The Window

The Newsletter of St. James' Episcopal Church in Fremont, CA

Called to serve in new and loving ways

September 2017

How We Grow in Faith

As an adult in the Episcopal Church, can you trace where your faith took its first steps? What made it grow? Why you stayed in the church or why you came back? When you first connected to a personal relationship with God? What makes you turn up on Sunday for morning for worship?

If we all shared the same answer to these questions, my role at St. James' would be easy. Recreate those steps and grow a new generation of Episcopalians to worship in and lead churches. But I suspect we all have very different answers. We may have had a family who brought us to church, we may have found our way to St. James' from another church background or from no church at all. We may have grown up with the idea of an active relationship with Jesus or maybe we can date the awakening of our faith to a particular day or life experience.

In planning a children's program for St. James', I strive to create a number of opportunities and times or places children can grow in faith. By being welcome in services, by feeling at home, through lessons in Sunday school or at summer camp. We don't use a single method of teaching in Sunday school as our team of teachers help children to hear and understand the Bible, we strive to connect with all learning styles. Our older children have started serving in church on first Sundays, thanks to the gracious support of our adult lectors and ushers. There are opportunities for children to be acolytes and to perform as full members of our community. All of these are places of connection to faith and church where faith can be both taught and caught.

In conversations within children's ministers, the question of whether faith is '**caught or taught'** is a reoccurring theme. Can we truly teach faith or is it something that will occur if a child is exposed to the right experiences? I believe faith, like many aspects of development in young people, is both caught AND taught. Some experiences must be felt, experienced, and observed and often repeated. Hearing the language of liturgy, seeing the dedication and joy of those around you, praying, and being part of a community. Others need teaching; we all sometimes need to learn, be guided through parts of the Bible or challenged to think and apply our faith.
How our own faith came about and is fed and developed is not greatly different to how we nurture the faith of a new generation and one aspect is key – repetition. A quote you can see painted on the wall of Centerville Junior High (you can see it as you drive by, it caught my eye as an old colleague used to use it frequently) says " We are what we repeatedly do, excellence therefore is a habit" (Will Durant). We all need to challenge ourselves to turn up regularly, to read the Bible, to pray, and to join in worship. Repeating these actions continues to build faith, it is necessary and important. My congregation, the children, often have to rely on parents or grandparents who value the importance of turning up, to help them develop the habit.

Faith can be neither taught nor caught in isolation and neither is nurturing it or encouraging its growth only for children. As a new program year rolls round, I encourage everyone to look for ways to grow in faith, to take a class, to turn up on Sunday morning, to join in. Opportunities are available but to experience them we must first value that habit of turning up.

Jan Scrutton
Children's Minister

How Jesus Changed My Life Through St. James'

As I pondered this reflection, it occurred it me that it is as much a matter of Jesus forming my life as much as changing it through St James'. This is the only church home I have every known so almost everything I believe and feel about my relationship with Jesus started here.

It started with the all encompassing warmth and comfort I learned in Sunday School that Jesus loves me. That appreciation grew as I matriculated through Sunday School and confirmation class to understand what Jesus did for me so I might have everlasting life.

When my parents divorced, St. James' became even more important to my mother, my brothers and me. It was such a dismaying and confusing time for us, but the knowledge of our relationship with Jesus allowed us to look with hope to the future and realize it would be alright.

Becoming a young adult was further aided by my connection with St. James', particularly with the Rev. Boyd Lyon and later, Barbara Lyon. They both taught me to listen to the "still, small voice" and become involved. And when Becky and I married, Boyd agreed to come out of retirement to marry us in the church if I reconnected (and pledged).

Attending St. James' allows me the gift of being reminded to look for the face of Christ in everyone I see (especially those I dislike and disagree with). Attending regularly gives me the built-in opportunities to try and make the world a better place and to pay attention because Jesus may have something in mind for me that has not been made apparent yet.

Scott Whitaker

Fall Adult Faith Formation Series

What Makes Us the Episcopal Church?

Christianity comes in many forms and expressions. The Episcopal church, part of the Anglican Communion, has a particular way of living out our relationship with Christ and the world.

This four-part series will explore the distinctiveness of our tradition and will take place Sundays, September 10th through October 1st, from 12:15pm - 2:00pm. Participants will have an opportunity to discuss, explore and deepen their understanding of the Episcopal/Anglican faith perspective.

An additional four meetings will be held Sundays, October 8th through October 29th from 12:15pm - 2:00pm. Those wishing to further their spiritual journey through the rites of Confirmation, Reception or Reaffirmation will celebrate with Bishop Marc at a single service on Sunday, November 5th at 10:30am.

Those preparing for Confirmation, Reception or Reaffirmation should attend all eight sessions. Please sign up in the Parish Hall. If you have any questions, please email Anna Horen at anna@saintj.com.

Rev. Anna Horen

OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY

The church office will be closed in celebration of Labor Day on Monday, September 4th.

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who supported 'In This House', our summer day camp this year. For the volunteers, the children, those who cut out, donated or prayed for us, we are grateful.

This year a total of 46 children came to camp. Our stories came from the New Testament and reminded us that In This House (God's House) we are welcome, safe, loved and cared for.

Jan Scrutton
Children's Minister

St. James' Annual Men's Retreat
August 17 - 21, 2017
Twain Harte

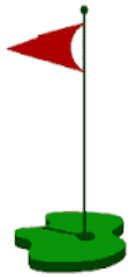


Photo by Bruce Roberts

Photos by Bob Bynum

Sunday School Campout

The Sunday School Family Campout is scheduled for Saturday, September 23rd . Jan Scrutton and Sam Kalitta will host an overnight for families on the St. James' campus. We will pitch tents, eat dinner, make smores and have a great night under the stars. Then before church service on Sunday morning we will enjoy a wonderful breakfast.

Please contact jan@saintj.com if you have questions or if you haven't already expressed interest via the doodle poll.

More information will be available soon.

Jan Scrutton
Children's Minister

SAVE THIS DATE
Sunday Breakfast Club

Sunday Breakfast Club will resume on Sunday, October 1st. This is open for all students in 5th grade and above. Please see the Sunday news insert for continued information.

Online Audio Sermons

Did you miss Sunday service and want to hear the sermon, or maybe you just want to hear a sermon again. Well you can anytime, anywhere.

Go to saintj.com to hear the sermons recorded at our 10:30am service, or search in iTunes (Saint James' Fremont) to find our podcast.

Penny Trant

Sacred Space Picnic in the Park

Please join us on Sunday September 24th at Cannery Park in Hayward from 1:00pm until about 2:30pm. We will have a short modified service followed by a wonderful picnic .

There will be fried chicken, salads, chips, drinks and dessert. Bring a chair if you like or a blanket as we are not sure if there will be a table area available. We will try to find a shady area so everyone can have an enjoyable afternoon. We hope you can come and relax and share God's Love with our Sacred Space family and friends.

Remember to save space on your calendar for Sacred Space. Smiles always welcome.

Penny Trant

Raise Your Voice and Sing

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 Singers!

The 2017-2018 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 6th, from 7:00pm - 8:00pm in the Main Church. On Sunday mornings we meet at 10:00am 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

Diocesan Resolutions

Please join us in the Education Room on **Sunday, September 17th at 9:15am** in Education Room #1. EJ Hilliard will present the resolutions that will be up for a vote at our next Diocesan Convention in October.

Come and learn about what is going on in our Diocese! You may preview the resolutions at http://diocal.org/2017-resolutions.

Janet Fischer

Financial Summary July 2017

Fund Balances	7/31/2016	7/31/2017
Operating Fund	58,253.82	52,810.79
Building Investment		15,000.00
Building Fund	28,750.52	34,093.67
Pledges Budgeted	$151,665.00	$174,437.66
Pledges Paid	$150,184.78	$160,572.01
Unpledged Contributions	5,632.00	6,633.30
Other Op Income	14,115.87	10,994.45
Total Operating Income	$169,932.65	$178,199.76
Total Operating Expenses	$161,110.65	$175,931.84
Income less Expenses	**8,822.00**	**2,267.92**

Made With Love

Thanks to Evelyn Drescher, mother of parishioner Karl Drescher, for the loving donation of 43 hand knitted sweaters for us to distribute to organizations serving children in the area. A warm and colorful gift of love.

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

Those Who Need Guidance and Direction: Ryan, Karl, Crystal, Michael, Victor, Catherine, Daniel, Gloria, Kenny

Those Who Need Comfort and Healing: Ron, Sarah, Mary Jo, Jerry, Ica Joe, Dee Ann, Gary, Melvin, Taylor, Cory, Marin, Susan, Bob, Rhonda, June, Ellison, Peter, Andy, Dorothy, Kyle

Families Expecting Children: Jeffrey and Erica

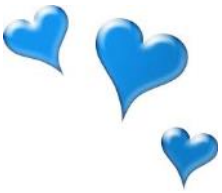
Those Who Have Passed Away: Fran, Dick, The Rev. Canon Stefani Schatz

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

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

September Birthdays

2 Bob Reed
5 Aurora Thompson Lynch
7 Mel Johnson
8 Ron Larson
14 Jan Brandt
25 Barbara Dabney
Jill Buono
26 Jeanne Morris
Mitchell Pinnix



September Anniversaries

3 Jon and Debra Fuller
11 Nat and Gloryanne Bryant
15 Bruce and Janet Fischer
21 Scott and Becky Whitaker
23 Bud and Pat Spalding
25 Frank and Rose Hoffman
26 Julie and Frank Guzior

The next issue of ***The Window*** is in October. 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: **September 15th.**

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 9:30-10:00AM
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
Interim Office Admin..... .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
John Kimber
Evelyn Martinez
Kimberley Patton
Katie Porter
Penny Trant
Scott Whitaker

Vestry Clerk: *Elizabeth Hart*

***The Window* Staff**

Ralph Locher
Katie Porter
Penny Trant
Laura Winter

Other Important Coordinators

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors: Janet Fischer
Altar Guild: Katie Cunningham
Ushers: Burtin Hart
St. J Youth Leaders: Mike & Jan Scrutton

Facilities:…..facilities@saintj.com

Convention Delegates

John Amouroux
Meg Amouroux
Jim McConnell
Ken Trant
Scott Whitaker

Alternates to Convention

Jan Brandt
Elaine Vallecillo-Miller