in the Parish Hall or email lori@saintj.com.

Suggested (but not required) donation: \$10 to cover lunch (bring a check made out to St. James’ with you)



Sunday School: Not Just for Kids, Anymore (Come along to “Spring Training”!)

One of the greatest signs of entry into the Body of Christ through baptism is the point in the baptismal service in which the congregation is asked, “Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?” And the People respond with a resounding, “We will!” Baptism is not only a sign of people making a commitment to live a life of faith in Christ through participation in the life of the Church, but it is also a commitment that the Church as a Body makes to nurture those persons in sacramental faith, learning, and fellowship. There is always great joy in welcoming the newly baptized, but where do we go from there?

Sunday School is a clear place for children to grow in learning, fellowship and service, but it is also a place for adult Christians to carry out their own commitments to the baptized—and to those young people who are for baptism and who worship regularly among us. That said, Sunday School is not only for children! It is a vital place of ministry for each of us who may be called especially to nurture young people in their growing faith. It is also a place for individual members, even on an occasional basis but with no less significance for the children, to “support these persons in their life in Christ.”

Our Sunday School at St. James’ is founded upon a principal of consistency with variety: The children benefit from a morning structured after the pattern of the liturgy (they like to know “what’s next”!) and a consistent base of teachers, but they like new activities for “responding to God’s Word” and are encouraged by people coming in and out to share a morning with them as Story Tellers and Companions, too. The children are really good at “going with the flow”. What that means is that, with a fluid body of teachers, we can have stability without being static.

St. James’ Sunday School is currently supported by ten parishioners who serve alongside me as Story Tellers and Companions. We have re-introduced Godly Play as both a curriculum (in some weeks) and a method (in most weeks). This spring, we have an opportunity to broaden our ministry base and deepen our teaching practices through deliberate training in

Godly Play for all of our children’s ministers—and those who are simply curious, as well. St. James’ received a grant from the Diocese of California’s Office of Discipleship Ministries to engage in a one day workshop with national Godly Play Trainer Di Pagels. The training will be held on May 3 (9 am – 3:30 pm) at First Presbyterian Church in Oakland where Di serves in children’s and youth ministries. The learning environment will be intimate and focused and will include lots of hands-on time for practice and opportunities for questions. Through this training we seek especially to cultivate story telling as a communal spiritual practice and to comprehend better the role and ministry of the classroom companion. Participation in the training for St. James’ members is free.

The Diocese of California has also invited Di Pagels to lead Godly Play introductory workshops at the next gathering for Equipping the Beloved Community event on May 17 at St. Timothy’s, Danville, from 9 am to 4:30 pm. The cost of the ministry enrichment day, including lunch, is \$25.

Whether you are already committed to children’s ministries or are curious about a call to teaching and serving with a growing body of ministers, you are deeply encouraged to attend one of the Godly Play workshops. In-depth training will be necessary for maintaining our ethic of “consistency with variety.” As we become better grounded in the discipline and practice of Godly Play, we grow spiritually along with the children who teach us through their questions, their insights, and their spontaneous joy. Please contact me by email stephanie@saintj.com or call my cell phone (510) 517-8459 about registering for a day of learning in May.

The Rev. Stephanie Green, CTF Minister



April Birthdays

Most Holy God, we pray for:

Those Who Need Comfort and Healing: Pamela, Jean, Pete, Ellison, Peter, Denise, Nancy, Magella, Patty, Ken, Florine, Nonie, Meganne, Barry, Klaryta, Amanda, Regena, Miranda

Those Who Need Guidance and Direction: Thomas, Annie, Eleanor, Ronald, Jordan

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

Families Expecting Children: Hoa and Erik, Allison & Patrick, Alyise & Manny, Polly & Luke, Peter & Esther

Those Who Have Passed Away: Erios, Phillip

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 4 Robert Bell | 14 Tim Feeney |
| 6 Ann Jamison | 15 Alan Saichek |
| 7 Ian Fuller | Elyse Lovellette |
| 8 Doug Hamilton | 17 Tom Scrutton |
| Andy MacRae | 20 Ruth Poole |
| Renee Whitehouse | 23 Karl Drescher |
| Kaitlin | 26 Elizabeth Hart |
| Evans-Bodenrader | Michael Hart |
| 10 EJ Hilliard | 28 Marnie Hartmann |
| 13 Allen Krimmel | Al Casas |



April Anniversaries

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

- 9 Mel & Alice Johnson
- 19 Bud & Jan Pearson
- 25 Wayne & Victoria Krimmel

To add someone to the "Special Prayers" list, please complete a pew card and place it in the offering plate OR call / e-mail the Church Office. After six weeks, names are removed from the list. Please renew your request as needed.
Thank you

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



SAINT JAMES'
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAY SERVICES: 8:00AM & 10:30AM
CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICES: SUNDAY 9:15-10:15AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL 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, Rectorlori@saintj.com
The Rev. Ken Parris, Deacon deaconken@saintj.com
The Rev. Stephanie Green, Children, Teen & Family
Minister stephanie@saintj.com
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Meg Amouroux
Bob Bynum
Al Casas
Nancy Castaneda
Karen Koonze
Ralph Locher
Elaine Vallecillos-Miller
Bev Mosier
Alison Saichek
Bud Spalding

Vestry Clerk: *Elizabeth Hart*

Other Important Coordinators

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors: Janet Fischer
Altar Guild: Ruth Poole
Ushers: Burtin Hart

Facilities: facilities@saintj.com
Al Casas
Bud Spalding

The Window Staff

Ralph Locher
Marilyn Rose
Jack Rux
Penny Trant
Laura Winter

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