The Window

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

August 2014

Living Water

Summer always brings on a number of memories for me. Usually seasonal activities which I hope to do again each year. Two of my favorite summer activities throughout my life have been fishing and hiking and, for me, they go hand in hand. Of course you can hike without fishing, but I can't fish without hiking. Part of the hike is the journey, the destination being a creek or river. The other part of the hike is the fishing, traveling along the stream, reading the water and deciding where to cast my fly.

I first learned to fish when I was 4 or 5 years old. My father handed me a fly rod and I followed him along Big Creek in Lake County by the family cabin. I watched him and mimicked what he did and before long I too was bringing trout back to the breakfast table. This was the first time I remember being proud to be contributing toward the family meal. It gave me a feeling of purpose. It was at that creek that I learned to read the water. I learned how flowing water was influenced by boulders and logjams, giving me insight to where fish might be located, or more importantly, where they would not be located.

Since I was a child I referred to the rivers I walked and fished as "living water.". A river lives in many ways, it has a creation point-a spring or the edge of a snow field, has a terminus, a lake or the ocean. A river breathes, taking on air in its turbulent rapids and exhaling during quiet flows through long meadows, all the while charging an array of plant and animal life. Every river is unique and no two portions along its course are the same. A river has eternal life, its flow changes with the seasons, but it continues to flow.

It wasn't until after I came to St. James' in my late twenties that I heard a biblical reference to living water. What comes to mind is John the Baptist dunking those who repent from sin in the flowing water of the Jordan River. Or in John 37:38, On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." Here we may conclude Jesus is the living water. I also feel the phrase was intended to mean the Holy Spirit who dwells within us.

When I stepped into the living water of St. James' those many years ago, I was immediately caught up in its flow and have been riding its currents ever since. We are all influenced by the community of St. James' and each of us has an influence on the community as we participate and serve within it. Just as a river, St. James' lives in many ways. It breathes energy into all who participate, charging our lives with the Holy Spirit.

Wherever your summer adventures take you, may you build wonderful memories which will last a lifetime. Let them be an influence and a part of the living waters of St. James'.

Dave Nelsen, Jr. Warden

Stewardship Corner

Are You a Doer of the Word?

Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the Word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. *(James 1:22-24)*

Practical stewardship principles are plentiful in James' letter known for its teaching on the subject of faith and works. According to James, just hearing and agreeing with God's Word is never enough to please God. James reminds us of the importance of active obedience, of being "*doers*." James calls his believers to reject a nonchalant attitude toward personal actions; rather he urges them to live out their faith by obeying God's commands. James tells us good deeds are evidence of genuine faith.

"What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds?" Can such faith save him? (James 2:14)

I believe we are *"doers"* at St. James' but, like most things, I also believe we can all do more. There are many opportunities at St. James' to put your faith in action and do good deeds. I'm sure you will find several possibilities within the pages of this issue of the *Window*. Do not be nonchalant as James says, but rather be concerned and caring for others in need. Be a doer!

Lord, help us to know and love your Word, and help is to put our faith into action.

Gail Blalock, Stewardship Chair

Contemplative Practices

Since Contemplative Practices began in February, we have explored a number of different traditions and methods for prayer and meditation. Some of the practices we've touched on are basic meditation practice, I Chuan body meditation, the labyrinth, loving kindness meditation, Anglican rosaries, and Passage Meditation.

For the five Sundays in August we will do as all of these practices instruct us: *Slow Down*! Each Sunday Janet Fischer will read a short passage from Carl McColman's book, *Answering the Contemplative Call: First Steps on the Mystical Path.* We will then meditate quietly for 20 minutes. You are free to use whatever practice appeals to you.

We meet in EB1 at 9:30am and will finish promptly by 10am. Even if you have not attended any of the classes, you are most welcome to join us.

No experience necessary!

Submitted by: Janet Fischer

Eva Nicole
Born July 29, 2014
To Proud Parents
Peter & Esther Maina

Planting Seeds and Parables in St. James' Sunday School

In our five-week summer session for Sunday School at St. James', the children were introduced to the parables as stories Jesus told to teach his followers about the kingdom of God. The parables of Jesus are found in gold boxes in our Sunday School room. A Godly Play telling of a parable begins with a familiar introduction: "This box looks like a present. Parables are presents. They were given to you before you were born. They are yours, even if you don't know what they are….Do you see the lid? It is like a closed door. Sometimes parables seem closed to us, even if we are ready to enter them. You need to keep coming back for them, and one day they will open."

In order to help the children understand that we need to keep coming back to the parables for them to open to us, we focused on two parables: the Parable of the Mustard Seed and the Parable of the Sower. The Adults might remember the Parable of the Sower from the Gospel on July 13th.) The children met the parables in several forms each week: through Godly Play stories, a reading from a standard Bible, and an abridged version from a children's Bible. They also planted seeds in individual pots on the last day and took their pots home to continue to nurture and watch them grow. It's hard to understand the symbolism of parables unless we have some experience with the most literal components of a story! We hope that in watching the shoots push up through the soil, the children will continue to think about Jesus teaching about the marvelous and mysterious kingdom of God! Many thanks to all the Story Tellers and the Companions who made this introduction to Jesus' parables possible! Both the Children and adults appreciated your graceful and generous teaching!

Sunday School will be on break during the month of August. The children are welcome to sit with their families or sit together (with adult supervision) during our regular worship services. During the 10:30 am service, we will have art and building materials as well as a few Godly Play story sets related to worship set out on the children's rug. Please know that children continue to listen and attend to the service around them even, or maybe especially, when their hands are busy! St. James' Sunday School children attend to the Eucharistic Prayer and come forward for Communion each Sunday as part of our worship and learning together. Parents and Grandparents may wish to ask their children to lay down their activities during the Eucharistic Prayer and attend to the worship at the altar, as is their usual practice.

The children understand that this is a special time in the service to pay attention to the bread and the wine. They often pay special attention to others at the time of Communion, even noticing the flow of traffic up and back from the altar and figuring out (with anticipation!) when it will be their turn too!

In the fall, we will continue our study of Jesus' parables with a special focus on giving to others and the giving of ourselves for the kingdom of God. Jesus' teaching about small measures having great consequence in God's kingdom will provide a useful lens for viewing the lives and works of the saints and other faithful people as we wend our way toward the celebrations of the Feasts of St. Francis and All Saints. See you all back in Sunday School on September 7th!

The Rev. Stephanie Green

Under Construction!

St. James' Cares

A new parish ministry of the people, by the people, for the people. An exciting new opportunity for the people of St. James' to support one another.

Submitted by: Karen Koonze

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 newsletter@saintj.com

September Issue Deadline: August 15th

The next Food & Fellowship Dinner will be held on October 11th.

June Financials 2014

Fund Balances	6/30/2013	6/30/2014
Operating Fund	$ 45,711.04	$ 42,424.00
Building Investment	$ 10,000.00	$ 15,000.00
Building Fund	$ 47,159.30	$ 36,988.04
Pledges Budgeted	$ 121,811.01	$ 122,123.00
Pledges Paid	$ 107,843.87	$ 118,009.62
Unpledged Contributions	$ 2,760.00	$ 4,741.00
Other Op Income*	$ 13,216.10	$ 11,812.36
Total Operating Income	$ 123,819.97	$ 134,562.98
Total Operating Expenses	$ 118,778.50	$ 142,944.24
Income less Expenses	$ 5,041.47	$ (8,381.26)

*Includes

Spiritual Awakening

Faith Formation series will be on Tuesday nights September 16th through October 14th at 6:30 pm. Sessions to last 90 minutes. All are welcome! Please sign up now as Workbooks are necessary and must be ordered in advance.

"Embracing Spiritual Awakening" invites each participant to examine and understand the changing cultural landscape in North America. Diana Butler Bass leads a discussion of what it means to be spiritual, to be religious, and how Christians today might be grace-filled witnesses to the reality they know and experience." – The Most Rev. Katherine Jefforts Schori.

"Diana Butler Bass is one of the finest thinkers and educators I've ever met. She combines the insight of a scholar of religious history with the foresight of a keen social analyst." – Brian D. McLaren

What do we believe? vs. How do we believe?
How do we do that? vs. What should we do now?
Who are we? vs. Whose are we?

These may seem like strange sets of questions to ask. Their answers are the ticket to a spiritual a wakening-from institution to experience.

The series of five sessions will take the participants through stages of Waking Up, Believing, Behaving, Belonging and Awakening. The teaching content in each session comes in the form of input by Diana Butler Bass and response by members of a small group. The DVD session will be followed by a discussion in our own group. Each session will have pre-session questions and discussion questions from the workbook. Homework!

Cradle Episcopalian or new to the Episcopal Church? This series has food for your spirit. The first session will be facilitated by Bruce Roberts. After that session each session's facilitator or facilitators will be chosen from the group. All participants have all the written material. Diana Butler Bass provides the catalyst in her presentation.

Photo and article submitted by: Bruce Roberts

Abode Services Update

The 2013-2014 Home Warming season is coming to a close while summer is here. The need to end homelessness in our county continues whether it's summer or not. St James' along with 14 other local churches from Fremont and Newark pooled our resources and put over 27 adults and children into homes or apartments. As the rental housing market tightens up, the rents increase, along with higher deposits and more thorough background checks.

We partnered with Harbor Light Church back in December and put a single man in an apartment. He was thrilled and the 2 churches pitched in and gave him things he never had before. The main thing is a home and safety. St James' and Harbor Light also had some good donations that support other churches with their families.

After summer ends, there will be the push again to get families into homes especially kids so they have a stable home life. During the old winter relief program it was tough on the kids, not knowing what the next month's living arrangements will be like. Now once they go through Sunrise Village, they are ready to be housed and will have many counselors and support staff to see them through the adjustments. It's your donations of money and household items for the homes and apartments that keep this program going.

Thank you for your continued support and I'll keep St. James' parishioners in the loop with updates as the year progresses.

Feel free to contact Scott Whitaker (510) 797-2125 or Gregg Feeney (510) 795-1870 for donations or to learn more on how the program is one of the best programs in the country to help end homelessness.

Submitted by: Gregg Feeney

ATTENTION ALL SINGERS AND NON-SINGERS

The Choir Season is almost upon us!

No matter what your:

- Age
- Singing ability
- Whatever various reasons why choir *is not* for you

Choir IS for you!!! Choir is for EVERYONE!!!

The Adult Choir resumes rehearsing from our summer break on Wednesday September 3rd from 7:30pm - 9:00pm! We sing at the 10:30am service every week. We are a fun group of people. Please come see us and join in the choir camaraderie!

The Children's Choir meets right after the 10:30am service for about 10 minutes. It is a quick and fun rehearsal. We usually sing once a month or so. The Children's Choir will sing for the first time this season at our special St. Francis' Day service, on Sunday September 28th. Look for the time in our Sunday announcements

If you have any questions, let me or any member of the choir know. Better yet, just show up to sing! All are welcome, anytime!

Jennifer Carini
Music Director

Made in the Shade

Pets can get dehydrated quickly, so give them plenty of fresh, clean water when it's hot outdoors. Make sure your pets have a shady place to get out of the sun, be careful to not over exercise them, and keep them indoors when it's extremely hot. Stay Cool!!!

Penny Trant

You are Cordially Invited !!

The St. James' newsletter staff would like to invite **YOU** to submit your essays, poems, photos, funny cartoons, newsworthy items of interest, any group activity information, art work and/or reviews.

Email your submission(s) to newsletter@saintj.com We really enjoy producing *The Window* each month and appreciate all the great articles submitted. The deadline for articles is the 15th of the month for the following months issue, unless otherwise noted.

So think about writing an article, etc., for one of our upcoming issues. The invitation is *always* open.

Newsletter Staff

A Letter From Arlinda Cosby

July 12, 2014

Dear St. James' Family,

As many of you know, I moved from my 40 year old home in Newark and my 40 year old spiritual home here at St. James' Church Fremont in June to live in Santa Cruz near my daughter Dorothy, her husband Ed and their 5 month old daughter Aria. I am delighted to finally live so close to my immediate family, but it has been difficult to separate from the spiritual community that supported and sustained me over all these years.

You welcomed my husband Doug and me in 1974, celebrated our daughter's birth in 1977, supported us as I attended CDSP in Berkeley, graduated and was ordained to the Diaconate in 1979. You participated in the Convelesant Hospital Ministry I founded and directed for 27 years, sustained me through my husband's illness and death in 1993 and continued to be there for me through my retirement in 2007 until now.

No church will ever replace the St. James' community and all the memories and lifetime friendships I have been blessed with here. You will always be "Family" to me and I will keep in touch with you as best I can "from the other side of the mountain."

With my deepest gratitude and abiding love to you all,

The Rev. Arlinda W. Cosby
260 High St., #109
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(831) 515-7432 (home number)
disneyla@pacbell.net (email)

St. James' Feast July 27, 2014

Photos by Bruce Roberts

Camp St. James'
St. James' Episcopal Church, 2014

St. James' Vacation Bible School

VBS transformed the church into a Tent of Meeting for a week this summer. A place where children, and adults could gather to hear stories, sing and play together. Campus had a healthy orange glow as 45 campers and over 20 volunteers in orange shirts joined together for our activities. Now in our 4th year our campers were drawn from our own church community and their extended families, returning campers and people from the community who saw our banner. Ages ranged from 4 to 13 years. One mother told us her daughter had been looking forward to coming all summer because we are the camp where "grandmas teach crafts." And what an active group of grandmas, grandpas and younger volunteers we had. The mixing of ages and commitment to the children evident daily is a real benefit to all involved.

The week's theme took us from the story of Abraham and Sarah welcoming three strangers to their tent, to the Israelites in the wilderness living in booths and relying on God to provide for them. We found out about the Tabernacle and how it was carried through the wilderness to house the Ark of the Covenant until being bought to Shiloh. And we heard how Peter rushed to offer to build booths for Jesus, Moses and Elijah in the story of the Transfiguration. Finally we looked at the travels of Paul, who baptized the first Christians in Europe but also, during his travels, used his skill as a tentmaker. Our stories included God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

Our crafts reflected those stories too. We learned skills as weavers, we prepared pancakes, we colored, pasted, drew, created and shared. The children may have carried home the fruits of their labor but they also knew people had spent time with them, perhaps the most precious gift we can give. Our praises were loud and our singing enthusiastic (and fast when challenged!) Most of us knew the actions!!

Thank you again St James' for your continued support and prayers.

Jan Scrutton

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

Those Who Have Passed Away: Mary, Lorin, Vicki, Doug

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 will be removed from the list. Please re-new your request as needed.

Thank you

August Birthdays

2 Ralph Locher
Tim Young
4 Griselda Prather
Adam Locher
5 Molly Lubwama
Pamela Pancoast
6 Shalini Singh
Kathleen Almond
9 Bonnie Nelson
10 Joey Carini
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
Steve Vaccieri
29 Dave Nelsen
30 Anthony Prickett

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

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

Thornton Avenue at Cabrillo Terrace
PO Box 457
Fremont, CA 94537-0457
WEB: http://saintj.com
Tel: (510) 797-1492

WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAY SERVICES: 8:00AM & 10:30AM
CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICES: SUNDAY 9:15-10:15AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH GROUP SECOND SUNDAY*
WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST 10:00AM

****ON VACATION UNTIL SEPTEMBER 2014***

OFFICE HOURS

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

STAFF

The Rev. Lori Walton, Rector.....lori@saintj.com
The Rev. Ken Parris, Deacon..... deaconken@saintj.com
The Rev. Stephanie Green, Children, Teen & Family Minister……..stephanie@saintj.com
Jennifer Carini, Music Director.....music@saintj.com
John Trubina, Office Administrator..... admin@saintj.com
Lynn Locher, Treasurer..... treasurer@saintj.com

VESTRY

Senior Warden.....srwarden@saintj.com
Mike Scrutton
Junior Warden.....jrwarden@saintj.com
Dave Nelsen

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

Article submission…..newsletter@saintj.com