The Window

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

June 2016

The Exponential Blessings of Young Lives

My favorite memory of our Maundy Thursday gathering this past Lent was sharing Holy Communion with one another, each person passing the bread, "The Body of Christ..." to the next person, the wine, "The Blood of Christ…" to the next. I was at the end of the line, and the person serving me communion was one of our youngest members. This child looked up at me with so much seriousness in her eyes that I was drawn in, knowing without a doubt that she was handing me the Body of Christ, passed from her hand to mine. In that moment, I understood the power of shared communion and its ability to connect person to person. I also understood the exponential blessing of having children lead us on the spiritual path towards transformation, for it is the child who often pays the closest attention to the nuances of the Spirit, it is the child who often sees the mystery with awe and joy. We adults can be quick to run past the subtle movements of God in our lives, but children take the time to notice the little things, and thus, help us notice as well.

On the first Sunday of the month at our 10:30 service, our children lead the way in very tangible ways. They read scripture, take up the collection, hand out bulletins, and help at the altar. While they are learning to participate in worship, it is clear that their service is a great gift to the whole assembly. I always listen a little closer when a child reads, have a little more fun when a child is helping me at the altar, and dig a little deeper when a child is handing me the collection plate – because their successes are our successes, and their leadership makes me want to be a better Christian role model.

This summer, we will open our campus for a week of stories, song, crafts, and most importantly, connection. Children from all over Fremont and beyond will come together to participate in God's story for the purpose of understanding that it is their story as well. The children gain a lot from the week, no doubt. But I know for a fact that the adults that participate gain maybe more from the week. Seeing the interaction of God through the eyes of a child and in the life of a child brings us all closer to the sacred wonder and mystery of the divine. I find the week to be one of the most gratifying weeks of the year because the children remind me that the Body of Christ is as near as a child's hand.

Lori+

Why I Give to St. James'

Each month a vestry member shares their experience of their spiritual home and their motivation for supporting our community. This month's submission is from Bruce Roberts.

Growing up in Twin Falls, Idaho, I remember as a child placing a dime in the offering plate – to help children in Africa. Other than that church was free except for my Mite Box, again to help children elsewhere. I thought church **was** free, maybe supported by God. Fast forward to the College of Idaho and my classes from Dr. Chalker (Old Testament and New Testament) – the concept of tithing was introduced to me. All that we have was given us from God. Just 10% of income is all the church asks us for. Why? Support of outreach? Support of plant? Pay the clergy and staff? Yes to all of those.

What is my faith? How can I support my faith? By pledging and paying my pledge. Lest I forget, I can support my church by volunteering my time and talent as well. You may have seen me around from time to time – volunteering, being part of the church community.

Can I be my own church community? I'm not a community. **We** are the church. We are the church community. Can I be the church by myself? No, W**e** are the church, the church community. If we are to last, we must support "the church." Do I have all the talents for all the church functions – not hardly – someone else may perform those functions, and can they do them for free? I guess we need to pay those folks. And some give of their time and talents as well.

Do I tithe? Not quite there. But I do volunteer some. Room to grow.

Bruce Roberts

Volunteer Appreciation Sunday June 19

Come and join us for a special treat and warm fellowship to honor all St. James' volunteers who have dedicated their talents and time on different ministries or projects.

The Vestry members will be serving cake after the 8 am service and ice cream and toppings after the 10:30 am service in the Parish Hall.

Hope to see you all there!

submitted by Evelyn I. Martinez

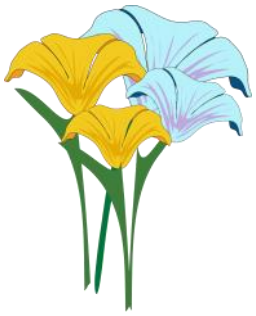
DUCKS *for* BUCKS RACE RESULTS

The 21st Annual Fremont Kiwanis Duck "Benefit" Race was held at Lake Elizabeth on Saturday, April 23. St. James' parishioners had 661 rubber duckies (out of over 6,400) in the race, which means St. James' will benefit $1,962 from our Duck Race sales. This year, St. James' was the second highest in duck sales! Thank you to everyone who supported this fundraiser. Meg Amouroux won the $500 Gift Card from Dale Hardware. It was a beautiful day! Bruce Roberts took some great pictures. There was music on the dock, a raffle with great prizes, a food booth, and a free kids' carnival with games and prizes.

Winners in the ***"for St. James' Ducks Only"*** prize drawing on Sunday, April 24th, were E. J. Hilliard (Macys gift card), Marnie Hartmann and Bobbi Tomkinson (official St. James' coffee cups with Starbucks gift card), John Maloney (Trader Joes gift card), Adrienne Farrell (framed Paris street scene), and Ann Jamison (slate garden bunny). Taking home some fantastic "Ducky" memorabilia were John Kimber, Barbara Johnsen, Sylvia Ma, Ivy Sankar, Bud Spalding, Ruth Poole, Fred Gifford, Katie Cuttingham, Bob Bynum, Glory Bryant, Lauren Doherty, Olivia Carini, Malorie Guzior, Lynn Locher, Nadine Yother, Nancy Castaneda, Adrienne Farrell, Cathy Knotts, Elizabeth Hart, and Bruce Roberts. (If you haven't received your prize yet, it's coming!)

Again, thank you for participating in this year's Ducks for Bucks fundraiser. Your support helped raise much needed funds for St. James' programs and for the community. If you'd like to join our *Ducky Team* for next year, let one of us know!

Tom Blalock, Marlene Benedict, Bruce Roberts



Good Bye… With Gratitude and Love

As soon as my husband and I arrived at St. James' for 10:30am Eucharist in early January of 2015, I knew it was a special place. Halfway through the service, I decided this would be a great place to fulfill my Field Education requirement for ordination. Luckily, Lori felt just as positively about me, and I began my Ministry Internship, making my "debut" on Shrove Tuesday, 2015.

What I have experienced in my 17 months here has far exceeded anything I could have imagined. Lori's thoughtful mentoring has helped me grow in my understanding of the priestly role and develop a sense of how I want to inhabit that holy calling.

My Lay Committee, consisting of Janet Fischer, Marnie Hartmann, Jeanne Morris, and Kurt Drescher, helped me understand St. James' history and culture, and I have so appreciated their insights and valuable feedback. The staff and vestry also readily included me and extended me every opportunity to help me learn and grow.

But your welcome, your encouragement and your constructive critique, and your joy in watching me grow has been just as important and just as much of a learning experience. My entire time here has been deeply marked by your trust and affection. I can only hope that wherever I land after ordination, I will be able to have the kind of loving relationship that I have had with this congregation. I am so grateful for all of you, and St. James' will always have a special place in my heart. I will miss you, and I ask that you please keep me in your prayers.

Anna Horen

Financial Summary April 2016			
Fund Balances	**4/30/2015**		**4/30/2016**
Operating Fund	$56,630.95		$49,075.81
Building Investment	$15,000.00		$15,000.00
Building Fund	$38,335.30		$27,765.83
Year To Date Summary Operating			
Pledges Budgeted	$86,941.66		$86,665.00
Pledges Paid	$85,140.00		$87,127.72
Unpledged Contributions	$ 4,276.00		$ 4,377.00
Other Op Income*	$ 8,230.99		$ 7,514.70
Total Operating Income	$97,646.99		$99,019.42
Total Operating Expenses	$89,200.42		$99,375.43
Income less Expenses	$ 8,446.57		$ (356.01)
*Includes Fundraising			

New Picnic Table/ Children's Ministry Outdoor Desk

The new table was engineered by Dave Nelsen and constructed by him with help from Jim Cunningham and Bruce Roberts. The frame and seats came from mis-shipped parts of the Joan Roberts Memorial Picnic Table and new redwood purchased and shaped by Dave. He also applied finishing oil to help the table resist the ravages of sun and rain. It now resides outside the Sunday School Room.

Submitted by Bruce Roberts

Expenses Don't Take a Holiday

The church still needs to pay its bills while you are away on vacation. Please arrange to pay your pledge or usual donation so that we continue to have a good cash flow. An easy way to make your pledge/ donation, while you are away, is to arrange for your bank to send St. James' a check. Thank you for helping to keep St. James' financially healthy.

Lynn Locher, Treasurer

May Vestry Summary

The Vestry met and shared a meal prepared by Charles Hall while offering our "God moments."

The meeting started at 7:00 p.m. with a prayer. Penny Trant sent her apologies. We reviewed the April Vestry minutes and approved them, then Lynn gave the financial summary and explained the accounting summary sheet. The pledges are up to date and the plate donations are more than budgeted. There are several line items in expenses that appear high because they are budgeted monthly but paid quarterly so at the end of the year they even out. There are bids coming in for the little church project. The financial reports were accepted.

We discussed the option of buying an Arctic Air Freezer from Ebay for $1099 +tax with no shipping cost. The Vestry approved this purchase. Vivienne will handle the purchase and arrange for the old freezer to be removed.

The situation with the termites in the big church was discussed. An extended warranty is available for $681.00 to be renewed annually. Bruce Roberts and Dave Nelson are meeting with the Termite company that holds the existing warranty. Bruce reported that for the company to extend the warranty, they will need to do an in-depth inspection. The Little Church would not be included in the warranty as it has a separate warranty from previous work. Bruce, Dave and Jim Cunningham have done many projects around the church lately, including hanging the Sunday School notice board and an extra picnic bench. Al Casas put up a new mailbox. We are blessed by hard working members of our community.

We have been doing well with our articles for the Window and we reviewed the subsequent list of contributors. We talked about making announcements when Lori is absent. Vivienne will do May 22nd both at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m

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Lori talked about the Capital Campaign for the diocese. The vestry will have a presentation about this from the diocesan representative, Davey Gearhardt. The campaign company estimates that St. James' can raise $600,000 over a 5-year period. The diocese tracks all of the money for the campaign. One of the advantages of doing the campaign is to reinvigorate the congregation behind a specific project. The next phase is the fall of 2016. Lori would like to invite them to talk with the Vestry and other members of the congregation. There was discussion about the timing of the meeting. We agreed to have them come to the August 11th Vestry meeting and include several other members of the congregation. In previous years we have combined the July and August meetings but as the August meeting will be the Capital Campaign presentation, we will also keep the July meeting.

We also need to do a mutual ministry review which has not been done for 3 years. Someone from the diocese meets with the Rector and wardens and then comes to a vestry meeting to discuss what can be improved upon and what is going well. The mutual ministry review would be October 13th, 2016. Lori knows someone to facilitate this.

The vestry reports were accepted after a couple of questions and brief updates. This concluded the business portion of the Vestry meeting and Lori left as she was not feeling well.

Meg then reviewed the major ministry projects, and we checked in with the solo events.

Scott is planning the endowment event and has had trouble getting hold of the diocesan rep for the will writing workshop. Jan Pearson set up this previously so Scott will contact Jan.

Evelyn is planning the volunteer luncheon on June 19th. Meg will buy the cake for the 8:00 a.m. service and after 10:30 there will be ice cream. Nancy suggested doing a small blurb on The St James' Cares program again to highlight it; there are 45 volunteers.

Ashley has the incoming gathering in November. When are all the pledges in? We think it is late October. Lori is the current contact for the Stewardship committee.

Bruce's charter document is still under review and there was a discussion about how to include the remaining major activities in the church.

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Vivienne explained what we are doing about the newcomer tracking.

Charles and Elaine will have the newcomer event on June 18th, but there is a funeral being planned for that day so the newcomer event will have to be changed to accommodate the funeral.

John and Meg will work on the newcomer packet to get that finished.

Karen and Nancy talked about the welcome packet for visitors.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30p.m. We then celebrated compline in the Little Church.

Vivienne Paratore
Junior Warden

Children on Pentecost Sunday

Photo by Penny Trant

Youth Outreach Projects

During each school year St. James' Sunday School takes part in a number of outreach projects. Leading the sock campaign, making sandwiches for Sacred Space and promoting the school supplies drive all impact our local community so our Spring project widened our horizons. In order to support Episcopal Relief and Development projects overseas through their Gifts for Life Program we planted seeds and grew plants. We also received plants from members of our congregation to sell at our plant sale. While we were raising funds our Sunday Breakfast Club (5^{th}-8^{th} graders) had a chance to look at how they could help people overseas and to produce a 'shopping list' of items they hoped to purchase.

They selected:

A mosquito net	$12
A health clinic visit	$15
Medicine Pack and Training	$15
Women's Literacy Group	$25
Share of a pig	$20
Seeds, tools & training	$45
A goat	$80

By exploring the website, www.episcopalrelief.org, the group was able to work out how each item would benefit a family or community.

Following our Plant Sale we were $77 short of the funds needed. Rather than shorten the list the children resolved to continue to fundraise and shortly after that our Cub Scouts, Pack 163, offered to help us meet our goal.

Thank you to everyone who planted, watered, potted, donated, purchased and stepped up to help with this project!

Jan Scrutton
Children's Minister

St. James' Prayer List

Most Holy God we pray for:

For Those In The Military: Scott, Jarrod, Megan, Erica, Theresa, Mark, Tim, Louis, Military Children of ACBSM, the families and Marines of Dark Horse Battalion, Caitlin, Emily, Robin, Adam, Dave, Shawn, Ethan, Paul, Darren, Matthew

For **Those Who Need Comfort and Healing:** Nonie, Melissa, Betty, Madhavi, Nicole, Marisa, Iris, the Creed family, Jeff, Dinah, the Parris family, Matt, Nadine, the Becker family, Tim, Doug, Nat, Trish

For Those Who Have Passed Away: Cindy, Sheila, Sara, Marilyn, Merry, John, Mike, Jack, Dylan, Nancy, Steve

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

June Birthdays

3 Charles Paratore
Dean Valentine
4 Dorothy Balderston-
Nancy Castaneda
Mary Reed
6 Ivy Sankar
9 Bob Doherty
12 Isabella Slayton
Sophia Slayton
16 Bruce Prickett
20 Timothy Prickett
22 Mark Locher
Tim Spencer
25 Sylvia Clayton
Robert Lovelette
26 Greg Miller
27 Marlene Benedict
28 George Vlastelica
Pat Vlastelica
30 Emma Feeney

June Anniversaries

21 David and Judy Colby
22 Charles and Judy Peeler
24 Sherea and Keith Westra
25 James and Frankie McLeod
27 John and Joan Kimber
28 Timothy and Pamela Young

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

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 newsletter@saintj.com
by: **June 15th**

SAINT JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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WORSHIP TIMES
SUNDAY SERVICES: 8:00AM & 10:30AM
CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICES: SUNDAY 9:30-10:00AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15AM
WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST 10:00AM

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

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Vivienne Paratore

John Butterfield
Nancy Castaneda
Ashley Francis
Charles Hall
Karen Koonze
Evelyn Martinez
Bruce Roberts
Penny Trant
Elaine Vallecillo-Miller
Scott Whitaker

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

***The Window* Staff**

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