The Window

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

August 2017

How Jesus Changed My Life Through St. James'

As you know, my mother had progressive dementia for many years and she passed away on July 4th, 2017. She came to church with me and felt at home at St. James'. So many people greeted her, shook her hand, smiled at her and even hugged her that she felt like she knew you all. I did not realize until she died, how important the support of the St. James' community was to me.

The outpouring of love and kindness is overwhelming. Our clergy are amazing, they know exactly what to say and when to say it. Each of you has been the face of Jesus clearly to both myself and my mother and you all have brought me comfort and support. My life has forever been changed by going through this experience and my attitude towards death has also been changed.

While death has never been a scary idea for me as I have seen it as a way to enter the next phase of life with Jesus. I now see the beauty of the process and the gentle way that God uses our sadness to bring us closer to each other. I now believe that God draws all of us to Himself, whether or not we actively desire or understand that. The ceremonies of the Episcopal church help to move us through the processes and phases of our human lives and our ever loving God (whatever He may be called or however He is experienced by different people) is there beside us. Jesus is physically present with us through those around us who love us and support us. And for this I am eternally grateful and humbled.

Summer and the Abundance of God's Blessing

Do you remember the excitement you felt as a child when school was out and summer began? Or were you one of the children who experienced insecurity as school was your safe place where you would receive at least one nutritious meal a day? Even if you had to go to summer school, August brought a time away from school for a few weeks.

As adults, many of us see August as just another month of the year, indistinguishable from the rest. However, if you are a gardener, August brings the bounty of our labors earlier in the year. Tomatoes ripen, squash suddenly grows huge, strawberries become little bursts of sweetness and cucumbers become ready to harvest. The variety of fruits and vegetables which are available, locally grown, in the farmers' markets and grocery stores doubles and we see the abundance of God's creation all around us.

There are so many beloved Bible stories about harvesting, growing, planting and weeding which bring comfort to us when we hear them again. Gardening is a refuge for me when I can reflect quietly while accomplishing something. This activity brings me closer to God as I am reminded continuously of His amazing creation. Having my hands in the earth pulling weeds is strangely satisfying. God gives us opportunities every day to experience His incredible creation and love; it is up to us to notice them, hold onto them and remember them when we face difficulties.

Many people find spiritual renewal through nature. I hope that you are able to find time to experience God's peace during this month. I also hope that you can rekindle the excitement that August brings through restful activities, fun, and time spent with family and/or friends.

Vivienne Paratore

What Makes Us
The Anglican/Episcopal Church?

Join us this fall to find out!

Christianity comes in many forms and expressions. As Episcopalians, part of the Anglican Church, we have a particular way of living out our relationship with Christ and the world.

We will be holding a series of four classes for anyone interested in learning more about the Episcopal faith.

For those who want to further their spiritual journey through the Rites of Confirmation or Reception, an additional four classes will be held.

The Book of Common Prayer defines Confirmation and Reception as:

The rite in which we express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop. Similarly, reception is the same, but designated for those who were previously confirmed in a different denomination.

The dates for the series are as follows:

The Distinctiveness of the Anglican/Episcopal Church
Sundays from 12:15 – 2:00ish
September 10, 17, 24, and October 1

Preparing for Confirmation and Reception
Sundays from 12:15 – 2:00ish
October 8, 15, 22, 29

Ladies Flatlanders September 21-24

Ladies of St James', it's time for our annual Flatlanders Getaway to Pajaro Dunes on the Monterey Bay! This year we will be at the beach September 21-24. We spend four days together talking, laughing, playing cards, getting to know each other better, and reconnecting as friends. Oh yes, and eating lots of good food. This year we have reserved two beautiful townhouses for our use. They are just steps from the beach and new for this year, we plan to cook s'mores out on the sand!

Flatlanders has been a St James' tradition for over forty years. It started with a group of women wanting to get away for a weekend. They decided to go camping, and went to Samuel P Taylor Park in Marin County. Over the years, it has been held at Portola State Park, and the Thousand Trails campground near Hollister. This will be our seventh year at Pajaro Dunes on the Monterey Bay. The name "Flatlanders" came about because when the first trip began, there was also a group of mostly men from church who backpacked in the Sierras each summer. One of the ladies said "We are staying down here on the flat land." And the name stuck!

The reasons for going each year endure too. It truly is a time for bonding. We share, we care. We laugh, and cry. We enjoy the beauty of God's creation all around us. We work as a team to make the weekend a success. And on Sunday morning we worship together.

If this appeals to you, please sign up. The weekend is open to any woman 21 years or older. We've had ladies up to 90 years old join us – all are welcome! See the bulletin board in the Parish Hall for more information. With full houses the cost is about $160 each plus the food. We need to know soon as the second payment is due mid-August. Please talk to any committee member (Mary Casas, Nancy Castaneda, Dorothy Balderston, Laura Winter) to find out more.

Laura Winter

Volunteer of the Month

Cyrus Uible, a fairly new parishioner at St. James', was named the Volunteer of the Month for Drivers for Survivors, a local non-profit providing free rides and companionship to area residents going through cancer treatment. Taking care to make the church visible, Cyrus is wearing the infamous 150th Anniversary St. James' T-Shirt for his photo! The web address for Drivers for Survivors is Driversfordrivers.org.

Lori+

Financial Summary June 2017

	6/30/2016	6/30/2017
Operating Fund	$ 51,537	$ 56,894
Building Investment	$ 15,000	$ 15,000
Building Fund	$ 34,755	$ 34,091
Year To Date Operating Summary		
Pledges Budgeted	$ 129,988	$ 149,518
Pledges Paid	127,141	$ 140,434
Unpledged Contributions	$ 5,316	$ 5,091
Other Op Income*	$ 12,430	$ 9,209
Total Operating Income	$ 144,886	$ 154,734
Total Operating Expense	$, 142,981	$ 147,271
Income less Expenses	$ 1,905	$ 7,463

*Includes Fund Raising

Saint James' Endowment Fund – What is it?

The St. James' Endowment Fund is a way for people who love St. James' and want to plan ahead to fund future projects outside the operating budget of the church. These can include capital projects such as the current repair of The Little Church (which started in 2013). Another project could be replacing the gravel walkway in the Memorial Garden with a smoother, longer lasting path to make it easier for people with mobility issues to visit (the Memorial Garden Committee is investigating this option). Further into the future, projects could include funding new ministries or major renovations to the St. James' campus such as replacing the Big Church roof or replacing the current wireless microphone system.

But how is the Endowment Fund funded? One would have to say that funding comes from us, from gifts to the Endowment Fund. They can be small or large gifts. The gifts can be made for a number of reasons: the remembrance of a loved one or just gift because you want to give to St. James' above and beyond donations on Sundays or your annual pledge.

What sorts of gifts can be made? The gift(s) can be cash, checks, shares of stock, real estate, or part of your estate planning. By listing the St. James' Episcopal Endowment Fund in your will, IRA, 401(K), or life insurance policies, you can to help St. James' to remain a vibrant part of our community for future generations.

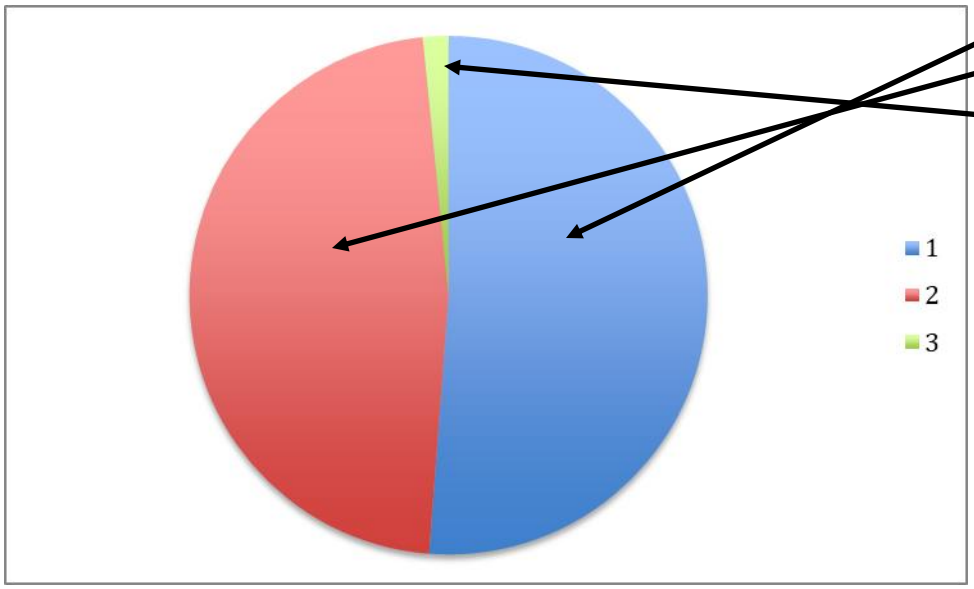
Everyone should periodically review their estate plans to consider one's family and other commitments as well as future support of St. James and other charities. It can be rather complicated. The important thing to do is take action. The members of the Endowment Board can assist with the process. We have been discussing information sessions on estate planning, will preparation, and Alzheimer's services, but we would like to hear what topics are of most interest to you. We would appreciate your feedback and suggestions.

Thanks for reading. Now's the time for action!

Endowment Board Members:
Bruce Roberts, Chair
Jino Joseph
Cathy Knotts
Jeanne Morris
Scott Whitaker

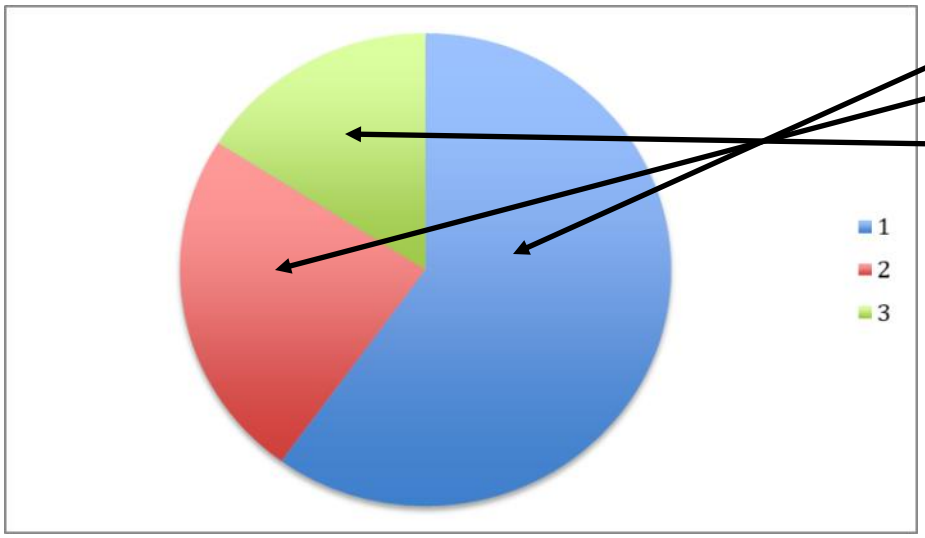
The charts below show how the Endowment Fund is invested and how the proceeds are distributed.

Endowment Fund Investments



1. Diversified Equities
2. Fixed Income
3. Cash Equivalents

Available Endowment Disbursements - Distributed at the Annual Meeting



1. General Fund Restricted
2. Memorial Garden Restricted
3. Little Church Restricted

Highlights from July Vestry Meeting

The Vestry met for our monthly meeting on July 13th. Scott Whitaker provided the meal. We started the meeting sharing Godly moments and prayer. The highlights from the meeting are below.

- Bruce Roberts updated us on the progress of the Little Church repair. The contractor estimates about 3 more weeks before both sides are plumb to the correct measurements. The Little Church Committee will meet on July 18th to discuss possible next projects; the floors and the pews. They would like retain its historical beauty and update it for safety, etc.

- The open position on Vestry has been filled. John Kimber was elected by the Vestry to fill the 2 ½ years (approximately) term remaining left open by Jill Buono's resignation in June.

- St. James' Church is hosting National Night Out in our parking lot. This event is a community-building campaign that helps build and promotes police and community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer and more caring places to live. This event will be on Tuesday, August 1st from 7:00pm to 9:00pm.

- The next Vestry meeting is scheduled for August 10th.

Scott Whitaker led us in compline in the little church and the meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.

Penny Trant

Independence Day Parade

St. James' 150th Celebration Group Picture

St. James' Prayer List

Most Holy God we pray :

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, Johnny

For our Travelers: Tommy

For Those Who Need Guidance and Direction: Ryan, Karl

For Those Who Need Comfort and Healing: Ron, Sarah, Mary Jo, Margaret, Terese, Karen, Jerry, Joe, Iva, Dee Ann, Gary, Melvin, Taylor, Cory, Susan

To add someone to the "Special Prayers" list, please complete a pew card and place in the Sunday 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

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

August Birthdays

8/2 Ralph Locher
Tim Young
8/4 Griselda Prather
Adam Locher
8/6 Steven Krimmel
Shalini Singh
8/7 Kathleen Almond
8/9 Sylvia Wessel
Bonnie Nelson
8/10 Lacey Hicks
Joey Carini
8/18 Becky Whitaker
8/20 Brian Rodarte
8/21 Phyllis Williams
Vivienne Paratore
8/23 Monique Manjarrez
8/26 Paul Cudlip
Ken Trant Jr.
Rachel Whitaker
8/27 Barbara Johnsen
Roberta Tomkinson
Steve Vacchieri
8/29 Dave Nelsen
8/30 Anthony Prickett

August Anniversaries

8/6 Mike & Jan Scrutton
8/13 Bev & Bill Mosier

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 your reviews**.

Email your submission to newsletter@saintj.com by: **August 15th**

SAINT JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Thornton Avenue at Cabrillo Terrace
PO Box 457
Fremont, CA 94537-0457
WEB: http://saintj.com

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

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

STAFF
The Rev. Lori Walton, Rector ..... lori@saintj.com
The Rev. Anna Horen, Associate Rector
.....anna@saintj.com
Jan Scrutton, Children's Minister….. .jan@saintj.com
The Rev. John Trubina, Office Administrator
..... .admin@saintj.com
Jennifer Carini, Music Director.....music@saintj.com
Lynn Locher, Treasurer ..... treasurer@saintj.com

VESTRY

Senior Warden .... srwarden@saintj.com
Vivienne Paratore
Junior Warden ..... jrwarden@saintj.com
Bruce Roberts

Josephine Amadi
John Butterfield
Ashley Francis
Charles Hall
John Kimber
Evelyn Martinez
Kimberly Patton
Katie Porter
Penny Trant
Scott Whitaker

Vestry Clerk: ***Elizabeth Hart***

***The Window* Staff**
Ralph Locher
Katie Porter
Penny Trant
Laura Winter

Article submission…...newsletter@saintj.com

Other Important Coordinators

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors:
The Rev. John Trubina
Altar Guild: Katie Cunningham
Ushers: Burtin Hart
St. J Youth Leaders: Mike & Jan Scrutton

Convention Delegates
John Amouroux
Meg Amouroux
Jim McConnell
Ken Trant
Scott Whitaker

Alternates
Jan Brandt
Elaine Vallecillo-Miller