The Window

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

Called to serve in new and loving ways

May 2019

We Build this House Together

Increase membership and strive for every Sunday attendance so the Good News is experienced and integrated into the lives of the worshipping community.

We've been talking a lot about building a house in Mexico. A house is more than shelter. It is a dwelling for rest, a symbol of security, and a place to belong. Having a home gives us a sense of place that cannot be found in other ways. Having a home grounds us and forms us.

There are domestic homes and there are spiritual homes. For us, our spiritual home is St. James', the well-manicured blue campus on Cabrillo Terrace off of Thornton. Our home is alive with laughter and conversation and activity and worship. We gather for many reasons, being uplifted by friendships, prayer, and our ever-deepening connection to Christ.

Last month I told you about the vestry goal "Maintain and increase outreach opportunities so that the Good News is put into action beyond our buildings." This month, I'd like to highlight another goal: ***Increase membership and strive for every Sunday attendance so the Good News is experienced and integrated into the lives of the worshipping community.***

We have an amazing gift in the Good News of Jesus Christ. This gift is not meant to be squandered, but to be shared. One way we do that is by inviting others to become part of our community, first by attending worship, and then by participating regularly. This is how we grow and how we continue to build momentum. Another way is by committing to weekly worship ourselves. I realize that due to employment, this is not always possible. But for those who do not have to work on weekends, it is my hope that attending church is a priority, and that your attendance lifts and energizes you for the week ahead.

I heard an analogy that I've shared before but will do so again because it makes sense. If you were renovating a house and the plumber showed up once a month, and the electrician came when he wasn't otherwise busy, and the roofer came every week, and the carpenter came sporadically, the house would never get built. We are building this house together so that it is here for each of us and for those who have not yet arrived. This house, our home, is more than a building. It is a dwelling for rest, a symbol of security, a place to belong. It is also where we meet the Living God in our prayers, our relationships, our ponderings, and most importantly, in our worship and adoration.

Join with the vestry in making this your goal. Invite someone to accompany or meet you at church. Share the gift that is so freely given. Further, strive for every Sunday attendance. It will shape your lives in ways yet unseen, and it will shape our community as well.

See you at the door on the way in!

Lori+

Palm Sunday Journey

Summer Scripture Monday Gathering

Do you want an opportunity for a closer examination of scripture? Are you interested in learning with a group of fellow Christians? Would you like to integrate scripture into your own life and how you live it? Beginning on **Monday, June 3**, we are starting a new group for studying scripture. Rather than focusing on a specific book, we will be looking at different themes found in the Bible. To begin with, we will look at what the Bible has to teach us about the **Holy Spirit**. Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would continue the work of God in the world. Where can we find evidence of this in God's Word? What does this mean for us? How can we participate with the Spirit in this ongoing movement?

Our guide will be Brian McLaren's book, "We Make the Road By Walking," supplemented by other material. Meet us in the Education Room from **11:00-12:00**. If you have any questions, ask Rev. Lori by emailing lori@saintj.com.

Lori*

Women's Day Retreat

May 11, 9:30-2:30pm

Our annual **Women's Day Retreat** returns with the theme: *The Feminine Face of God*. If you have always thought of God as "HE" and have a hard time imagining God as anything else, come see what scripture has to say about that!

Mark your calendar for a day of sisterhood, sass, inspiration, and insight. We'll conclude with a closing ritual and sharing the Eucharist. Lunch will be provided.

Please sign up in the Parish Hall

Questions?

Ask Rev Anna, anna@saintj.com.

Janet Fischer

Why I Chose St James'!

Monique Manjarrez

One afternoon as I sat drinking tea with my monthly tea club, a friend of mine said to me, "Monique, I have sensed a loss of something in your eyes. I know you have left the Catholic Church because they are not accepting of all people. Have you considered looking into the Episcopal Church?" I have to say that was the first time I ever remembered hearing about the Episcopal Church, so of course I was intrigued. After doing a "Google search" online and reading about how welcoming the faith was to everyone, no matter one's sexual orientation, I felt I needed to at least visit one time.

From the moment I drove onto the property and saw the sign that said, "Everyone Is Welcome", I just knew there was going to be something special here. I remember walking into the Big Church and having people welcome me left and right. I recall the service being so similar to the Catholic faith I was raised in. And then there was the "passing of the peace." Whoa, these people are so friendly! The warmth that filled my heart was immense. And I just felt like I was about to embark on a beautiful journey.

Since the summer of 2011, I have been received into the Episcopal faith, volunteered to help with Sunday school every month, volunteered to help with Vacation Bible School, joined the Vestry, and more recently accepted the position of Senior Warden. My roots here are growing deeper, but I have to say that my Faith and connection to God have grown the most than in my entire life.

Every Sunday I choose St. James' and the Episcopal faith because it accepts me as I am. I feel whole here. I no longer have the feeling of loss in my heart or in my eyes as I once did. Just the other day, I met with my tea club on a Saturday afternoon as I have done for over 13 years. This time, from across the table a friend asked me, "Monique, can you tell me more about your church, St. James?, My response? "Pour yourself a cup of tea, I have a wonderful place to tell you about."

The BCP: Claiming Our Heritage

Have you ever wanted to pray and couldn't find the words? Or needed that reminder to "uphold the dignity of everyone" prior to a difficult conversation? Would you like to deepen your faith by systematically reading the Bible with others around the world? These treasures and many others are found in our Book of Common Prayer (BCP). But using it can be challenging. I would like to share tips for enjoying this resource with you in a participatory class called "The BCP: Claiming Our Heritage."

Whether you were born into the Episcopal faith tradition or came later, discovering the treasures contained in the BCP is worth the effort. Please join us Sunday, May 19th from 12:15- 2:15 as we explore it together. Please RSVP to andrea@saintj.com or use the signup sheet in the Parish Hall.

Thank you very much.

Andrea Arsene

Micah 6:8 - Do Justice, Love Kindness and Mercy, Walk Humbly With God

Article Submission Deadlines for *The Window*

In our efforts to provide you with our newsletter in a timely fashion, please be aware of the following deadlines for submitting articles for the Window:

* Submit articles by the 15th of the month to newsletter@saintj.com;

* We will make exceptions for late articles if they are of immediate importance AND there is room. (Or it's from one of the Rectors!)

We intend for the issue to be proofed, edited, and submitted to the office for printing by the Thursday morning before the first Sunday of each month.

Help us keep to our schedule by submitting your articles in a timely fashion. Thank you!

The Editors of the Window

Vestry Highlights

The vestry enjoyed a delicious meal provided by Julie Guzior. After the opening prayer, the vestry approved the March meeting minutes and current financial reports and accepted the Staff and Ministry reports.

Jim Cunningham and Sylvia Ma provided information about plans for the Little Church pew restoration and to replace the carpeting. The vestry also approved a bid to remove the pittosporum tree on the side of the church.

Jim Cunningham and Bruce Roberts presented several bids about installing air conditioning in the Big Church. After discussion the vestry determined that more information was needed before it could decide.

Sally Morgan reported that she was able to confirm a meeting date with a representative of the Fremont Police Department to present general safety recommendations to the parish.

Monique Manjarrez and Laura Winter discussed their plan they had for the upcoming Corazon Home Building meeting.

The meeting was adjourned and the vestry had compline in the Little Church.

Katie Porter
Junior Warden

Outreach to Local Children

Union City Family Center representative with Jan Scrutton

I was fortunate on Maundy Thursday to have the task of delivering our donations to two local schools and a Family Center. As part of our continuing commitment to outreach to local school districts and supporting families, we looked for projects this year from Newark and Union City.

Two Title 1 elementary Schools in Newark responded to our question about where they might have needs. Schilling Elementary is looking at offering enrichment activities for their students including a school garden and STEAM activities. We have supported them with a financial donation

Graham Elementary asked for clothing and school supplies for the many children they have who are homeless. Your donations of money and items enabled us to help both schools.

Union City Family Center, amongst its many roles supporting families, is operating a Safe Parking lots scheme for families needing to sleep in their cars. They provided a shopping list of items including towels, socks and gift cards and I was able to deliver a good supply of items and meet some of their staff.

Thank you to everyone who made donations to the outreach fund to support these efforts, and to the McCutcheon team who supported our projects with a further donation from the concert.

Jan Scrutton
Children & Youth Minister

Replanting After the Drought

The last 2 years of winter rains have been a true gift for the people, critters, shrubs, trees, flowers, lawns, and gardens of California. The long drought really changed the landscape due to wildland fires and affects of the drought should not be forgotten.

Back in March 2016 my wife, Darcia discovered and article about the "Unfussy Fescue" in the Sunset Magazine. This fescue is low maintenance and drought tolerant. It only needs to be mowed 2 x / year and needs occasional watering.

This grass is derived from a blend of 6 different fescues. The lawn takes on a wavelike look and the seeds grow well in shade or sun. I tried it on a 12' x 15' patch out front and very happy with it. I had to do a lot of prep work due to the drought and weed seeds. You can purchase the seed on line and it's called Eco-Lawn. I'm still experimenting but I think by summer I will be even happier.

Besides the Eco-Lawn, I'm experimenting with native trees and plants of California. The trees and plants have already survived hundreds of years of drought and fire and know how hard it is to survive. If you go that route then travel to some local nurseries to pick up these plants and trees.

Remember to avoid using pesticides & herbicides.
Plant native plants because once established, they use less water. Also start an active composting system.

Here is a list of stores that I presented last year.

Dale Hardware does have some native plants. Just ask and they'll point to the section in their greenhouse area.

Dale Hardware
3400 Thornton Ave
Fremont
510-797-3700

Regan's Nursery
4268 Decoto Rd.
Fremont
510-797-3222

M& M Nursery has many native plants & trees and very informative - no website but a must-see store.

M & M Nursery
332 Woodside Rd.
Redwood City, CA 94061
650-366-4429

Wegman's Nursery has a good website for educational information.
Wegman's Nursery
492 Woodside Rd, Redwood City, CA 94061
(650) 368-5908
http://www.wegmansnursery.com

California Native Plant Society provides a vast wealth of knowledge regarding native plants.
http://www.cnps.org/cnps/grownative/where_to_buy.php

Happy gardening!

Gregg Feeney

The Saint James' Disaster Preparedness Team

The St. James' Disaster Preparedness Team meets bi-monthly. The Disaster Leadership Team is: Josephine Amadi, Jill Buono, Bob Bynum, John Kimber, Gregory Miller, Bud Pearson, and Elaine Vallecillo-Miller (Congregational Disaster Coordinator).

We are currently updating the 'Preparedness Planning Guide for Congregations and Parishes,' creating new Evacuation Routes signs for inside and outside St. James' buildings and planning future safety education events.

If you are interested in viewing the present Preparedness Planning Guide, you can do so in the Saint James' office.

Jill Buono

Financial Summary for March 2019

Fund Balances	**3/31/2018**	**3/31/2019**
Operating Fund	$ 58,877	$ 46,982
Building Fund	$ 49,226	$ 61,050
Pledges Budg-eted	$ 74,759	$ 83,850
Pledges Paid	$ 70,722	$ 80.826
Unpledged Contributions	$ 1,950	$ 1,288
Other Operating Income	$ 5,070	$ 3,975
Total Operating Income	$ 77,742	$ 86.089
Total Operating Expenses	$ 67,881	$ 84,897
Income less Expenses	$ 9,860	$1,102

Temporary Closure of The Little Church

During the work to repair the pews and floor of the Little Church, our Little Church was closed for worship starting April 22 and will continue to work completion. The Columbarium will be open for visitation on Sunday mornings.

Sylvia Ma

Opportunity to Help Repair Pews and Floor of Our Little Church

We have started to repair the pews and floor in the Little Church. Anyone can help, no experience necessary.

In the first weeks, we need help cleaning kneelers, book racks and pews. Group leaders will be in the Little Church on Mondays and Tuesdays from 1-4pm and Saturdays from 9am-1pm to show you what to do.

Please sign-up to help in the Parish Hall or call or text Sylvia Ma 510-552-6549 or email her at hsiehtinghsueh@yahoo.com.

Thank you for you support.

Sylvia Ma

Abode Services:
Home Warming/Rapid Rehousing Update

Every day in the San Francisco Bay Area we are seeing the effects of the housing crisis. We see families, veterans of many wars, laborers, college students and others struggling to find housing and a safe place to sleep for the night. St James' along with 16 other member churches are trying to help these folks.

It was a lot easier to get people into apartments, houses, duplexes etc. Now many of our member churches supporting Abode have to pool their monies to cover the large expense of down payments and security deposits.

On top of that, we collect gently used or new items for these families so when they do find housing, they do not have to worry about furnishing the units. Abode provides the beds and the churches supply all the bedding, kitchen & bath supplies as well as cleaning supplies, tables, chairs, dressers, lamps and whatever it takes to furnish the units. Our storage unit on campus allows us to store donated items for future clients of Abode Services.

This season starting in November 2018 , the people listed the box below moved into their own place. Several of the Home Warming churches partnered to help provide additional items needed for the move.

St James' helped move in 2 families earlier this year. All the miscellaneous bedding, towels, dishes, glassware, toasters, microwaves, coffee makers, pots and pans and various cleaning supplies were from donations, gift cards and the Lucky Stores stamp redemption program.

We will continue to support this program as we have for over 20 years. If you have any questions, then feel free to contact me at dgfeeney@comcast.net or cell 510-506-2303

Thank you for all the support.

Gregg Feeney

Family or Single Adult	**Home Warming Sponsor**
Miranda and 1 child	St. James' Episcopal Church (Gregg)
Ragin and 1 child	Christ the King Lutheran Church (Linda)
	Corpus Christi Church (Marge)
	St. James' Episcopal Church (Gregg)

From the Parish Pantry

French Algerian Tabbouleh

Following the recent Maundy Thursday Supper, some of you asked me about the recipe I used for my Tabbouleh salad contribution. There were two tabbouleh's served, one following the traditional middle eastern tradition, and mine that derived from a North African colonial tradition. During my cooking school training, one of my instructors, Chef Havier Tiboudeaux taught us this French influenced Algerian recipe.

2 English cucumbers
1 cup boiling water
½ cup mint, minced
½ cup scallions, sliced
2 lemons
½ tsp. celery salt
¼ tsp. grn allspice
Salt and pepper to taste
1 cup red bulgur
1 cup pitted dates
1 cup V8 Vegetable juice
1 cup Spanish olives w/ pimento
½ cup Italian parsley, minced
½ cup sliced almonds, roasted
6 Tbls. extra-virgin olive oil
¼ tsp. cinnamon
pinch cayenne pepper

Wash and quarter cucumbers, and then dice into ½ inch pieces. Toss with 2 tsps. salt and drain in a colander, over sink, for 1 hour. For the wheat, I strongly recommend using Bob's Red Mill Red Bulgur wheat for this recipe. You can find it at Whole Foods or Safeway. Rinse the wheat in running cold water, and then soak in a bowl with the V8 juice and the cup of boiling water for 30 minutes. Drain the soaked wheat in another colander, I've got several in assorted sizes. Put a small plate over the colander with the draining wheat weighted with a 28 oz can of whole tomatoes or other similar item, to press the excess moister out of the soaked wheat.

While the wheat and cucumbers are draining and curing, roast the almonds in a 350-degree oven for ten to fifteen minutes. Slice the Spanish olives along with their pimento into ¼ inch slices. Set the nuts and olives aside until ready to assemble the salad.

After the cucumbers have spent an hour shedding excess moisture, rinse under cold running water, and pat dry in a clean kitchen towel. Yes, I know this seems odd, spending an hour to leach moisture from the cucks, and then putting them under running water to rinse, but some of the salt will remain within the veggie, while most of it will wash off. This procedure prevents the dish from being over salted yet achieving a pleasant firm bite without making the tabbouleh watery. This same technique should be used with cabbage when making slaw.

Zest the lemons, and then juice them, reserving ¼ cup of the juice for the salad dressing. Combine the lemon zest, the lemon juice, the olive oil, with the celery salt, cinnamon, allspice and cayenne. Wisk the dressing vigorously and pour over the drained wheat. Fluff the bulgur and mix in the remaining ingredients, then tasting to adjust seasoning with salt and pepper if needed.

The salad should have about four hours to chill in the refrigerator; toss to refresh texture before serving.

Richard Reynolds

St James' Annual Hillside Visit

How does the Easter Bunny stay in shape?
He does lots of EGGs-ercise!

Our St James' Easter Bunny stayed in shape with an early visit to Hillside Convalescent Center on April 6. (Our Bunny secretly goes by name of Lauren Doherty.)

Our St James' helpers joined our Easter Bunny to help deliver small gifts to all the residents at Hillside. We provided soft small bunnies and a decorated Easter

Egg to each person and also provided Easter Bonnets to help celebrate this season.

How do you know carrots are good for the eyes?

Have you ever seen a Bunny with glasses?

Our helpers were Bob Doherty, Jan and Bud Pearson, Ruth Poole, Sandra Motley along with our youngest bunny Talulaha with her grandmother Linda Nelsen.

Most of the residents joined the sing-a-long in the solarium where Bud Pearson led the group in a tuneful manner! Byron Bader was our welcome key board accompanist.

What did the kangaroo say on Easter morning?

Hoppy Easter!

Bob Bynum was our intrepid photographer.

Thank you!

St James' parishioners supported this outreach with donations for the gift bags! Thank you!

Bob Doherty supplied these riddles! Thank you!

What kinds of books do rabbits like?

Ones with hoppy endings!

Alice Johnson

Pictures by Bob Bynum

St. James' Prayer List

Most Holy God we pray :

For Those in The Military: Jarrod, Megan, Theresa, Mark, Tim, Louis, Caitlin, Emily, Robin, Adam, Dave, Shawn, Ethan, Paul, Matthew, Johnny

For Those Who Need Guidance and Direction: Charlie, Don, Paul, Deja, Jordan, Rhonda

For those Expecting Children: Tyechia, Jill

For Those Who Need Comfort and Healing: Ron, Julie, Gail, Bob, Craig, Janet, Ed, Dana, Mary, Veronica, Ron, Joe, Lisa, Nathan, Butch, Solon

For Those Who Have Passed Away: Midge, Shaun

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

May Birthdays

1 Burtin Hart
2 Meg Amouroux
4 Jay Butterfield
Marco Ramsamy
Margaret Singh
5 Ella Lentz
Sandra Motley
6 Heidi Barnes
8 Sally Morgan
10 Allison Ferro
14 Richard Reynolds
18 Greg Scheuffele
22 Jon Fuller
26 Betty McCoy
27 Michelle Ugwu
31 Suzanne David

May Anniversaries

1 Christopher & Crystal Jones
4 Al & Mary Casas
8 Gregg & Darcia Feeney
9 Daniel Pondera & Getzial Wesley
19 Bob & Kitty Reed
24 Burtin & Elizabeth Hart
26 Cathy Knotts & Mitchell Pinnix
27 Barbara & Steve Vacchieri
28 Greg Miller & Elaine Vallecillo-Miller
Lori Walton & Ron Larson

The next issue of ***The Window*** is *June*. 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: **May15th**

SAINT JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Tel: (510) 797-1492

WORSHIP TIMES
SUNDAY SERVICES: 8:00AM & 10:30AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15AM
WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST 10:00AM

OFFICE HOURS
MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY: 9:00AM TO 12:00PM**
**(TEMPORARY HOURS APRIL 1 - JULY 15, 2019)

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
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VESTRY

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Katie Porter

Josephine Amadi
Bob Doherty
Stephen Ferro
Julie Guzior
John Kimber
Sylvia Ma
Sally Morgan
Kimberly Patton
Laura Winter

Vestry Clerk: *Elizabeth Hart*

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

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors:
George Siegmann
Eucharistic Visitors: Rev. Anna Horen
Altar Guild: Katie Cunningham
Ushers: Burtin Hart

Facilities: facilities@saintj.com

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

Alternates to Convention
Penny Trant
Elaine Vallecillo-Miller