



The Window

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

September 2015

The Fruits of the Spirit of VBS

Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against things like this.

Vacation Bible School took over campus and the lives of 55 children, 24 volunteers and their families in July. As the week ended I reflected on the significance and impact of such a week, when our community becomes most definitely child centered. One of the passages that inspired us during our week of feast was Galatians 5:22-23, "the fruit of the Spirit". We thought about how fruit grows and how gardeners tend their crops and how we also produce fruit. As we finished the week some of the volunteers reflected on how they used some of those fruits during the week. Here is some of what they said:

Joy: Welcoming new children, working alongside parishioners you wouldn't normally see. The faces of the children as they helped each other. The excitement about the activities. The wonderful music!

Peace: At the end of each busy morning.

Patience: Something we all need to practice! The children learn it while developing new skills and trying new crafts. We learn it as we explain something, again!

Kindness: Expressing to all children that the world is good, people are good and they themselves are good.

Goodness: Yummy snacks! We show our faith when we share God's love for us with the children.

Faithfulness: In addition to hard work and preparation we place our faith in God.

Love: New friendships, between the children and for the volunteers as well. God's love for us passed on in actions.

I know so many of our community supported VBS,

with prayer, with supplies and with encouragement. For a week our campus was, noisy and full of life and our volunteers gained as much as the children. Our VBS service included music, story and prayer and over 20 children as part of our most important feast: the Eucharist. As the children helped set the final table of our week they made the connection that we are fed at the altar and those who had worked with them were reminded of the source of our nourishment.

So what are the fruits of the spirit of VBS?

Community, Friendship, Love, Joy and Blessing.

While we serve the community we are building our own community. While we create space for the children to learn and make friends we do so ourselves. We are blessed by the presence and joy of the children and in welcoming them we are reminded of our purpose as a church – to create spaces where God is encountered – not just by those who visit, but by us as well. May we continue to tend and grow these fruits.

Jan Scrutton
Children's Minister

Thank you to everyone who devoted time, energy and resources to Feast at St. James'. The success of VBS is a team effort and all your work is appreciated. For those people who have heard how much fun we have an would like to join in you are welcome to come on board next year, for a day or for the week!

2nd Annual St. James' Tailgate Gathering Fall Stewardship Event Saturday, October 3, 2015

I can't believe it's been nearly a year since our first "St. James' **Tailgate Gathering**"! Last year, we gathered together in the church parking lot in a football-tailgating fashion to celebrate all we do and accomplish together – like sharing, learning, working, and worshipping together as a team to share God's Word and love. We had so much fun that we're doing it again – but this year the theme is Baseball. Why? It's the "team" concept. We are all important members of God's Team. We are always there for our church community in the good times and in the difficult times; we benefit from the strengths and generosity of each other, and we hope together for the future. It is through our participation and giving that we are able to strengthen and extend our love of God to everyone in and outside our church community.

A highlight of last year's **Tailgate Gathering** was the **Chili Challenge**, and it will be back this year! First place was awarded to the Memorial Garden Vegetarian Chili prepared by the Ramsamy Family with the People's Choice Award going to "Young" Chili prepared by St. James' Youth Group. The Stewardship Team invites all St. James' Teams to participate again this year by entering a crock pot of chili to be tasted and enjoyed by all. Sandra Motley will be coordinating the Chili Challenge and will be sharing more information on that later.

Fall is the appropriate time to reflect on what we have achieved throughout the year together at St.

James' as we begin planning for the coming year. It is also the time to begin thinking about where we are in our financial support of God's work through St. James', and what we are able to pledge for the coming (2016) year. Stewardship is a spiritual commitment to giving of our time, talent and treasure and it is based on our belief that we give because we receive. It is an essential part of our Christian mission, giving back to God the gifts that we have been given, through service and ministry to our community.

The Tailgate Gathering is an opportunity for us to come together to celebrate our service as a team supporting the mission of St. James' Church. It will be an afternoon of fun and good food for the entire family. There will be all things baseball, activities for both children and adults, lots of chili, and, of course, hot dogs! You don't have to be a baseball fan to have a good time at this event. Join your fellow St. James' parishioners in showing gratitude to God for giving us this wonderful space in which to celebrate all that we have been given. As stated in the St. James' Mission Statement, we prayerfully ask *"Most holy God, source of our vision, guide us to embrace the potential of this community to serve you in new and loving ways; direct us in our efforts as we work together with love for our neighbors."*

Gail Blalock
Stewardship Chair

A New Parish Hall Floor

The long-awaited parish hall floor replacement is finally scheduled to begin. Ashley Interiors was awarded the contract to install the new floor. It will be the same type material we are replacing, vinyl composition tile. The work will begin on Monday, September 14th and be completed on Wednesday September 23rd when the new floor will be sealed and waxed. It is very important no one walks on the floor prior to the final sealing process.

All groups who would normally use this space will be temporarily relocated to other rooms and our coffee hours on September 20th will take place in the courtyard. The painting of the parish hall was completed in mid August and a big thank you goes out those who helped with this project; Barry, Al, Fred, Ralph, Ken, Bruce and Mario.

Dave Nelsen

Coffee Hour Sign-Up List

We all love coffee hour and the fellowship we share with others. And we certainly enjoy our snacks. Each family only needs to bring something small. when you sign up to host a coffee hour. If you cannot commit to bringing snacks for a specific coffee hour, how about bringing snacks that can be saved and used as needed.

Let's keep this tradition going by continuing to sign up for snacks on the list next to the coffee makers in the Parish Hall. Thanks to the St. James congregation for making our coffee hour a friendly and enjoyable place for all.

The Coffee Hour Hosts, a newly formed committee, are responsible for set-up and clean-up for Coffee Hour. For those who have signed up bring food, would ask that you have it prepared ahead of time and then set it out on the table in the Parish Hall. Thanks again for your continued support.

Pamela Young, Coffee Hour Host



Attention Singers!

And those who want to be Singers!
And those who want to learn how to be Singers!
And those who just want to hang out with
the *cool* Singers!

The 2015-2016 season is beginning! The Adult Choir would LOVE to have you join them in their singing adventures!

We rehearse on Wednesday evenings, beginning Wednesday, September 2nd, from 7:30pm - 9:00pm in the Main Church. We then meet at 10:00am on Sunday mornings to prepare for the 10:30am service.

All Are Welcome! Please see me or any Adult Choir member for more details! Hope to see you there.

Thanks!

Jennifer Carini
Music Director

The next issue of ***The Window*** is October

We welcome your **comments, essays, poems, cartoons, photos, newsworthy items of interest, art work, group activity information and reviews.**

mail your submission to
newsletter@saintj.com

October Submission Deadline: Sept 15th

Vestry Minutes July/August

The St. James' Vestry met for a combined July/August meeting on Thursday, July 30, 2015. We start each of our meetings at 6:30pm, sharing a meal provided by a Vestry member. The business portion of the meeting begins at 7:00pm with an opening prayer.

After review and approval of the June financial reports, we welcomed Jim Cunningham and Sylvia Ma, representing the Little Church Renovation Committee for their presentation of bids for the church's structural repairs. After reviewing bids and covering issues regarding the process, and addressing questions about potential issues, the vestry voted to approve the proposal presented by Mark Schwab Contractors. The vestry then approved the expenditure of up to \$52k, which covers the contractor, buttress fabrication and funds to cover a possible cost overrun. The vestry would like to recognize the very detailed and focused volunteer work of the Little Church Renovation Committee. Their dedication over recent months and years has been a generous gift.

A new Donation Schedule, as part of our Facilities Use Agreement, was presented by Meg Amouroux. This Agreement is the document used for renting space on St. James' campus for regularly scheduled and single-use events by individuals and various groups. The Donation Schedule was updated to make adjustments to pricing, simplify calculations and add additional instructions. After discussion and questions, with a minor edit, the new rate sheet was approved by the vestry and will be inserted into our Agreement.

Dave Nelsen presented the bid for the new Parish Hall flooring. After much research and discussion with local professionals, the proposal was to replace the flooring in a similar material to what we currently have. When installed with the proper subfloor and sealed and maintained properly, we have found the most durable product, best suited for the demands we put on that room's flooring. Proposal was approved. Work to begin and be completed in September.

Deacon Ken Parris joined our meeting and presented background and support information for the Charter for Compassion. The vestry was encouraged to visit their website, and consider signing the Charter as a vestry, and possibly as the church as well. We will review the Charter, and vote at the next vestry meeting in September.

The meeting concluded with discussion regarding Stewardship and Pledging, a conversation which will continue in the coming months.

Our meeting closed at 9:00pm, and we finished our evening together with Compline service in the Little Church.

Meg Amouroux
Junior Warden



Have a Safe and Happy Labor Day !

The church office will be closed on Labor Day, Monday September 7, 2015

The Bookworm Wiggles:
ST. JAMES' RE-ORGANIZED LIBRARY IQ TEST
Submitted by: John Maloney, Librarian



- A. What are these numbers: 557-164-721-24?
- Lori's social security number
 - Ken's car license plate number
 - The combination for the St. James' safe (Do not share it with any Catholic friends.)
 - Something to do with the reorganized parish library (If you select this answer, check out the answer key on page 6.)
- B. What do these books have in common: Backpacking with the Saints; Come, Holy Spirit: Inner Fire, Giver of Life, Comforter of the Poor; Como Rezar con los Cinco Dedos; and Knit One, Purl a Prayer: A Spirituality of Knitting?
- They are all on the Index of Forbidden Books
 - They are all in English
 - They are all written by Episcopal theologians
 - They are all part of the 164 new books in the St. James' library
- C. The PLOT in the library's new science fiction novel, The Book of Strange New Things is:
- A Female rector of a California, suburban, Episcopal Church is appointed as a Cardinal by Pope Francis in a brotherly gesture of radical inclusiveness and acceptance of all pseudo-Christians. This leads to a lot of unseemly flirting during Vatican Council Three.
 - In a complete reversal of past attitudes, the parishioners in a California, suburban Episcopal church become consumed by an irrational desire to sit in the front pew at the 10:30am Sunday Eucharist. When factional fighting breaks out, one innocent parishioner serendipitously named Ron in this science fiction story, is in an unchristian-like manner forced to flee to the Nursery room and lock its door with an usher, serendipitously named Burtin, keeping guard outside. The librarian, serendipitously named John in this science fiction story, however, inspires everyone to check out and read Desmond Tutu's book Forgiveness from the newly re-organized St. James library, resulting in fellowship and harmony once again blooming among the flock. And now, Eucharist is conducted without incident in the Nursery. Amen.
 - An unnamed Episcopal Church posts a sign on its front lawn which reads: "Only Some Are Welcome." The local diocese, after due and rational deliberation and a contentious heresy trial, agrees to compromise and allows the sign to read: "Some Are Welcome."
 - In the distant future, a Christian missionary travels by space ship to a newly discovered and inhabited planet, leaving behind his beloved wife in a failing Earth.
 - None of the above. Even for science fiction, none is believable.
- D. The reorganized St. James' library will be open for business:
- Never
 - The day hell freezes over
 - Soon
 - Whenever

Financials June 2015

Fund Balances	6/30/2014	6/30/2015
Operating Fund	\$ 42,424.00	\$ 56,292.73
Building Investment	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Building Fund	\$ 36,988.04	\$ 38,142.56
Pledges Budgeted	\$ 122,123.00	\$ 130,412.50
Pledges Paid	\$ 118,009.62	\$ 125,120.00
Unpledged Contributions	\$ 4,741.00	\$ 5,055.00
Other Op Income*	\$ 11,812.36	\$ 12,792.71
Total Operating Income	\$ 134,562.98	\$ 142,967.71
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 142,944.24	\$ 134,259.36
Income less Expenses	\$ (8,381.26)	\$ 8,708.35

*Includes Fundraising

KEY FOR LIBRARY QUIZ (pg. 5)

A. d (557 original books + 164 new books = 721 total books and 24 DVDs)
 B. d
 C. d
 D. c (choice “d” is also acceptable, but cynical and immature.)

YOUR LIBRARY IQ LEVEL
Correct Answers IQ Level

4 Saint
 3 Blessed
 2 Venerable
 1 Regular Parishioner
 0 Neo-Pagan (bordering on atheist, but at least Pope Francis loves you, or so he says.)

Foyer Groups Sign-Up

Want to get to know and have fun with more folks at St. James’? Foyer Groups are gatherings of 8 people who share dinner 4 times a year. The purpose is to broaden and deepen the social connections of newer members of the parish, and help even “old-timers” get to know folks from the “other service.”

The group meets for dinner 4 times a year, in each other’s homes, or at the parish. The hosts provide the main dish while the others bring an appetizer, a side dish, or dessert. The first meeting date will be proposed by the “kick-off pair” and the rest of the dinner dates will be set at the first dinner. You can sign up online or in the Parish Hall, from September 6th to the 20th, with the first dinner taking place in mid to late October.

Parishioners can sign up as couples or individuals, (if you’re single, we’ll pair you up) and will be assigned at random to a group. The purpose of Foyer Groups is not to have groups of friends sign up together, but to “mix it up.” It’s a fun way to get to know one another better, particularly the newer members of our wonderful community.

Questions? Email Anna Horen at anna@saintj.com

Submitted by: Anna Horen

Backpack Blessing

As school returns for the new year and college classes restart, we’ll bless all those returning to school, college, university or any new learning situation at our 10:30am service on Sunday, September 13th. Please bring something along to represent this new year of learning. Previously we have had backpacks, pencil cases, pencils, lunch boxes, notebooks, calculators, textbooks and running shoes bought in for the blessing! We will pray for all those involved in education as students, teachers, coaches, parents or administrators.

Jan Scrutton
Children’s Minister

Please support St James' Cub Scout Pack 163 Annual Fund Raiser

Cub Scout Pack 163, sponsored by St James' Episcopal Church, will be selling *Trails End* Pop Corn as one of their major fund raisers for 2015. They will have a table set up following the 8:00am and 10:30am services for two Sundays, September 13th and September 20th.

Stop by to view and purchase all the delectable popcorn related treats your family will love and support your parish Cub Scout Pack. The Cub Scouts will greatly appreciate any support you can give to help them defray the cost of cub scout manuals, training, advancement recognition awards, activities and other costs associated with putting on this truly worthwhile program.

Please note that, if popcorn is "not your thing", you can make a tax deductible donation to send popcorn to the men and women in our armed forces serving overseas.

Seventy percent of your purchase price supports Scouting: 38% goes directly to support Cub Scout Pack 163, and another 32% goes to support the San Francisco Bay Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America to help them maintain Scouting camps, facilities, materials and provide program support.

Yours in Scouting & St James',
Bob Doherty
Chartered Organization
Representative for St. James'
and Cub Scout Pack 163



Many Thanks for All the Great Photos

What would the St. James' Newsletter, *The Window* look like with only black text..... granted we have great articles submitted that are informative and interesting still.....in this editor's opinion, having photos to enhance a great article makes it not only more eye catching, but also allows us visualize it as we read the article. Now, not all articles need photos, but St. James' is known for having some of the best events happening this side of the WORLD, (remember this is my opinion and hopefully yours) so a photo can only make it better.

The Window is filled with photos of the events that happen on and around our campus such as St. James' Feast, John McCutcheon concerts, baptisms, Back to School, Pancake Supper, Men's Trip, Lady Flatlanders, St. Francis Day, special donations like our new family picnic table or the improvements to our building and grounds such as the new Sunday School room and our newly renovated Parish Hall just to name a few.

I know everyone enjoys seeing these photos and they are always filled with smiling parishioners, happy children and even beloved pets, oh and of course many of us eating at these events.

So MANY, MANY thanks to all of those who have given their time and talent to make the pages of *The Window* even better.

Penny Trant



Whoever Heard of a Garden Cookbook?

Back in 1986 St. James' published a recipe book, "Joyful Cooking at St. James". Not to let old recipes lie we did it again in 2004 with "Loaves & Fishes...". Guess what folks, the urge has hit us again, but it started with the garden, not the recipe. Then other thoughts crept in such as St. James' history and personal stories about your garden and recipes. Then it occurred to us that photos often tell much of the story about our favorite foods. Given the advances being made in self-publishing we thought we would make this effort a book you would like to read as well as a place to find delicious and inventive recipes.

Below see the list of parts of the book. The book will evolve depending on what *you* the writers submit for inclusion in the book. The list:

St. James' history to include some chronological history.

Personal stories surrounding the garden and recipes – see the fictitious example below.

Recipes and cooking advice for obtaining best results.

Gardening for the Fremont area, re: raising your own vegetables and flowers.

Recipes that you love, that might have been a relative's recipe, or that you might have created from the produce in your garden, etc.

Photos: of yourselves and your food.

A mighty tall order you say? Well, we know that this will be a job, a labor of love, and, like a recent play, a fund-raiser and/or community outreach.

Not to forget the fictitious example promised above:
Example: My spaghetti sauce never tasted as good as my neighbor's sauce. I idolized her sauce. My



Photos courtesy of : Bruce Roberts



mouth watered every time we accepted an invitation for pasta at her house. A year ago I screwed up my courage to ask her what her secret was for her wonderful sauce. Fresh Tomatoes! She lit up when she told me. She always waited for the fresh tomatoes from her garden before she made the year's supply of pasta sauce. Her recipe (She showed me the recipe all covered with spots of tomato juice.) looked much the same as mine except that tomatoes had the word FRESH in front of it. Stunned that the one ingredient made so much difference, I set about planting tomatoes in my tiny garden plot (two large pots) on the morning-sun side of the house. To cut to the chase, I now have friends asking me for MY recipe. To tell the truth, I'm tempted to omit FRESH from the tomato description so they will salivate when I invite them over for my spaghetti. So read the recipe below and imagine how it would go with your favorite pasta, tangy and full flavored, and some other FRESH vegetables and a taste of full-bodied wine, and the conversation of good friends. Umm, good....and see how I get the biggest tomato crop I can from my two pots.

You can probably do better than this fictitious fantasy. So put on your creative recipe cap, utilize your garden as a source for ingredients, and send us your best story or stories about your garden and recipes. This is our (St. James') book and we all can take part in it. Ideas welcome. Stories welcome. Recipes welcome. Garden adventures and stories welcome. A name for the book would be welcome as well.

Bruce Roberts and Jim Cunningham
Brucesface386@yahoo.com or
jimckayc@sbcglobal.net

Fun Photos of St. James' Day 2015



Photos courtesy of :
Bruce Roberts



New Shoes Outreach Program



Continuing the St. James' outreach tradition, we invite your help to donate Payless Shoe Store gift cards or contribute funds so that local families who are financially unable, can replace outgrown or worn out shoes for their children. We will be collecting donations from August through October and give the cards to Abode Services' Sunrise Village to coincide with the new school year and before the winter weather starts.

Please consider helping with this special outreach project by purchasing \$20 gift cards from Payless Shoes or donating towards these gift cards (write "NEW SHOES OUTREACH" on your checks or envelopes). Please place your donations in the offering plate, in the safe, or give these to New Shoes Outreach Coordinator Cathy Knotts.

Thank you for your continued support of this much needed program!

Submitted by: Cathy Knotts

Thank you!

Tri-City Volunteers supports young people in need by providing new backpacks and school supplies. For the second year we have supported their appeal and this year your generosity provided 55 backpacks and dozens more supplies.

This means more children will be able to go to school equipped for the New Year, prepared for success. Please don't underestimate the gift you have given to them and their parents. Thank you!

Jan Scrutton



Photo Courtesy of : Jan Scrutton

The Annual Blessing of the Animals and Celebration of St. Francis



The Feast of St. Francis will be celebrated on Sunday, October 4th. At the 8:00am service, we'll celebrate the life of Francis and his impact on the world today. At the 10:30am service we'll celebrate outside on the lawn with Holy Communion and the Blessing of our Animals.

Bring your dog, cat, reptile, bunny, or other pet for a special blessing. Photographs and stuffed animals can also be blessed! That morning, we will be collecting gently used blankets, towels, and pet food for the Tri-City Animal Shelter.

Rev. Lori Walton



SAINT JAMES'
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WORSHIP TIMES

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

OFFICE HOURS

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

STAFF

The Rev. Lori Walton, Rectorlori@saintj.com
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Ralph Locher
Vivienne Paratore
Alison Saichek
Elaine Vallecillo-Miller

Vestry Clerk: *Elizabeth Hart*

Other Important Coordinators

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors:

The Rev. John Trubina

Eucharistic Visitors:

The Rev. Ken Parris

Altar Guild: Katie Cunningham

Ushers: Burtin Hart

St. J Youth Leaders: Mike & Jan Scrutton

Facilities: facilities@saintj.com

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