The Window

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

Called to serve in new and loving ways

March 2020

Be Bold

One does not have to look far to find examples of everyday human beings, people like you and me, encountering God with open ears and open hearts, listening and watching in such a way that the encounter compels them to do something bold. From the ordinary to the extraordinary. Imagine Abraham standing under a night sky and looking at the stars scattered across the ink of darkness and knowing God is calling him forward. Imagine Mary's dawning awareness of the life within her, made known by an angel's visit, but made real as that child was formed within her womb, her purpose growing as the child grew. Imagine James and John on the docks of Galilee, seagulls squawking and fishermen bustling, pulling in nets to be distracted by this man who beckons to them to follow, and the invitation and the man are so captivating, they don't even hesitate.

And finally, not an ordinary man but one with human nature, nonetheless, imagine Jesus in the wilderness, tempted by his own humanity, struggling with the demon, and then embracing the God and goodness within to reject sin. Imagine him pouring out his life for the life of the world, pushing forward in spite of the danger, the naysayers, the arguments, the difficulty. Imagine him as he walks from Judea to Jerusalem, from the river to the cross, determined, focused, and confident that he is never alone.

I have not counted myself, but I have heard it said that the phrase "fear not" or "be not afraid" is in the bible 365 times. True or not, we know it pops up a lot. If you think about it, this God-given message appears whenever someone is at a pivotal moment, facing something new or something unseen. Abraham, Mary, James and John and even Jesus stand at the edge with the familiar and safe behind them, the unknown and scary in front of them, and they hear the message, "be not afraid." And why not be afraid? Because in every situation they were following the call of God, hearing God's voice either loud or soft, and trusting that God was with them every step of the way. They stepped out in faith and were bold. But not bold because they were so brave. Bold because God had their backs. Bold because there was nothing they were being asked to do in which God was not right there with them, giving them the strength and the patience and the gumption to do something different, something that would really matter.

This year, with the leadership of the vestry and (hopefully) the enthusiasm of the parish, we will be stepping out in faith to be bold. On an individual basis, you might be challenged to make some significant changes in your life that better aligns you with what God has in mind for your life. Could it be better self-care? A new job? A deeper prayer life? What bold thing resonates with you? On a communal level, the vestry will be looking at

(cont. pg. 2)

Embolden: to give (someone) the courage or confidence to do something or to behave in a certain way.

Emboldened by Faith
by Jan Scrutton

Be Bold, Be Strong,
For the Lord your God is with you.
I am not afraid,
I am not dismayed.
For I'm walking in faith and victory,
Come on and walk in faith and victory,
For the Lord your God is with you.

When I hear the phrase 'Be Bold' I am quickly transported to a Christian summer camp I worked on for two summers when I was 17 and 18. A very popular worship song those summers was the one above which started with the call and response Be bold! *Be bold!*, Be strong! *Be strong*! As you walked around camp you would hear brief outbreaks of the song as kids were engaged in other activities. I'd been on summer camps when I was younger, usually with Girl Guides so was used to campfire songs being popular, and I knew some of the Christian camp songs from my youth group experiences but this summer being at a camp that was centered on my faith was different. Being somewhere where Jesus was central, where fun and faith came together, where I learned about Jesus and was able to talk about prayer and faith with ease was a joy. Along with beach walks, swimming, kayaking, crafts and movies, we, the campers and staff, shared a real faith and had time and space to celebrate that. At the end of the session leaving was bittersweet but year after year, as I continued working at other church summer camps, I found the experience of faith shared would refresh and embolden me to carry my faith into a new year, at school and later at work. This is why I encourage families to consider our diocesan camps for their children and why each year I try and create a small space a St. James' to bring that fun and faith together. But for all of us, worshipping and growing as Christians, in worship, through faith formation or socially gathering, can embolden us to go out and do the work God has given us to do. So draw from your faith and – Be Bold!

(BE BOLD cont. from pg. 1)
various ideas of how we, as Church, can be bold. Could it be a more generous offering of our campus? A more assertive sharing of our faith? A more expansive welcome to the disenfranchised? At this stage, we are still listening and dreaming, so I am not sure. What I am sure about is that it is time. Time to reenergize, time to move, time to matter, time to be bold.

As we move forward into this year, vestry and staff members will be sharing their stories of what it means to be "Emboldened by Faith" in their newsletter submissions. Read them and meditate on your own stories of courage and join us as we faithfully walk into the future, knowing that God is with us, guiding, loving, and giving us all that we need to do the work we are meant to do.

~Lori+

Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday

April 5th 8:00 & 10:30

Palm blessings on the patio, a grand procession into the Church as Jesus enters Jerusalem. Holy Communion and a reading of Jesus' Passion.

Maundy Thursday

April 9th 6:30

A monastic meal, foot washing and cross exchange, Holy Communion and the stripping of the altar.

Good Friday

April 10th

from 12:00-2:00
Solemn prayers, hymns, the Passion & veneration of the cross.

from 2:00-3:00
Stations of the Cross, walking the way of Christ.

at 7:00
Jesus' Passion interspersed with African American spirituals & veneration of the cross.

Easter Vigil

April 11th 8:00pm

The lighting of the Great Fire, stories and song, the Proclamation of Easter with Holy Communion.

Easter Principal

April 12th 10:30am

The largest service of the year with music, Holy Communion, a reception and Easter egg hunting for the children.

Lenten Program

Signs of Life: why church matters

Light | Water | Food | Shelter | Community

This five-week program encourages individuals and groups to explore the riches of our worship traditions, liturgy and sacraments, and the art and architecture of our worship spaces, revealing the full meaning of these signs, deepening our experience of Christian vocation and guiding us toward ongoing conversion. Rev. Lori will spearhead teaching the class. Learn more at: https:// www.signsoflife.org/ .

The program will run Tuesday evenings, 7:00pm - 8:30pm on March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31. It will also run after the Wednesday Morning Service on March 4, 11, 18, 25, and April 1.
We are looking for a volunteer to coordinate our traditional Soup Supper on Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm.

Please sign up in the Parish Hall. Contact either Rev. Lori (lori@saintj.com) or Janet Fischer (jfischer@saintj.com) with any questions. Thank you!

~Janet Fischer, Faith Formation

Who will win the Golden Halo? Once again we follow along with Lent Madness, an all-for-fun "competition" among various saints of the church to see who will win the Golden Halo for 2020. The poster is up in the Parish Hall, and if you want to vote for your favorite saint, please sign up at https:// www.lentmadness.org/. It's all in good fun, and you'll learn a ton about some saints you may have never heard of before!

~Janet Fischer, Faith Formation

Thank you to everyone who supported our shoe drive this winter. Thanks to your donations of gift cards, cash, and through our Go Fund Me page, we are able to deliver 38 gift cards to Abode Services and Union City Family Center to support children and youth buying new shoes this season.

~Kimberly Patton & Jan Scrutton

A New Green-Egg Hunt.

This Easter our St. James' Easter Egg Hunt for children will be going green – and yellow and red and pink and blue. We will be decorating and dying wooden eggs to hide on Easter Sunday and when children have collected a full box of a dozen they will be able to exchange them for an Easter goodie bag.

Look out for opportunities to help with decorating with crayons and dying with liquid watercolors – these eggs will be colorful and reusable and reduce our use of plastic. Instead of filling eggs this year you can assist with bags of wrapped candy or cash donations towards purchasing items for our gift bags.

~Jan Scrutton

Lilies for Easter

St. James' Church celebrates Easter Sunday on April 12th this year. We will once again have lovely Easter Lilies decorating the church for the Easter Sunday service. Please help us with the decorating by providing a plant or plants in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for a loved one. The names of the donors and reason for the donation will be placed in the Easter bulletin. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Parish Hall. The cut-off date for names in the Easter bulletin is **March 29, 2020.** The suggested donation for each Easter Lily plant is $10.00. Envelopes are located by the Sign-Up sheets in the Parish Hall. You may also use your pledge envelopes. Please write "Lily Fund" on the memo line of your check. If putting cash in envelopes, please indicate "Lily Fund" on front of the envelope with your name. Envelopes may be placed in the pledge plates or in the office. Thank you for supporting St. James' Easter Lily fund. If you have any questions, please contact Ruth Poole.

~Katie Cunningham

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

The vestry met on February 20 with a full agenda. Items discussed were the needed repairs of the big church roof and the education building roof. Recognizing the need for this project, the vestry voted to replace both roofs at a cost not to exceed $41,000. The building fund currently has just over $70,000 in it. The distribution of the McCutcheon proceeds was agreed upon to be $1500 to Abode Services, $750 to Centerville Dining, $500 to SAVE, and $676.20 to Maisha Bora. A container to be placed next to the existing container for the purpose of Cub Scout and church storage was approved, understanding all costs will be covered by the cub scouts. We reviewed the 2019 Parochial Report and continued our discussion about being bold in 2020.

~Lori+

Thank You From the McCutcheon Team!

Our annual John McCutcheon Concert on Monday, January 20, 2020, was another great success. We had a large crowd of over 240, with around 70% non-parishioners. John McCutcheon and the Red Tail Ring gave us a very entertaining evening. Ticket sales totaled over $7300. The prize drawing, with 18 prizes donated by 12 generous parishioners, generated a record $1040. The cookies from the snack bar were delicious and brought in an additional $204. The expenses were under $5200. Part of the proceeds from this concert will go to support ABODE services to fight homelessness. The McCutcheon Team is also requesting approval from the Vestry to distribute part of the proceeds to Centerville Free Dining, SAVE and to Maisha Bora.

This fundraising and community outreach event could not have happened without all your help. There were more than 60 people who contributed time, talent and treasure not only on the night of the concert but in the months preceding the event. They wrote, sent out and uploaded publicity notices/ articles/blog; bought advertisements; designed, printed and posted flyers and signs; updated, hung and took down banners; set up email address and phone message; printed tickets; took messages; donated all those fabulous prizes for the drawings; took out and put away all the prizes on Sunday mornings; sold concert and drawing tickets; bought concert and drawing tickets; invited their family, friends and neighbors to the concert; cleared the facility calendar for the event; got contracts signed; signed contracts; booked hotel rooms for John McCutcheon and his road manager and for Red Tail Ring; borrowed and returned the stage from Trinity Episcopal Church in Menlo Park and the extra chairs from Harbor Light; wrote and made verbal announcements on Sundays; wrote announcements and articles for the weekly newsletter, Sunday bulletins and for the Window; cleaned up the campus; put up lights; directed traffic; set-up before the event and cleaned-up afterwards; bought stuff for the snack bar; baked dozens of delicious cookies; made coffee; helped with the snack bar; decorated and set up the Vestry Room for the Artist and Crew Dinner; cooked and served wonderful soups, salads, breads and desserts for the crew; donated wine, water and sodas; washed all the dishes; cleaned up the kitchen; set up and took down the dressing room; ushered; sold CDs and books for John McCutcheon and the Red Tail Wing; created and printed the programs; inserted the drawing prize list into the programs; showed great hospitality; did a wonderful job as MC/announcers; took photos; waited for the sound crew, Tesser, to set up the sound systems and the lights before the events and to pack everything up afterwards; volunteered to be the docent of our Little Church; did all the accounting and analysis ...and countless people who offered prayers and encouragements along the way.

Thank you, we appreciate all your support and ministering.

~Sylvia Ma and the McCutcheon Team

Gardening Tips for St. James' Parishioners

Some of the best tips around are in the St. James' Gardening & Cooking Book published I believe in late 2017 for our 150th anniversary. Another way is the check with the local stores of Dale Hardware and Regan's Nursery. They have a lot of native plants that require much less water than other ornamental non-native plants.

Our seasonal rainfall is greatly reduced so far this winter and we need to continue our conservation methods. We replanted our front lawn with the Wildflower Farm's Eco-Lawn which took some doing since we do use herbicides. We read about this in the Sunset Magazine back during the drought and wanted to try something different. It truly is drought tolerant and you only have to mow it twice a year.

Some native plants I've had success with are California Sage, Ceanothus maritimus (Valley Violet), Ceanothus Skylark, Rhamnus Californica - Coffeeberry, and Arctostaphylos Emerald Carpet. All these naive shrubs can be purchased at Dale Hardware & Regan's. They do change vendors periodically so that may create shortages. For ideas, check with your local St. James' parishioners along with the California Native Plant Society. Lastly, remember to compost, and make it a way of life. Happy gardening.

~Gregg Feeney

Women's Day of Renewal

When: **Saturday, May 2, 9:30 am—2:30 pm**
Where: Dominican Retreat House in Fremont
Cost: $9 for lunch
Retreat Leader: Bidi Millet
Theme: "Who Do You Say that I am?"

"Rooting ourselves in the complete and gracious love of God, we will explore the legacy we desire to leave our dear ones and the world. Through prayer, poetry, personal reflection, sharing and simple ritual we will give voice to the ways we are called to live into God's dream of and for us."

Bidi Millet is a trained spiritual director in the Roman Catholic tradition and has been practicing the art of spiritual director at two retreat centers since 1996. She considers spiritual direction a deep privilege and graced entrustment. She holds a Master degree in theology from St. Mary's College, Moraga, California with courses at the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, California, received her certificate in spiritual direction from Mercy Center, Burlingame, California, and her certificate in adult faith formation from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Oakland in 1989. She has experience in pastoral ministry, adult faith formation and retreat guidance. Bidi is married with two adult children, their spouses, and six grandchildren. Grand mothering is her deep joy.

The signup sheet will be posted soon. Please contact Lori+ or Janet Fischer with any questions.

~Janet Fischer

Parish Pantry
Recipe from Jim Cunningham

Bok Choy, Mushrooms and Tofu over Noodles

serves 2 to 4 | prep 20 minutes |cook 20 minutes

This one dish meal is a good introduction to Chinese cooking. It is delicious and is meat free.

Ingredients:

½ – pkg. noodles, set to boil in salted water (1 T. salt) while you cook.
4 or 5 – small bok choy plants, separated, washed and roughly chopped
½ - lb. mushrooms, thickly sliced
1 – 14 oz. pkg. firm tofu, diced to bite size
3 - T. Canola oil (my preference, but any oil will work)
3 - cloves garlic, sliced
1 - T. ginger, sliced thin
3 – scallions, sliced – separate white and green parts
1 - T. spicy bean paste
3 - T. dry white wine
1 - 14.5 oz. can low sodium chicken broth
3 – level T. corn starch
2 - T. soy sauce
1 - piece star anise (just one only)
½ - t. Chinese Five Spices (Katie and I like this one)

Directions:

1. Set out all ingredients for easy reach while cooking.
   Prep the tofu, bok choy, mushrooms, ginger, scallions and garlic.
2. Put the noodles into a pot of boiling salted water (1 T. salt).
3. Heat wok or large skillet on high, add oil then stir fry the mushrooms.
   Brown them to develop their full flavor then add the garlic, ginger, bean paste and scallions (white parts).
4. Stir in the white wine to deglaze then add the bok choy. Saute 2 or 3 minutes.
5. While the Bok choy is sauteing pour the chicken broth into a large cup. Stir the corn starch, soy sauce, 5 spice and star anise into the cup.
6. Open a pocket in the wok center, pushing the bok choy aside and pour in the chicken broth/spice mix. Stir the mix.
7. Add the tofu and green scallions and gently blend into the mix. Saute until thickened.
8. Serve over the drained noodles.

Financial Summary January 2020				
Fund Balances	1/31/2019		1/31/2020	
Operating Fund	$ 57,090.66		$ 95,466.49	
Building Fund	$ 61,018.76		$ 70,262.69	
Pledges Budgeted	27,950.09		28,588.66	
Pledges Paid	25,715.98		64,257.30	
Unpledged Contributions	538.10		2,215.00	
Other Op Income	1,498.68		2,022.62	
Total Operating Income	27,752.76		68,494.92	
Total Operating Expense	20,253.62		22,619.95	
Income less Expenses	**7,499.14**		**45,874.97**	

Note: Income is high this month due to a pledge pre-paid for 2020.

YOUR 2020 VESTRY

Top Row, L to R: Sylvia Ma, Mary Frances Leopold, Elizabeth Hart (Vestry Clerk), Monique Manjarrez, Rev. Lori, Lynn Locher (Treasurer).
Bottom Row, L to R: Sally Morgan, Tim Fortescue, Bob Doherty, Bob Bynum, Janet Fischer, Laura Winter, Jim McConnell, Julie Guzior.

The Window Needs You!

The Window editorial staff is looking for one or two additional people to help with producing the monthly issues. Depending on how many editors we have, you would be responsible for only three or four issues per year. Familiarity with Microsoft Publisher is a plus, but we can train!

If you are interested, please contact Laura Winter, Penny Trant, or Janet Fischer and we'll do our best to answer your questions. Thank you!

~Janet Fischer

Recurring St. James' Events

Children and Youth

Check current events at:
https://saintj.com/wp/ministries/childrens-programs/
or email Jan Scrutton, jan@saintj.com

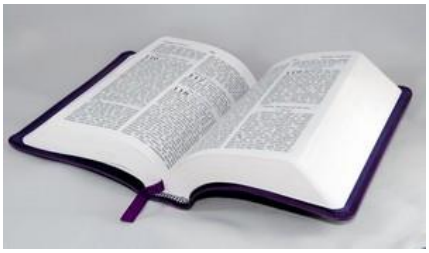
Sitting Meditation or Silent Prayer

Wednesday evenings
6:00-6:25 pm
in the Little Church
Bell for silence sounds
promptly at 6.
Everyone is welcome to join us for this time of silent meditation.

Contact: Janet Fischer, jfischer@saintj.com

Book Club @StJ

The Book Club meets the first Sunday of every-other month: March 1, May 3, July 5, September 6, November 1, 9:15-10am in the Education Room.
Contact: Janet Fischer, jfischer@saintj.com.



Monday Morning Scripture Musings

Monday morning Bible Study continues into the fall. Our guide is 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 each Monday**. If you have any questions, ask Rev. Lori by emailing lori@saintj.com.

Tai Chi Classes

Tuesdays 9:45 am—11:30 am in the Education Room.
Wednesdays: 6:30 pm—7:30 pm in the Parish Hall.

Classes are taught by instructor Sylvia Ma.
Contact Sylvia by email:
hsiehtinghsueh@yahoo.com

St. James' Prayer List

Most Holy God we pray :

For Those in the Military:

Jarrod, Megan, Erica, Theresa, Mark, Tim, Louis, Caitlin, Emily, Robin, Adam, Dave, Shawn, Ethan, Paul, Matthew, Johnny, Johnathan.

For Those Who Need Guidance and Direction:

Rhonda, Paul, Deja, Jordan, Don.

For Those Who Need Comfort and Healing:

Ron, Julie, Gail, Bob, Craig, Diane, Barry, Veronica, Ruth, Dp, Omar, Marcia, Jackie, Ivy, Bob, Jack.

For Those Who Have Passed Away:

Joe, Scott, Donna, Jose.

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

March Birthdays

1 Kimberly Patton
Dwarka Sankar
2 Penny Trant
Daniel Zarovy
3 Linda Rexroad
8 Robert Lacy
Jan Scrutton
9 Bethany Vacchieri
11 Frank Guzior
Barbara Vacchieri
13 Barry Hedgpeth
14 Jennifer Ravera
15 Grace Zarovy
20 Laura Castaneda
Chris Nance
21 Debra Fuller
24 Alice Johnson
25 Janet Fischer
26 Pat Spalding
29 Jules Fortescue
Lucy Fortescue

March Anniversaries

None this month!

The next issue of ***The Window*** is in April. 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: **March 15th**

SAINT JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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http://saintj.com
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WORSHIP TIMES
SUNDAY SERVICES: 8:00AM & 10:30AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15AM
WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST 10:00AM

OFFICE HOURS
MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY: 10:00AM TO 2:00PM

STAFF

The Rev. Lori Walton, Rector ..... lori@saintj.com
The Rev. Dr. Bill Hale, Associate Priest
……..…..bhale@saintj.com
Jan Scrutton, Children and Youth Minister
..... jan@saintj.com
Ron Cook, Office Administrator .. .admin@saintj.com
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Lynn Locher, Treasurer ..... treasurer@saintj.com

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Monique Manjarrez

Bob Bynum
Bob Doherty
Janet Fischer
Tim Fortescue
Julie Guzior
Mary Francis Leopold
Jim McConnell
Sally Morgan
Laura Winter

Vestry Clerk: *Elizabeth Hart*

***The Window* Staff**

Penny Trant
Janet Fischer
Laura Winter

Article submission:
newsletter@saintj.com

Other Important Coordinators

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors:
George Siegmann
Eucharistic Visitors: TBD
Altar Guild: Katie Cunningham
Ushers: Burtin Hart
Facilities: facilities@saintj.com

Convention Delegates

Email our delegates at:
stjdeanery@saintj.com
John Amouroux
Meg Amouroux
Jim McConnell
Ken Trant
Scott Whitaker

Alternates to Convention

Penny Trant
Elaine Vallecillo-Miller