The Window

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

Called to serve in new and loving ways

October 2018

In the Midst of Chaos

As soon as we walked out the door, it was immediately evident that we were in a place quite different from our home. It was after 3:00 in the morning, and while at that hour, one might expect the quiet solitude of the middle of the night, there was nothing sleepy or quiet about the Delhi airport. Throngs of people pressed against the crowd-control barrier, some holding signs with their charge's name on them, others shouting out to those exiting the airport. Cars clogged the area assigned for pick up and the air was filled with a symphony of honking horns. It was a miracle that we were able to locate Ron's daughter, Alex, who was in the mix of people waiting for their passengers.

It was chaos, and it was not confined to the airport. For the ten days we were in India, we experienced an amazing energy that comes from an abundance of human activity, one that was foreign to these two coastal and mid-western natives. To say that Delhi is a crowded city is an understatement. It is estimated that just over 18.5 million people live there. Compare that to the 7 million that live in the entire San Francisco Bay Area and you'll get a sense as to how many people are in Delhi.

It was one of the most alive places I have ever been. Life was lived out in the open, everywhere. Every street was a path for many. Every restaurant had the chatter and laughter of communion. Every public venue was an opportunity for fellowship. Mixed right in to these joyful experiences were situations of heart-breaking poverty. While the homeless on our own streets are (for the most part) adults, at least the visible ones, those on the streets of Delhi were children. Beautiful, tender, wide-eyed children eagerly grabbing a bottle of water we offered because they had no access to clean drinking water or quickly taking the crackers we offered because they were hungry. My step-daughter has the good fortune of being able to speak Hindi and she would engage each child directly, asking their name and about their wellbeing, and almost without exception, coaxing a smile out of each one before they ran off to be with the other children.

In the midst of this chaos, in the midst of crowded streets, in the midst of children without enough, every person we met greeted us as old friends. Whether it was someone who had us over for dinner or someone who was simply driving us across town, each person welcomed us with an open heart. I was reminded of the families in our own community who come from India and how warm and embracing they are. In Delhi, with so many people and seemingly not enough resources, one might expect a lot of sorrow. While I am sure there is sorrow in the face of poverty, alongside the suffering is also the joy of living. They are held in tension and the beautiful people of Delhi, the impoverished and the privileged and the in between, embrace all of life.

I am privileged to live without extreme want, and too often, I take advantage of the convienences that weave through my life. I forget that a life of ease does not equate to a life well-lived, that instead, it is the ability to embrace all of life – the chaos and

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Why Regular Worship is Important to Me

I was not a church-goer growing up. My parents tried some churches when we first moved to Livermore but did not find the right fit for us. Our Sundays were spent together on family outings - sometimes to San Francisco, or to a museum, and most often on that now extinct adventure of a "Sunday drive". We would pack a picnic lunch and head out in any direction from home, just to see what we could find that day. Wonderful times spent together.

It wasn't till I graduated from college that I started attending church. A new friend invited me to join her on Sunday morning. She had that inner something that made me want to find it too. So I joined her that summer, and when she went back to college for her senior year, I kept going. I've been attending church regularly ever since then, and it is a very important part of my week.

I find making it to church each week keeps me connected - with God and my faith, and with my community.

I'm not as disciplined as I'd like at reading the Bible on my own, so the Sunday morning lessons give me that all-important link to God's word. The sermon, whether by Lori+, Anna+, Brian or an occasional guest, gives me good guidance for the week ahead. And serving as a Eucharistic Minister each month, both offering the wine at the altar and leading the prayers of the people is a wonderful way to deepen the strength of my beliefs. When I miss a week or two I feel the gap in the continuum of my journey.

Regular attendance allows me to have a deeper connection with my community that is St James'. We know each other's lives, sharing the joys, difficulties, happiness and distress. We know when someone's grandchild succeeds, or when a family member is in the path of the oncoming hurricane on the East Coast. We celebrate the good times, and offer support when one of us hurts. When mom was sick, my friends at St James' listened when I needed an ear, asked about her each week, and ultimately allowed me to grieve with them when the time came. The support of my St James' family made a huge difference in the way I was able to process her death.

I still enjoy a good museum or an afternoon outing, now I make sure it comes after church.

Laura Winter

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In the Midst of Chaos

the calm, the sorrow and the joy – that amounts to a life well-lived. Being in India and meeting so many open-hearted people reminded me that it is the human-to-human connection rather than the stuff we accumulate or the space we carve out for ourselves that creates the life that God calls each one of us to a life of abundant relationships and love.

Lori +

Financial Summary for August 2018

Fund Balances	**8/31/2017**	**8/31/2018**
Operating Fund	$ 56,460	$ 73,543
Building Fund	$ 34,119	$ 49,432
Pledges Budgeted	$ 199,357	$ 216,776
Pledges Paid	$ 187,716	$ 220,323
Unpledged Contributions	$ 7,473	$ 8,777
Other Operating Income	$ 12,002	$ 12,900
Total Operating Income	$ 207,191	$ 242,000
Total Operating Expenses	$ 200,142	$ 218,048
Income less Expenses	$ 7,049	$ 23,952

St. Jame's Prayer List

Most Holy God we pray :

For Those is the Military: 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, Darren

For Those Who Need Guidance and Direction: Catherine

For Those Who Need Comfort and Healing:

Ron, Julie, Roger, Charmaine, Judy,Freda, Graham

For Those Who Have Passed Away: Jennifer, James, Mary, Lisa

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

October Birthdays

3 Dana Muse
6 John Nguyen-Cleary
Lynn Locher
7 Mary Casas
8 Keith Westra
9 Margaret Rainey
Beth Scrutton
10 Cathy Knotts
13 Judy Colby
18 Victoria Krimmel
19 Bud Pearson
19 Sherea Westra
22 Samir Kalitta
Alyssa Koonze
23 Marilyn Rose
Lauren Zarovy
25 Gloryanne Bryant
28 Leticia Rodarte
29 Joan Kimber
Kyler Westra

October Anniversaries

15 Dave Nelsen & Linda Zetterholm-Nelsen
20 John and Meg Amouroux

The next issue of ***The Window*** is November. We welcome your **comments, essays, poems, photos, cartoons, newsworthy items, any group activity information and your reviews**.

Email your submission to newsletter@saintj.com by: **October 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
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15AM
WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST 10:00AM

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

STAFF
The Rev. Lori Walton, Rector..... lori@saintj.com
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VESTRY

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Bruce Roberts

Junior Warden .....jrwarden@saintj.com
Kimberly Patton

Josephine Amadi
John Butterfield
John Kimber
Monique Manjarrez
Evelyn Martinez
Sally Morgan
Katie Porter
Penny Trant
Laura Winter

Vestry Clerk: *Elizabeth Hart*

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Altar Guild: Katie Cunningham

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

Alternates to Convention
Jan Brandt
Elaine Vallecillo-Miller