



The Window

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

January 2020

Thank You Ralph! Commemorative Issue



Ralph Locher started compiling, editing, and printing *The Window* newsletter at St James' during 1991. The previous editor was moving away, so he said he would do it for a while. Well, he worked to produce our newsletter with others for almost 30 years, retiring at the end of 2019.

I started proofreading about fifteen years ago, and we worked well together. Ralph appreciated having someone to check for spelling errors, and to confirm people's names were correct. We established a consistent format for dates and times, and for telephone numbers. That continues through to now and beyond. Other comments I made, thinking they made articles sound better, were taken by Ralph as "suggestions." Some he made, others he didn't. He taught me the whole issue doesn't have to read exactly the same; having different writing styles is a good thing.

Ralph said his favorite part of producing the issues was getting submissions from different people. He always wanted the newsletter to include voices from as many people as possible, not just from one or two. As we move forward, that philosophy continues. If you participate in a church activity, please consider

writing an article. If there's an upcoming event, write a short article to let others know what is going on. Just send it to newsletter@saintj.com. The deadline is the 15th of the month before each issue comes out.

Currently the newsletter staff consists of Janet Fischer, Penny Trant and Laura Winter. New people are always welcome on the team, so if you have an interest in helping produce our newsletter, please contact one of us. Assembling an issue is rotated each month, and takes a few hours to accomplish. Janet and Penny trade off the assembly, and I review each issue. If we can add one or two more people, the responsibility is only a few times each year.

The Window at St James' has been a part of the church for many years; we hope you read and enjoy it. Thank you Ralph for your years of dedication and hard work.

~Laura Winter

Ralph's article in his final issue of *The Window*, December, 2019:

I do not know when St. James' started to publish our newsletter but it predated 1987, which was when Lynn and I moved to Fremont and became church members. Back then, desk top computers were very expensive so text and articles, etc. were manually typed, and illustrations, pictures etc. were cropped and manually pasted onto the pages and the newsletter was printed by a print shop. They could print it on different colored paper stock but only fairly recently has it become fairly easy to print

colored pictures. And needless to say, recruiting editors was difficult and still is.

By circumstance, former parishioner Adina Reynolds and I had started to use Adobe Publisher at work and so we decided we could edit the newsletter on our computers, although we still had to have it printed professionally. Now it is all done in house. Another chore was preparing the newsletter to be mailed, which became more expensive as well more time consuming to make sure we bound the copies to meet their postal standards for bulk mailings. So the vestry decreed that we post the issues on line and only mail copies to those parishioners that are home bound.

I want to thank the following parishioners who have edited the newsletter; Jackie Whitehouse, Michael Aquino, Keri Morgret, Connie Rux, Marilyn Rose, Katie Porter, Penny Trant and Janet Fischer. And special thanks to eagle eye Laura Winter, who has proof-read the copy for about as many years as I have edited the newsletter.

So I thank them all for their help and wish the present staff the best of luck. I will be stepping down as an editor of “The Window” effective 12/31/19.

~Ralph Locher

