



The Window

The Newsletter of St. James' Episcopal Church in Fremont, CA
CALLED TO SERVE IN NEW AND LOVING WAYS.

August 2012

Family

Shortly after I came to St James' fifteen years ago, signups were being taken for the Family Campout. A fellow parishioner said he couldn't go, because he was single and had no family. He was immediately assured "Of course you can come – we're your family!" And he went. It made me feel good, because I too am single, and worried I might not fit in at my new church. I learned very quickly this was not a one-time event. St James' is all about inclusion. Everyone is welcome here and invited to participate. A former rector once preached that our church is not defined by the buildings and land on Cabrillo Terrace; it is the *people* who make up the identity of the St James'. We celebrate good times together, and we take care of each other when times are tough.

Over and over this pattern repeats. We see family reaching out when Sandra needs our support and kind words. We see it when we gather to say goodbye to Ruby. And to Doris. For seven months Barbara needed rides to and from the hospital every day of the week and we stepped up. After my back surgery many parishioners brought food and shared a meal with me. I remember how much it meant having my church family take care of things for me when I couldn't, and most importantly providing companionship when it was needed the most.

A recent example of caring was a small group of parishioners pooling their talents to break through the bureaucracy preventing our rector Lori from buying a house. During our rector interviews in 2010 we assured each candidate we would do what we could to help them live in our community. It took much more work than expected, but together the job got done and Lori now lives in Newark.

Family is visible on campus too – from the assist we get stepping down after communion in the Little Church, to the quiet conversations that happen each Sunday, to seeing the children bring the offerings and the sacraments up to the altar, and the laughter that is shared at each event. If somebody needs help – a ride to the doctor, flowers during an illness, a phone call – we are ready to provide.

Bev Mosier and Gary Gearhart (as Vestry members of the Congregational Care cluster) are setting up a Caring Team, to formalize a system we already have. You may wonder why it's needed, as we already have a good thing going here. We can always do better, though. Sometimes we miss a new visitor, or are too busy chatting with close friends to notice someone standing apart, not sure of how to join in. Or to see another having a rough day and just needing a kind word. It will help newer members get assistance if needed. And it will offer a clear path to travel when one of us needs help. Bev plans to contact each of us over the next few months to share their ideas, and to ask for our support. Part of what she will ask is if you are willing to be called upon to give a ride to someone (to church, a doctor's appointment, the store, etc) or to provide a meal as needed. I invite everybody to participate in every way you can.

Let's continue our great tradition of investing in people, treating each other with care and compassion and awareness, so everyone who walks into St James' hears "We're your family!" and knows it is true.

Blessings,

Laura Winter. Junior Warden

The Contented Steward

Last December Tom and I bought a new LG television. It was our Christmas present to each other because what can we give each other that we really need? We are fortunate that God has provided for us in abundance. We really didn't need a new TV, but we had wanted one with a larger screen that we could mount on the wall to free up some floor space. I was so excited when the Geek Squad came to install it! When you turn it on, it flashes "LG - Life is Good" before the screen lights up. I've often wondered who came up with the "LG" brand name, what motivated them, or what they were thinking? I smile to myself each time I see it because it is a constant reminder that with God, life is good!

Theologian Mark Allan Powell relates contentment to stewardship: "When we are faithful stewards, trusting in God to provide us with what we need, we will have better and more satisfying lives. We can go deeper and recognize that trust implies not only absence of something negative (anxiety) but also the cultivation of something positive. We not only trust God that we will have enough to get by; we trust God that we do have enough, already, right now. We have enough to be the people God wants us to be and to have the lives God wants us to have."

"I rejoice greatly in the Lord that at last you have renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you have been concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength." (Philippians 4:10-13)

The apostle Paul's contentment is legendary. The above quoted text reflects the unquestionable trust Paul had that God was able to provide whatever he needed in any circumstance, and that it was always enough. There are so many things that can tempt us, that can fill our hearts and minds if we let them. We can focus on what's wrong about life and blame God, or we can consider what is right and glorify God. Hopefully, we are living like the apostle Paul - trusting that God will take care of us and provide all that we need. Our trust in God will result in true contentment - "LG"!

Gail Blalock, Stewardship Chair

New Shoes Outreach

Continuing the St. James' outreach tradition, we invite your help to donate Payless Shoe Store gift cards (or contribute funds to purchase gift cards) to help local homeless parents replace outgrown or worn out shoes. The New Shoes Outreach will continue through the end of September and the gift cards will be delivered to Abode Services' Sunrise Village at the beginning of October.

Help with this special outreach project by donating towards the purchase of the gift cards (note "NEW SHOE OUTREACH" on checks or envelopes) or purchase gift cards (\$20 gift cards are recommended so the amounts are consistent). Place gift cards or donations in the offering plate, in the safe, or give to New Shoes Outreach Coordinator Cathy Knotts.

Donald Razzolini, Parish Life Cluster

Financial Summary June 2012

Fund Balances	<u>6/30/2011</u>	<u>6/30/2012</u>
Operating Fund	\$ 52,068	\$ 71,778
Building Fund	\$ 28,028	\$ 27,626
Year To Date Summary Operating		
Pledges Budgeted	\$ 116,956	\$ 118,405
Pledges Paid	105,265	102,017
Unpledged Contributions	3,992	2,784
Other Op Income*	<u>12,285</u>	<u>10,159</u>
Total Operating Income	\$ 121,542	\$ 114,960
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$ 121,236</u>	<u>\$ 117,020</u>
Income less Expenses		\$ (2,060)
*Includes Fundraising		

Tracking St. James' Progress

St. James' Parking Lot Renovation

St. James' and Black Diamond Paving have set a tentative schedule to repair the parking lot. The tentative schedule is:

- Wednesday, August 8: Concrete repair to be done at the rear entry, in front of the trash bin and in the front corner next to Harbor Lights; restricted access for parking and office;
- Tuesday, August 14: The parking lot near the office to be repaired and the lot restriped. Parking may be limited at best and possibly not available at all;
- Monday, August 20: Clean and fill cracks; Parking will be restricted;
- Thursday, August 30: Seal coat to be applied to the entire lot. No Parking available.

As this schedule is only tentative, minor changes may occur. We will keep the parish informed and current and encourage everyone to read the weekly news bulletin for any schedule updates.

There will also be a change in the parking arrangements. In order to adhere to Federal ADA regulations, two of the Handicap Parking sites will be relocated to the front of the Churches, and the two existing spaces will be given another special designation.

Facilities Update and Plans

St. James' is at the unique point in our existence where we are able to save and protect our history and at the same time, plan and build toward our future. Through careful planning, budgeting, and the generosity of a thoughtful caring parishioner, we are able to attend to much needed facility maintenance and needs for potential growth.

As you read this:

- The front and left side windows in the Little Church have been repaired and replaced;
- Windows on the Garden side windows to be restored in the fall;
- The courtyard patio has recently been refurbished;
- A contract for the repair and resurfacing of the Parking Lot has been signed.

The Little Church Restoration Committee is working with an Engineering firm to evaluate the overall structural integrity and status of the Little Church and what modifications are necessary.

(Continued on page 5)

Home Warming Update

The Home Warming Program has been about collaboration during the past months. Earlier this year, Abode Services and its member churches starting servicing more families. Some were vets, others were small families trying to put their lives back together after a job loss, family tragedy etc.

Many parishioners of St James' have come through with great donations of money, beds, couches, chairs, dressers, book shelves, linens, toasters, lamps, flatware, dishes, pots and pans just to name a few. These donations have gone to serve many families. In the month of July we helped settle a family of two and a family of five into two into homes.

Now instead of one church handling a particular family, several churches have pooled their resources of cash and articles to donate. Our storage unit on campus has been used as a staging area and relieves

the pressure of folks having to hold on to items for the next family. One of the families had many needs so the following churches pooled their money and donated goods to take care of them - St James', Harbor Light, Niles Discovery, Corpus Christi, First United Methodist, Newark Presbyterian, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Christ The King Lutheran Church, Centerville, Presbyterian and Mission Peak UUC. As you can see community of St James' and other fellow churches are truly collaborating to house families.

Scott Whitaker and I appreciate your opening your wallets and donating those gently used items for Abode's Home Warming Program. We could not have done it without your support. If you have any questions about the program, then feel free to contact Scott Whitaker 510-739-0904 or Gregg Feeney 510-795-1870 at your convenience.

Gregg Feeney

St. James' Festival Day



Picture credits: Bob Bynum, LeeMarie Gearheart, Ami Martinez-Locher

Schader Fund Update

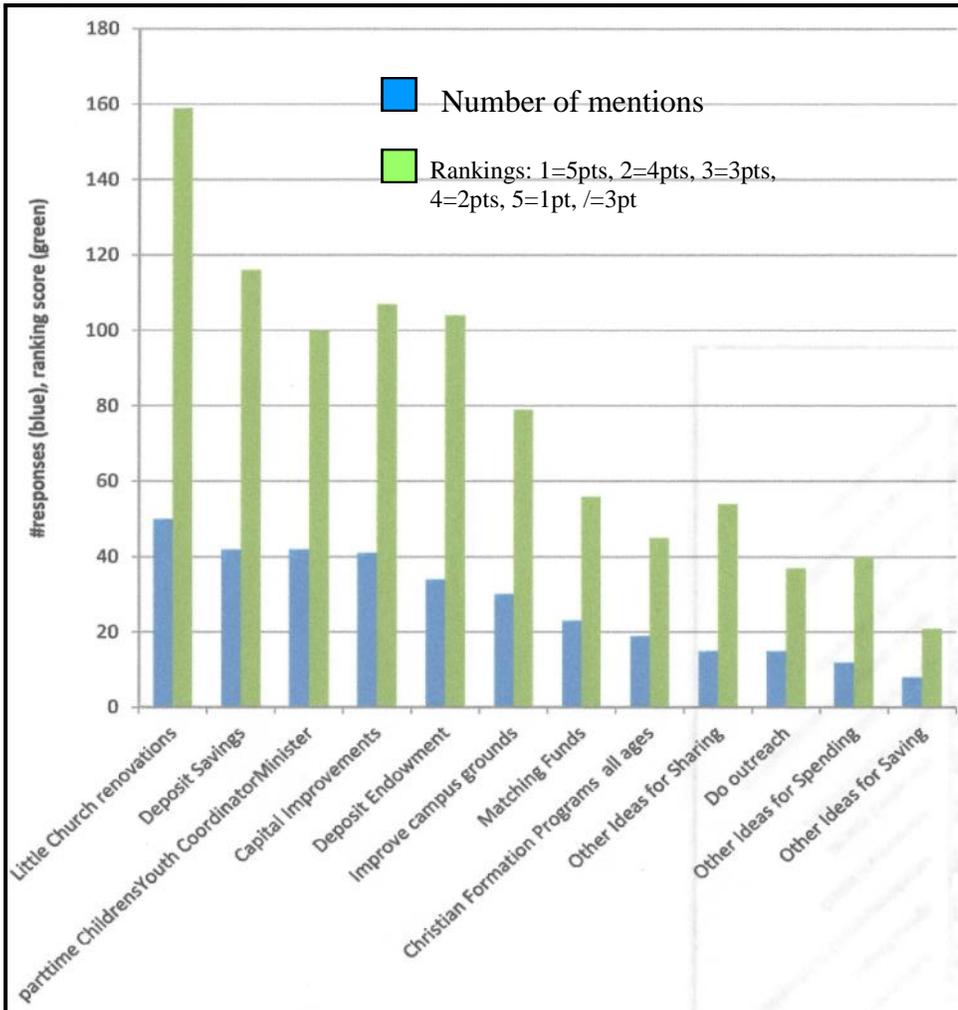
This spring, 77 individuals from the St James' community took the time to respond to the Schader Fund Questionnaire. Thank you to everyone who took the time to express their thoughts on where our spending priorities should lie. Through this questionnaire, the Vestry sought the sense of the parish to help determine how to allocate this wonderful gift and best serve the needs of our community.

All the results were collated by the Schader Fund Committee and were presented to the Vestry at the June Vestry meeting. Graphs were made to show how many times each area was mentioned, and how it was ranked. The written comments were also transcribed into the report to make it easy for the

Vestry to see all the results. It was clear that a lot of thought had gone into completing the questionnaire. The graph below shows how many times each item was selected and then how it was ranked. It demonstrates how wide the set of responses were.

As previously reported, at the meeting in June the Vestry voted to fund the re-paving of the parking lot and the engineering/structural evaluation of the Little Church. No allocations were made at the July meeting, as we are waiting for the written report on the Little Church. We expect to complete the allocation of the Schader funds at our meeting in August.

Janet Fischer, Sr. Warden



(Continued from page 3)

Facilities Update

Certainly repairs to the Little Church will be needed.

Because of this increase in activity and planning, some of which will potential conflicting uses of time and facilities, it is increasingly important that **ALL** activities be coordinated and tracked through one central contact point and calendar. Consequently, our Parish Administrator will track these activities and maintain a calendar in the Parish Hall showing starting and expected completion dates.

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Bud Spalding & Brad Hoffman
Facilities Cluster



St. James' Prayer List

Most Holy God, we pray for...

For Those In The Military:

Scott, Jarrod, Bryan, Megan,
Erica, Theresa, Mark,
Tim, Louis, Emily,
Military Children of

ACBSM, the families and Marines of Dark Horse Battalion, Caitlin, Emily, Robin, Robert, Adam

For Those Who Need Guidance and

Direction: Donna, Kenny, Barbara, Shawn, Aaron, Jeanne, Lisa

Families Expecting Children: April and Eric, Deidre and James, Allison and Patrick, Kelly and Gersson, Sherea and Keith, Candace

For Those Who Need Comfort & Healing:

Peggy, Jeff, Carlos, Jody, Geselle, Irma, Jan, Ann, Michael, Katie

For Those Who Have Passed Away: Hank



August Birthday Celebrations

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Thomas Wilcoxon | 18 Becky Whitaker |
| 2 Ralph Locher | 20 Michael Egan |
| Tim Young | 21 Vivienne Paratore |
| 4 Griselda Prather | 23 Daniel Amadi |
| 6 Paul Svenson, Jr. | 24 Harriet Nabbaale |
| Shalini Singh | 26 Rachel Whitaker |
| 9 Bonnie Nelson | Ken Trant, Jr. |
| 16 Valle Brokes | 27 Bobbie Tomkinson |
| 17 Leona Athearn | Barbara Johnsen |
| John Becker | 29 Dave Nelsen |

August Anniversaries

- 6 Mike and Jan Scrutton
- 8 John and Florinne Becker
- 24 Al and Valle Brokes
- 26 Scott and Martha Kennedy

July Vestry Meeting

At the July Vestry Meeting, we accomplished the following:

- Voted to approve the purchase of a second computer for the Volunteer Office;
- Postponed the discussion of the Schader Fund distributions until we receive the structural report on the Little Church;
- Initiated the process to get the carpet replaced in the Main Church;

Discussed the General Convention,

Laura Winter, Junior Warden

Please note: If your birthday 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

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

Email your submission to [window@saintj.com](mailto>window@saintj.com) by:
September Issue Deadline: August 15th



SAINT JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAY SERVICES 8:00 AM & 10:30AM

FAITH FORMATION SUNDAY 9:15-10:15AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15 - 11:15AM

WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST 10:00 AM

ST. J YOUTH SECOND SUNDAY 6:30-8:30PM

Thornton Avenue at Cabrillo Terrace

PO Box 457

Fremont, CA 94537-0457

www.saintj.com

OFFICE HOURS

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

TUESDAY - FRIDAY

TEL: (510) 797-1492

Rector

[The Rev. Lori Walton](#)

Deacons

[The Rev. Bill Mosier](#)

[The Rev. Bob Dobbin](#)

Administration

[Office Administrator: Brenda Iodence](#)

[Music Director: Jennifer Carini](#)

Sexton: Art Gallardo

Office email: admin@saintj.com

Other Important Coordinators

Altar Guild: Margaret Rainey

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors:

Janet Fischer

[Treasurer: Lynn Locher](#)

Ushers: Burtin Hart

The Window Editorial Staff

Ralph Locher

Marilyn Rose

Jack Rux

Penny Trant

Laura Winter

Newsletter submissions:

[window@saintj.com](mailto>window@saintj.com)

The Vestry of St. James'

[Senior Warden](#)

Janet Fischer

[Junior Warden](#)

Laura Winter

[Christian Formation](#)

Nancy Castaneda

Stephen Ferro

[Communications & Evangelism](#)

Valle Brokes

Mike Scrutton

[Social Ministries and Congregational Care](#)

Gary Gearheart

Beverly Mosier

[Facilities](#)

Brad Hoffman

Bud Spalding

[Parish Life](#)

Bob Bynum

Donald Razzolini

Clerk

Elizabeth Hart