The Window

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

January 2011

The Manifestation in the New Year

The Church's season of Epiphany begins in the month of the New Year, the month of reflecting back to what was done and what was left undone, of resolving to do something different or something new. And all the while we look to change, we hold in our hearts the meaning of the word "Epiphany" – *the appearance or manifestation, especially of a divine being.*

So while we look inward for personal resolutions, we are asked to look outward for the manifestation of something divine. Our beginnings begin with God. Our desire for something different is held in the realm of the divine. There is no separating ourselves from our source, and so when we look to what we'd like to change within, we understand that the change is done only under the gaze and guiding of the One who created each of us.

Naomi Shihab Nye's poem, *Burning the Old Year* makes the point that "so much of any year is flammable… so little is stone." Reflect back to what was solid and firm, what was everlasting and constant, like a stone. It is what meets the test of time that sustains us; it is what is left after the fire burns hot that will carry us into this upcoming year. Make your resolutions, but in all of them, resolve to invite God in. It is the manifestation of the Divine born within our hearts that is our foundation and the key to our newness. May this be a most blessed New Year of God's bright shining light.

- Lori

Burning the Old Year,

by Naomi Shihab Nye

Letters swallow themselves in seconds.
Notes friends tied to the doorknob,
transparent scarlet paper,
sizzle like moth wings,
marry the air.

So much of any year is flammable,
lists of vegetables, partial poems.
Orange swirling flame of days,
so little is a stone.

Where there was something and suddenly
isn't, an absence shouts, celebrates, leaves a
space. I begin again with the smallest
numbers.

Quick dance, shuffle of losses and leaves,
only the things I didn't do
crackle after the blazing dies.

Stewardship Corner

What's Your New Year's Resolution?

As the New Year 2011 begins, a lot of us contemplate, "What's my New Year's resolution going to be this year?" While you inevitably grow and make changes throughout the year, there's something refreshing and definitive about resolving to make changes at the beginning of a brand-new year. Many people even have a standing New Year's resolution that they commit to and renew every January, only to lose momentum somewhere along the way.

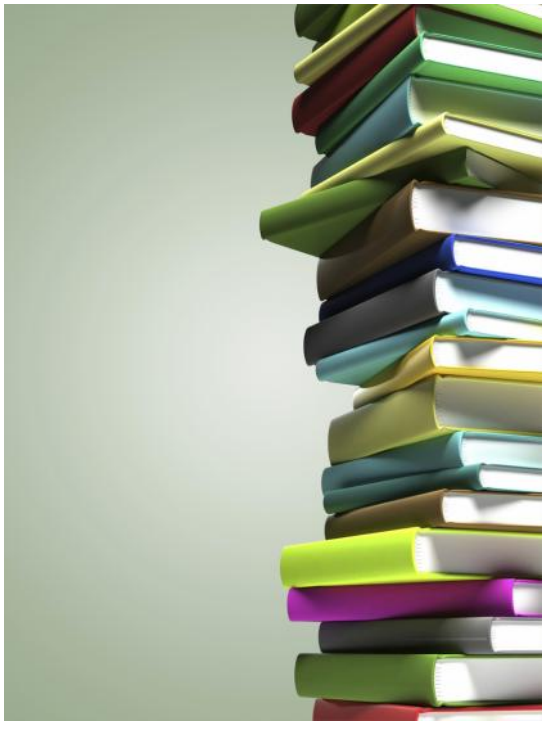
Some common favorites are *Go Back to School, Get a Better Job, Travel, Reduce Debt and Save Money,* and the really old time favorite that has appeared on nearly everyone's list -- *Get in Shape* (diet & exercise)! Also popular on several "Top 10" lists are *Make a Difference, Volunteer to Help Others*, and *Focus on Important Relationships*.

Making a conscious choice to give of oneself for the benefit of others is not only satisfying but potentially a life-changing New Year's resolution. Volunteering is one of the most effective ways to feel useful and connected to others. The key to sticking with a volunteer commitment is finding something that fills you up spiritually and emotionally. What do you love to do? What are you good at?

Focusing on important relationships can be another life-changing event. Does New Year's always remind you that your children (or parents, spouse or friends) are getting older, and that you really should spend more quality time together? You can't go wrong making a commitment like this. Like resolving to volunteer or to get healthy, making a decision to focus on the important people in your life is a resolution to be more authentic and involved in your life.

It's never too early in the year (or too late, for that matter) to contemplate, plan and initiate positive change. And while an official New Year's Resolution brings with it a clear opportunity to look at your life from a broader perspective, the reality is that these opportunities are available at all times. Take a moment and consider how St. James' Church might fit into your plan for 2011. How might you make a difference or volunteer to help others? So what are you waiting for? As the clock strikes midnight this time around, what new life-changing journey will you begin?

Gail Blalock, Stewardship Chair



Coming on March 6th!
St James' Book sale returns.

Start clearing your shelves and look out for instructions for delivering books to church after January 18th.

The Wardens and Vestry of St James' Episcopal Church
invite you to the Renewal of Ministry and
Welcoming of our New Rector,

The Reverend Lori. A Walton

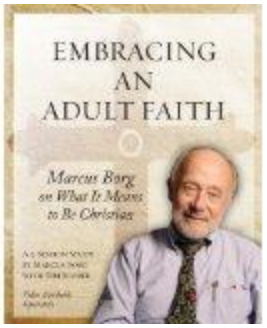
Saturday, January 15th, 11am to 2pm

All Welcome!

RSVP if possible to srwarden@saintj.com
to help us plan for seating.

Sunday, February 6th	**9:15am**	**A chance to review the 2010 church accounts and discuss the 2011 budget**
Sunday, February 13th	**10:00am**	**Single Service followed by St James' Annual Meeting and election of new Vestry members and Deanery Reps**

Coming to Faith Formation Hour…



Embracing An Adult Faith: Marcus Borg on What It Means to Be Christian

A 5-session study with Marcus Borg (on DVD)

Author and Bible scholar Marcus Borg invites us to join him in revisiting Christianity's most fundamental questions: Who is God? What does salvation mean? What place does Jesus hold in contemporary Christian faith? In this five-session resource, participants enjoy the rare privilege of witnessing Marcus in dialogue with a small, diverse group of adults as they honestly -- and sometimes painfully -- confront the big questions and work together toward authentic answers.

The study addresses fundamental questions that adults struggle with as faith matures. The five sessions include:

- **God**
- **Jesus**
- **Salvation**
- **Community**
- **Practice**

There will be a sign-up in the Parish Hall, or contact The Rev. Lori Walton or Janet Fischer. A Participant Workbook is available that contains all the material needed by class participants. Please sign up for a book and we will order them in bulk to save on shipping. The cost is $10 per book. Please give your check (made out to St. James' with "book" in the memo line) or cash (in an envelope with your name on it) to Lori or Janet.

The class will meet at 9:15am in EB#1 on:

- January 23
- January 30
- (no class Feb. 6 or 13: Budget and Annual meeting)
- February 20
- February 27
- March 6

Guided Autobiography

Last year the Shell Society hosted Margriet De Lange, founder of Stories Unfolding. Many expressed interest in meeting with her again. She is offering two programs this winter (fees): Guided Autobiography and Spiritual Legacies.

For more information go to www.storiesunfolding.com or call 650-279-7428.

-Marnie

Advent Wreath Making

Financial Summary November 30, 2010

Fund Balances	11/30/2009	11/30/2010
Operating Fund	17,493	29,451
Building Fund	22,795	14,948

Year To Date Summary Operating

	11/30/2010	11/30/2011
Pledges Budgeted	240,013	210,742
Pledges Paid	197,532	191,570
Unpledged Contributions	8,667	4,297
Other Op Income*	15,835	15,578
Total Operating Income	222,034	211,444
Total Operating Expenses	243,896	219,173
Income less Expense	**(21,862)**	**(7,729)**

*Inc Fundraising

Pictures taken
by Marilyn Rose

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Facilities Cluster .....facilities@saintj.com

Hillside Senior Care Gift Giving

St. James', you are awesome!

The gifts you bought and wrapped for the residents at Hillside were delivered Friday, December l0th. Rev. Lori interrupted her already busy day to join us and visit the facility for her first time. Some of the gift suggestions were really unique; Art supplies, a Marilyn Monroe calendar, large "loop earrings", make-up with bright colors and red nail polish, a military camouflage garment, and a skirt with an elastic waistband. We know some of you had a real challenge finding a specific item but please know that substitutions are always acceptable.

Your gifts brought much joy and pleasure to the residents. For the second year, Lauren Doherty provided the tags for the Giving Tree. Her system has made it much simpler to "track" the gifts and help those who misplaced the tag they took home. Alice Johnson and Maggie Shalar did the tree tagging, gift sorting and getting the gifts to Hillside. The gifts were taken to the rooms and Christmas songs were song by: Avis Gonzales, Lauren Doherty, Joan and Bruce Roberts, Lea Lucas and Gary Gearhart, Pat and George Vlastelica, Rev. Lori Walton and Sandra Motley. Johanne LaRocque was the photographer. We're getting better every year!

With Appreciation and A BIG THANK YOU!

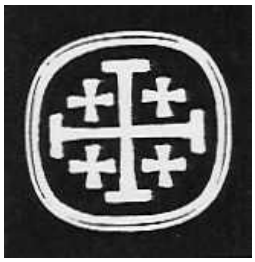
The Giving Tree Team

God is the Light of the heavens and the earth.
The parable of His Light
is as if there were a Niche,
and within it a Lamp;
the Lamp enclosed in Glass:
The Glass as it were a brilliant star:
Lit from a blessed Tree,
an olive neither of the East nor of the West,
Whose oil is well-nigh luminous,
though fire scarce touched it.
Light upon Light!
God guides whom He will to His Light:
God sets forth parables for men, and God
knows all things.

Submitted by Lori

Source : Qur'an 24.35

The Difference Made by One Gift



As Eugenia approached her 80th birthday what she observed in her parish gave her reason for concern.

Members of her generation who had helped to establish the congregation were dwindling. Very few new people were joining the congregation. "Why would a family with young children come to our parish?" Eugenia thought to herself. "There is nothing to attract them, just a group of gray heads who gather for worship, a weekly lunch and bible study."

Eugenia pondered and prayed about the future of her parish. Then an idea slowly began to take shape in her heart. She had read an article in her neighbor's church newsletter about remembering the church in your will….

When Eugenia died, her family and special friends received bequests as tokens of her deep regard for them. But her home went to her parish-- with the expressed intention that proceeds from its sale establish an endowment fund for ministries to children in the larger community.

This gift allowed her church to hire a Christian education outreach worker. Soon a sign appeared in front of the church, "After-School Music and Art Programs." An article appeared in the local newspaper about a support group at the church for mothers with young children. A children's choir school was established, with monthly performances on Sunday mornings at the main worship service.

As new families began coming to worship and some of them to join, the congregation began to grow again. A corner had been turned. This was all a direct result of someone remembering the congregation through a bequest from her will. One of the original members of the congregation had, in effect, single-handedly refounded it through a gift in her will.

One gift can make a life-or-death difference in the future of a congregation. Even a small gift can, through an endowment fund, make a perpetual difference in the Church's mission.

What difference would you like to make?

The Rev. Richard Schaper, CFP (415) 869-7812
Gift Planning Officer RichardS@DioCal.org
Episcopal Diocese of California www.EpiscopalGift.org

The next issue of ***The Window*** is in February. We welcome your **comments**, **pictures**, **essays**, **poems**, **cartoons**, **artwork**, **newsworthy items of interest**, **any group activity information and reviews**.

Email your submission to window@saintj.com

February Deadline: Jan 15th

Las Posadas

Posades celebration on the evening of December 5th was once again an evening of great fun and delicious Mexican-style food, while reminding us of the true spirit of Christmas. About ninety parishners and guests joined in the singing of carols and in the search for shelter for Joseph and Mary. Everyone also enjoyed the entertainment provided by our Children's Choir and the Irish whistle performers from Sacred Heart and Our Lady of Grace Schools of San Jose.

-John Maloney

Pictures taken
by Johanne LaRocque

Thanks for a fun Las Posadas Celebration

I want to Thank the many people who contributed their time and talent, which included the following:

Irish whistle players from Sacred Heart and Our Lady of Grace schools, San Jose, The children's choir: Jillian Fisher, Bryneth Fuller, Olivia Nabukeera. Adult Choir: Lea Marie Lucas, Greg and Elaine Miller, Bud Pearson, Don Rose. Accompanist: Katherine LaRose. Also, The Rev. Lori Walton, Peter Maina, Al and Mary Casas, Johanne LaRocque, Beth Scrutton, Tom Scrutton, Penny and Ken Trant, Keith, Sherea and Keira Westra.

-John Maloney

LIVE IN CONCERT

World Renowned, Grammy-Nominated

Folk Singer / Songwriter

John McCutcheon

Monday, January 17, 2011 ~ 7:30 P.M.

One Night Only

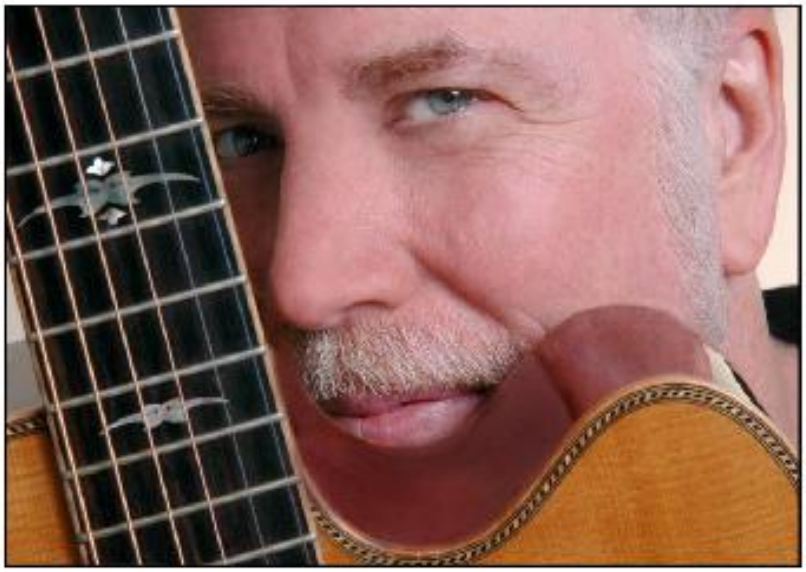
St. James' Episcopal Church
(Thornton Ave. at Cabrillo Terrace, Fremont)

Tickets on Sale December 1, 2010

Suggested Donation:
$25 Adult, $15 Child (12 & under)
Children under age 5 admitted free

MasterCard, Visa, Cash or Check

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact St. James' Episcopal Church at (510) 797-1492 or events@saintj.com



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 **9:00 AM** Choir Rehearsal, (C) **9:15 AM** Faith Formation, (EB#1) **10:00 AM** Godly Play, (EB#4) **10:00 AM** Rite II 10AM Single Service (C) **1:30 PM** Philippine Independent Church (LC) **8:00 PM** Narcotics Anonym (PH)	**27** **7:00 PM** Overeaters Anonymous (VR)	**28**	**29** **10:00 AM** Eucharist (LC) **11:00 AM** Staff Meeting (VR) **6:30 PM** Tai Chi Class (PH) **7:30 PM** Choir Rehearsal (C) **8:00 PM** Narcotics Anonym (PH)	**30** **12:00 PM** Women's Group (ST)	**31** **10:00 PM** NA (PH)	**1**
2 **8:00 AM** Rite II Worship w/music (LC) **9:15 AM** Faith Formation, (EB#1) **9:15 AM** Memorial Committee Meeting (VR) **9:15 AM** Memorial Garden Mtg (VR) **10:00 AM** Choir Rehearsal, (C) **10:00 AM** Godly Play, (EB#4) **1:30 PM** Philippine Independent Church (LC) **8:00 PM** Narcotics Anonym (PH)	**3** **12:00 PM** Blood Drive (PH) **7:00 PM** Overeaters Anonymous (VR)	**4** **11:00 AM** Washington Women's Club (PH)	**5** **10:00 AM** Eucharist (LC) **6:00 PM** Worship Committee (VR) **6:30 PM** Tai Chi Class (PH) **7:30 PM** Choir Rehearsal (C) **8:00 PM** Narcotics Anonym (PH)	**6** **12:00 PM** Women's Group (ST)	**7** **10:00 PM** NA (PH)	**8** **9:00 AM** Church Work Party
9 **8:00 AM** Rite II Worship w/music (LC) **9:15 AM** Faith Formation, (EB#1) **10:00 AM** Choir Rehearsal, (C) **10:00 AM** Godly Play, (EB#4) **1:30 PM** Philippine Independent Church (LC) **8:00 PM** Narcotics Anonym (PH)	**10** **7:00 PM** Overeaters Anonymous (VR)	**11** **6:00 AM** Bible Study (OC)	**12** **10:00 AM** Eucharist (LC) **11:00 AM** Job Seekers **6:30 PM** Tai Chi Class (PH) **7:30 PM** Choir Rehearsal (C) **8:00 PM** Narcotics Anonym (PH)	**13** **12:00 PM** Women's Group (ST) **6:30 PM** Vestry Dinner and Meeting (PH)	**14** **10:00 PM** NA (PH)	**15** **11:00 AM** Rev. Lori Walton-Installation
16 **8:00 AM** Rite II Worship w/music (Chapel) **9:15 AM** Faith Formation, (EB#1) **10:00 AM** Choir Rehearsal, (C) **10:00 AM** Godly Play, (EB#4) **12:00 PM** Concert setup (V,PH,C,K) **1:30 PM** Philippine Independent Church (LC) **8:00 PM** Narcotics Anonym (PH)	**17** **12:00 AM** Concert Set-up **12:00 PM** Blood Drive (PH) **7:00 PM** McCutcheon Concert (C)	**18** **6:00 AM** Bible Study (OC) **6:00 AM** Concert Take-down	**19** **10:00 AM** Eucharist (LC) **6:30 PM** Tai Chi Class (PH) **7:30 PM** Choir Rehearsal (C) **8:00 PM** Narcotics Anonym (PH)	**20** **12:00 PM** Women's Group (ST) **6:00 PM** Rancho Coronado(VR)	**21** **6:00 PM** Harbor Light conference **10:00 PM** NA (PH)	**22** **8:00 AM** Human Traffiking (C,PH,K) **6:00 PM** Harbor Light conference
23 **8:00 AM** Rite II Worship w/music (LC) **9:15 AM** Faith Formation, (EB#1) **10:00 AM** Choir Rehearsal, (C) **10:00 AM** Godly Play, (EB#4) **1:30 PM** Philippine Independent Church (LC) **8:00 PM** Narcotics Anonym (PH)	**24** **7:00 PM** Overeaters Anonymous (VR)	**25** **6:00 AM** Bible Study (OC)	**26** **10:00 AM** Eucharist (LC) **11:00 AM** Job Seekers **6:30 PM** Tai Chi Class (PH) **7:30 PM** Choir Rehearsal (C) **8:00 PM** Narcotics Anonym (PH)	**27** **12:00 PM** Women's Group (ST)	**28** **10:00 PM** NA (PH)	**29**
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St. James' Prayer List

Most Holy God, we pray for:

Those Who Need Continued Healing: Joy, Brad, Geri, Emily, Francis, Genore, Richard, Phil, Katee, Patricia, Kimmy, Frances, Jewel, Dick, Ivy, Roger, Jenny, Mitch, Frary, Caroline, Michael, Ann, Roger, Karen, Sue, Thomas, Sandy, Sara, Annie, Samuel, Rose, Nicholas, Debra, Mariah, Robert, Elizabeth, Harold, Karen

Those Who Need Comfort and Strength: Virginia, Dick, The Scrutton Family, The Eaton Family

Those Who Need Guidance and Direction: Dominick, Daniel, Victor, Michael, Catherine, Kenny

Those suffering economic hardship: Tim, Jeanne, Chad, Candace

Families Who Are Expecting Children:

Those in the Military: Scott, Jarrod, Ryan, Bryan, Megan, Angelina, Military Children of ACBSM, Erica, Theresa, Mark

Those who have Died: Jenna, Marmie, Dick, Mike

For Those Who Are Traveling: Craig, Angela, Stephanie and Jenny.

January Birthdays Celebrations

5 Laura Winter
Gayle Culver
6 Thomas Blalock
9 Brandon Hoffman
Debra Czerwinski
10 Caylyn Ramsamy
13 Ingrid Benedict
14 Dianne Abram
20 Stephanie Casas
26 Byron Bader
27 Ian Miller
28 Maggie Shalar

January Anniversaries

4 Mike Aquino & Donald Razzolini
12 Fred & Barbara Gifford
19 Rod & Jackie Whitehouse

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

For the most recent St. James' calendar, Go to Saintj.com/calendar

SAINT JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

OFFICE HOURS
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
MONDAY-FRIDAY
TEL: (510) 797-1492

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Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors:
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Footprints: Katherine LaRose
Treasurer: Jan Brandt
Ushers: Burtin Hart

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Marilyn Rose
Penny Trant
Laura Winter

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Jan Scrutton

Junior Warden
Mary Casas

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Laura Winter

Communications & Evangelism
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Brad Hoffman
Andy MacRae

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