The Window

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

March 2010

New Vestry for 2010

The Vestry for 2010 met for the first time at Mercy Center in Burlingame for the Vestry Retreat. This is an opportunity for the Vestry to begin to get to know each other better, think about the challenges for the year ahead and draw on the knowledge of the retiring Vestry members. The day started with a morning activity lead by Kathy + which had us all working together, listening and sharing opinions. We finished the morning by electing Mary Casas as the new Junior Warden.

During lunch many of us walked the Mercy Center labyrinth and explored the grounds as the sun came out. We had a photo session before heading back in. The results of that can be seen here and in the Parish Hall.

During the afternoon we talked about the issues facing the Vestry this year, our cluster assignments and finances. The new cluster representatives will contact the groups they work with during the next few weeks and will be considering their goals for this year. Let them know if you have any ideas.

The Vestry knows that at some point this year we will take on the task of interviewing and calling a new Rector, but St James' has not sat still during our interim period and will not do so this year. We have building projects, plans for computers and a Worship committee bringing together all those who participate in our worship. The Vestry goals will include plans to support what we already do and explore where we can go.

Thank you for all you do at St James' and for your support of the Vestry 2010.

Jan Scrutton, Senior Warden

Stewardship Corner

Wow! If someone had said to me a couple of months ago that I would be the next Stewardship Chair, I would have responded *"no way"!* I am as surprised as anyone!! I don't really have a specific response as to how it happened except to say that sometimes a new challenge can be a good thing. (And Sylvia Ma can be quite convincing!) I've been a member of the Stewardship Committee for five years during which Lynn Locher has been an inspiring leader and tireless worker for many years. Under Lynn's leadership, we have seen some great prosperity at St. James', even through the more recent downturn in the economy. Lynn has promoted year-round Stewardship and giving of your time, talents, and treasures. It's been good for St. James'.

The Stewardship Committee will have met on February 23 to get "organized" for the year. We usually meet at 5:30 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of the month; however, this sometimes changes depending on what else may be happening at St. James'. We would welcome new members to the Committee, so give me a call (490-7565) if you might be interested or have questions. We need people with all kinds of talents -- idea people, planning people, paperwork people, computer people, worker-bee people. We need YOU!!

For me to take on this responsibility, I know I will need a lot of help from the Lord, and I will need a lot of help from you, the St. James' Community. *"Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."* Continue sharing your time, talents, and treasures with St. James'. And, let me hear from you!

Gail Blalock Stewardship Chair

The next issue of *The Window* is in April. 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

April Deadline: March 15th

Graduating Vesty Members

Thank you to Sylvia Ma, Janet Fischer, Jim McConnell and Tim Young our retiring Vestry members for the 3 years of service on the Vestry. You will be missed.

Financial Summary January 31, 2010

Fund Balances	1/31/2009	1/31/2010
Operating Fund	$ 35,401	$ 33,580
Building Fund	$ 12,211	$ 32,449

Year To Date Summary Operating

	1/31/2009	1/31/2010
Pledges Budgeted	**$ 21,819**	**$ 19,158**
Pledges Paid	**$ 15,916**	**$ 19,725**
Unpledged Contributions	$ 1,137	$ (402)
Other Operating Income*	$ 808	$ 1,284
Total Operating Income	$ 17,861	$ 20,606
Total Operating Expenses	$ 21,846	$ 24,206
Income less Expense	**$ (3,985)**	**$ (3,600)**

*Includes Fundraising

Bridges

By Kathy ✝

This is a short book in the Apocrypha (only one chapter in length) called the Prayer of Manasseh. Manasseh is a king who began to rule as a boy and ruled Israel for a long, long time. The stories of him in II Kings 21 and II Chronicles 33 show a man whose leadership of Israel is faulty and his following of God is marred with false altars and the worship of other gods.

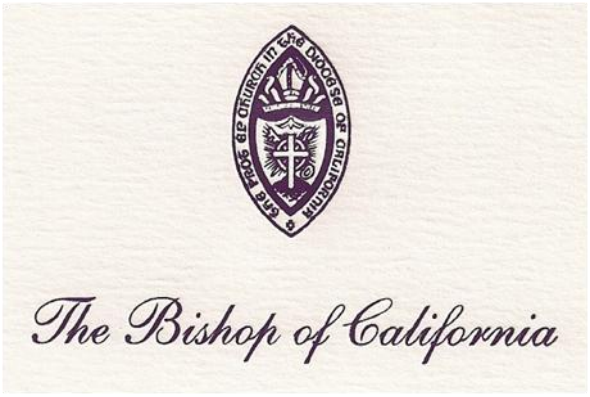
Manasseh ends up a captive of the Assyrians and he is "relocated" to Babylon. This prayer attributed to Manasseh has some of the quality and feeling of the Lenten disciplines of repentance, fasting and prayer, which characterize some of our own Lenten practices:

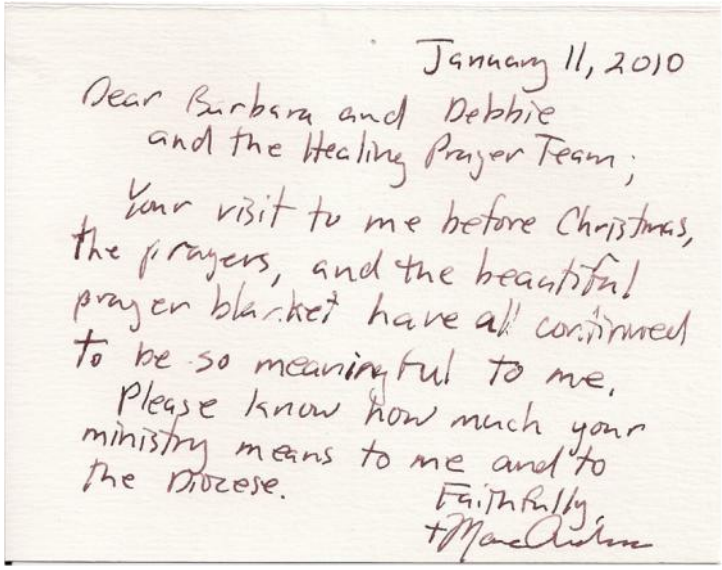
> ***And now I bend the knee of my heart, imploring you for your kindness. I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, and I acknowledge my transgressions. I earnestly implore you, forgive me, O Lord, forgive me! Do not destroy me with my transgressions! Do not be angry with me forever or store up evil for me; do not condemn me to the depths of the earth. For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, and in me you will manifest your goodness….***

Repentance and the pleading for forgiveness find their voices throughout our Lenten worship cycle. Lent is a hard and gentle season: It is hard because we have to face the facts about ourselves, our mistakes, our failings, our shortcomings; it is gentle for the grace of God is proclaimed and forgiveness is proffered at every turn.

Manasseh asked for the forgiveness of God and grace from God to turn his life around. I pray that we look ourselves and look to God with reverent hearts, bended knees, repentant lives and confidence in a new beginnings mirrored in the crucifixion and the resurrection of Jesus, who knows our temptations and hears our cries for mercy.

A Personal Message from Bishop Marc





January 11, 2010

Dear Barbara and Debbie and the Healing Prayer Team;

Your visit to me before Christmas, the prayers, and the beautiful prayer blanket have all continued to be so meaningful to me. Please know how much your ministry means to me and to the Diocese.

Faithfully,
+Marc Andrus

Available for Lunch

Are you available for lunch after the 10:30am service on Sunday March 14th?

If you are, please come and join the St. James' family to celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year by enjoying some great fellowship and an Asian buffet lunch. We will be dining at Newark Buffet, 35201 Newark Blvd, Suite W in Newark (a few doors down from the Ranch 99 Market) 510-818-1136. The cost will be $15 per person including tax and tips.

Sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall. If you would like to carpool from St. James' to the restaurant, please let Sylvia know. Reservation is made under Sylvia's name at 1215pm.

Meg Williams and Sylvia Ma
Available for Lunch ministry

To the Parish: Thank you!

Thank you all for your wonderful encouragement and support as I served as Jr. Warden for the past two years, and thank you for the lovely "parting gifts!" Your generosity has touched me. It has truly been a pleasure to serve on the Vestry as I had the chance to work with some amazing people. I shall miss working with them (but I won't miss all the work)! I have every confidence that our Vestry will continue to do good work and make decisions in the best interest of the parish.

Thank you again for your kindness and support.

Janet Fischer

IT'S DUCK RACE TIME AGAIN!

GET READY TO ENTER YOUR "ST. JAMES" DUCKS IN THE
ANNUAL "DUCKS for BUCKS" RACE
Help St. James & Your Community!
for the 6th year in a row!!

The Vestry has authorized participation again this year in the "Ducks for Bucks" program. This Kiwanis-sponsored annual event provides community based organizations, like St. James', an easy, almost effortless, way to raise funds. So, be on the lookout for the guys in the duck aprons. They will have Duck Race forms and will be happy to answer any questions. A letter and form will also be mailed to parishioners in mid March. We've had St. James' winners in the past, but this year we will have some special prizes available only to St. James' Duck sponsors.

The race will be held on the last Saturday in April (the 24th) at Lake Elizabeth, where there will be a variety of activities including games for children, food, and fun. You do not need to be present to win the prizes.

For questions, forms, or information, call these "Big Ducks": Brad Hoffman (299-1635) or Tom Blalock (490-7565).

Bowl for Breast Cancer

Griselda Prather and Evelyn Martinez would like to invite our St. James' community church to a fun event to raise funds for the Avon Breast Cancer Walk. This event is a Bowl-a-thon scheduled for April 17, 2010 at Cloverleaf Family Bowling in Fremont, CA. Event check-in time is 12 noon, and starts promptly at 1 p.m to approximately 4 pm. Cost is $20 for three games and includes shoe rental. There would be baking goods sale and raffle prizes.

Please join us to have fun and at the same time help us to raise funds to a great cause. If you decide to join this event, please call Evelyn Martinez at 510-713-8964 to RSVP by 4/1/10. We need to reserve enough lanes for this event. Hope to see you there!

Walk-a-Rockathon 2010

The sixth annual Spring Walk-a-Rockathon to benefit the Winter Relief Program is coming on May 1st 2010 at 8 AM. We are still working on the 3.5 mile route. [*We are hoping to work in conjunction with St. Anne's our sister parish in south Fremont, St. Anne's.]*

Needed:

- Walkers to walk the 3.5 mile route (still to be determined);
- Rockers to man the Rocking chairs in the St. James' Parish Hall;
- Sponsors for our above athletes;
- Volunteers to pass out water and encouragement.

Athletes: Begin to train now!

Pick up sponsor sheets and begin to work for your sponsors now. Please be a part of this exciting event to raise funds for such items as: Bus tickets, food and retail gift cards, toiletries and more for the families in Winter Relief.

Contact the Social Ministries & Congregational Care Vestry cluster for more info.

Brad Hoffman (510-299-1635) & Andy MacRae (510-589-5003).

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Parish Life Cluster..... parishlife@saintj.com
Facilities Cluster.....facilities@saintj.com

Cursillo Corner

CURSILLO ULTREYA AND SPAGHETTI DINNER

Hope to see you on Saturday, March 6, 2010, for a Grand Ultreya and Spaghetti dinner. There will lots of great food, fun, friends, songs, and fellowship.

This will be a good chance to learn more about the upcoming "Shout To The Lord" Co-ed Cursillo.

There will also have a guest speaker. So...come to Church of the Resurrection, 399 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill at 7:00 pm in the parish hall.

To learn more visit the East Bay Cursillo website, www.cursilloca.org/.

"Shout To The Lord" Co-ed Cursillo

Do you or someone you know:

* Want to take a few days and get away from the business of daily life while exploring the possibility of a deeper and more meaningful relationship with Christ?
* Want to enjoy time and fellowship with other dedicated Christian men and women in a trusting and loving atmosphere focused on individual spiritual growth?
* Want to see how we are all a part of the bigger Christian Community while still being very present and active within the church?

If so, the upcoming East Bay Anglican Cursillo being held in San Francisco, Thursday evening, April 29, through Sunday, May 2, 2010 may be the answer. This is a chance to experience God's grace and love while taking part in a three-day course in Christianity.

For more information about Cursillo, to obtain an application to experience Cursillo or to sponsor someone for this Cursillo please contact either Bob or Debbie Czerwinski of St. James' community at 510-793-6427 or e-mail Bob at bobcz007@comcast.net.

Shell Society Luncheon

The Endowment Board will be hosting a luncheon for the Shell Society on April 18th when four new members will be welcomed.

Our guest speaker will be Margriet DeLange. She will present a workshop on Memoir writing "Stories Unfolding".

Members of the Shell Society have included St. James' in their will or trust or have established another form of planned giving to St. James'. If you would like to know more about the Shell Society or about different forms of planned giving please speak with Kathy or a member of the Endowment Board.

Submitted by Dave Nelsen

Donation for the Cause

Our Senior Warden Jan Scrutton has graciously donated a beautiful breast cancer awareness quilt which we are going to raffle and sell tickets after both services on Sunday March 14, 2010.

Tickets are $1 each or 6 tickets for $5. Proceeds of the sale are to raise funds for the Avon walk for Breast Cancer that Evelyn Martinez and Griselda Prather are participating this coming July 10-11, 2010. Your cooperation would be appreciated.

Eucharistic Visitors needed

The Episcopal Church licenses Eucharistic Visitors to visit and bring communion to parishioners who, for whatever reason, are unable to attend church.

At St. James', we want to increase the number of our Eucharistic Visitors by 2 to 3 participants. To be a Eucharistic Visitor, you must attend Eucharistic Minister training, serve as a Eucharistic Minister at the altar on Sunday mornings and then, with the priest's sponsorship, complete the Eucharistic Visitor training.

A Eucharistic Minister is a lay person authorized to administer the consecrated elements at a celebration of Holy Eucharist. The next Eucharistic Minister training is on Saturday March 13 from 9 AM to 3 PM at St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Fremont. That is the first part of the training to be a Eucharistic Visitor. Once you complete this training, parishioners should contact Janet Fischer to be placed on the servers' schedule as a Eucharistic Minister.

Eucharistic Visitors are Eucharistic Ministers who have received additional training to take communion to members of the congregation who, by reason of illness or infirmity, are unable to be present at Sunday services.

If you are interested in participating in this vital and needed ministry please contact your Congregational Ministry Vestry Team; Brad Hoffman @ 510-299-1635 or Andy MacRae @ 510-589-5003.

Holy Week Schedule

Holy Week extends from Palm Sunday through the Feast of the Resurrection (Easter). We will have one service, at 10:00 AM, for Palm Sunday, with a blessing of the palms, the procession into the church and the reading of the Passion Narrative (the story of the crucifixion with parts) at the end of the service. Palm Sunday is a study in changes: We begin with a festive note and end on a somber note.

We will have services on several days of Holy Week, including three services on Good Friday and a celebration of the Great Vigil of Easter on Saturday evening. Please watch for service times for the Vigil. On Easter Day (the Feast of the Resurrection) we will return to our regular service schedule. Please note there is no Faith Formation class on Palm Sunday or Easter Day!

Here are the services planned for this year:

March 28th	Palm Sunday	10:00 AM (**one service**)	Church
March 30th	Stations of the Cross	6:30 PM	Chapel
March 31st	Wed. Eucharist	10:00 AM	Chapel
April 1st	Maundy Thursday	7:00 PM	Church
April 2nd	Good Friday	7:00 AM	Chapel
	Good Friday	12 noon (*stations of the Cross*)	Chapel
	Good Friday	7:00 PM	Church
April 3rd	Great Vigil of Easter	*time to be determined*	Church
April 4th	Easter Day	8:00 AM	Chapel
		10:30 AM	Church

No Will? No Problem!

If you are among the majority of Americans who do not have a will valid in the state in which you currently reside, no problem! The State of California will know what to do—but you may not like it.

The good news: Even without a will, you already have an estate plan. The State of California has you covered. The Probate Court will distribute your belongings, pets, minor children and property as it deems best.

The bad news: Distribution of your estate and/or guardianship of your minor children may not reflect your wishes or values. Distribution to your closest blood relatives may not reflect the relationships that are most important to you, and it will certainly not include your church or any other charity that is close to your heart.

Sometimes folks resist writing a will because they think that if they write a will, they will die. And in so thinking, they are correct. The only alternatives are to die with a will or without one.

Other folks don't trust lawyers or like to pay them. Some feel this way about surgeons. But professional judgment and skill is sometimes worth paying for.

To find an estate planning attorney recommended by the experience of fellow Episcopalians, contact your Gift Planning Officer. Did you know that you can make a confidential appointment with an attorney who will prepare a simple will for as little as $75? To find out how, click on "Making a Will" at www.EpiscopalGift.org or give me a call with your questions.

For those utterly opposed to obtaining professional counsel in this matter, there is a statutory fill-in-the-blanks will form. If you are willing to risk this, I'll send you one.

Not for nothing does *The Book of Common Prayer* speak of "**the duty** of all persons to make wills, while in health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting if they are able to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses." (p. 445)

You have the power to TELL the State of California how you wish your leftovers to be distributed. You have the opportunity for your estate plan to reflect your own faith and values.

Just do it, while you still have the chance. Happy Easter!

The Rev. Richard L. Schaper, CFP
Gift Planning Officer
Episcopal Diocese of California

(415) 869-7812
RichardS@DioCal.org
EpiscopalGift.org

Another Delicious Pancake Supper!

Many thanks to Dave Nelsen and his fantastic crew. We know a lot of work goes into planning this event. Many helpers spend hours setting up and cleaning up. We appreciate each and every person for their time and talents.The pancakes were fluffy, the eggs were surperb and the sausages were cooked to perfection. Thank you to our youth group servers, Ami, Beth and Tom and to the donation counters, Jan, Joan, Ruth and Gail. If you were unable to make it this year you missed a real treat. We had fresh blueberries with our pancakes! Can't wait to see what surprise Dave has for us next year.

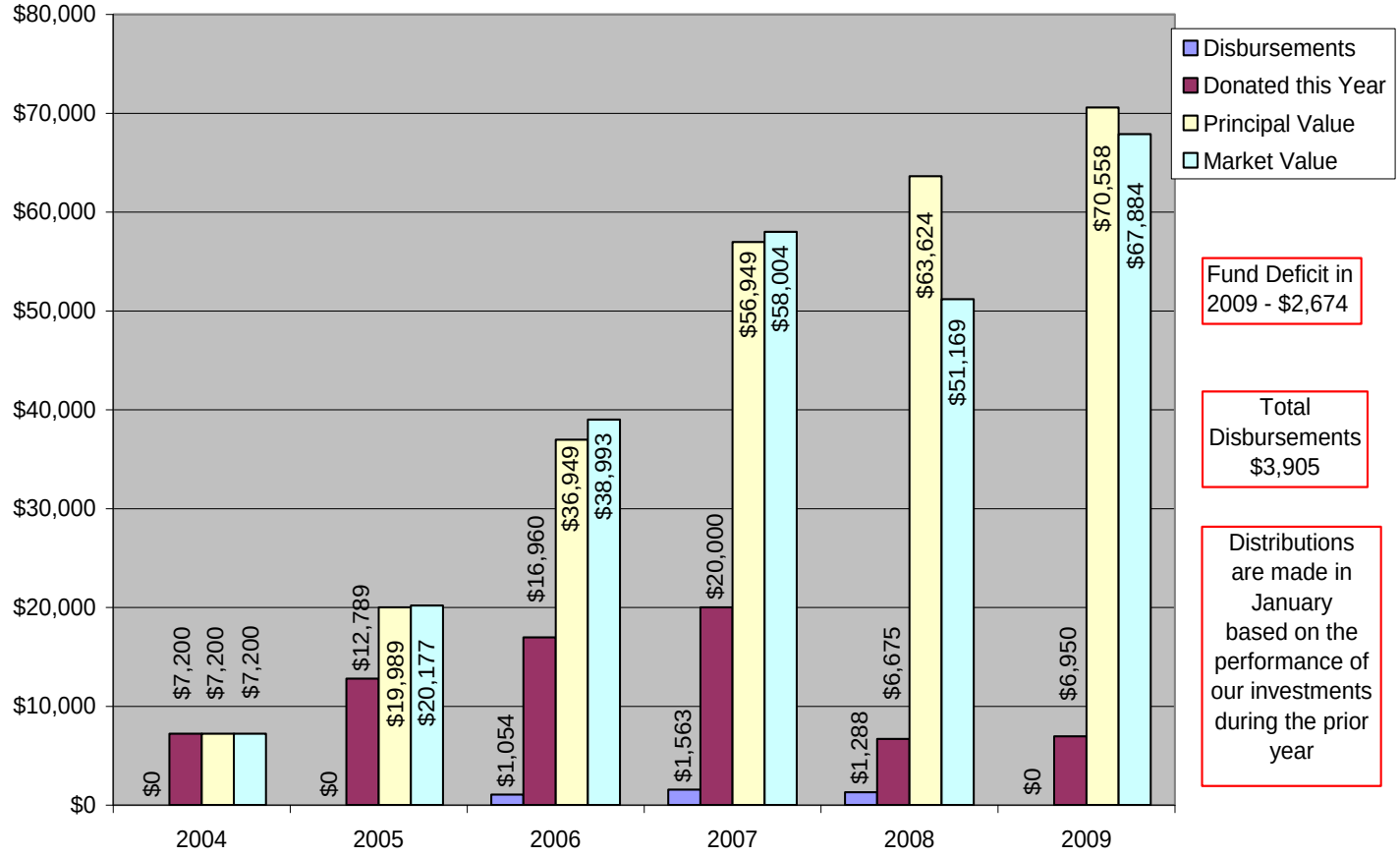
The St. James' Endowment

The St. James' Endowment was established by the vestry in April 2003. It was first funded by donations totaling $7,200 in 2004. Over the last 6 years, the principal value of the fund, the actual donations made, has grown to $70,558. This is something all of us can be very proud of. The generosity of many people has added to the strength of the Fund and their gifts will result in countless gifts to St. James' for ages to come.

The chart below shows how the Fund has grown over the last 6 years.

It is our policy that we never invade the principal value of the Fund. Because the market value was below the principal value at the end of 2009, the board decided not to make a distribution this year. By leaving in the dividends and interest reinvested in the Fund (which otherwise might have been distributed), the Fund value will recover more quickly.

Fund Value over Time



Endowment Board Members:
Dave Nelsen, Joan Roberts, Chris Lubwama,
Patty Lacy and Marnie Hartman

St. James' Prayer List

Most Holy God, we pray for:

The Search Committee: Gail Blalock, Valle Brokes, Nancy Castaneda, Barbara Dabney, Alice Johnson, Pegeen Perry, Donald Razzolini, Bruce Roberts, Greg Scheuffele, Mike Scrutton, EJ Hilliard (Chaplain)

Those Who Need Continued Healing: Jewel, Sandra, Pat, Doris, Jerry, Sally, Egan, Joanne, Frary, Ethan, Susan, Rachel, Joshua

Those Who Need Comfort and Strength: Joan, Tom, Edna, James, Alyssa, Erica, David, Tim, Margaret, the Blalock's family and friends, the Kennedy family and friends, Paul & Lucinda and their new born Jamie, Alex

Those Who Need Guidance and Direction: Dean, Kenny, Lim, Harold, Michael, Randy, Ronald, Duncan, Cynthia, Diane, Pamela, Tim, Rhonda & family, Barbara, Shaun, Aaron, David, Winnie and all the relief responders in Haiti, Margaret

Those suffering economic hardship: Dean, Greg, Jaydee, Jane, James, Andy & Kae, Chad, Candace, Francis

Families Who Are Expecting Children: Janice, April & Eric, Michael & Jana, Jocelyn, Kelly & Gersson, Stephen & Allison

Those who have Died: Walter, Jeanette

Those in the Military: Cammy, Andrus, Scott, Phillip

March Birthdays Celebrations

1 David Ramsey
Dwarka Sankar

2 Hilary Sanders
Penny Trant

3 Emily Locher

4 Jim Lyon

7 Kimberly Maxey

8 Jan Scrutton

15 Polly Nelsen
Kelly Lowe

16 Christopher Pikul

20 Bill Spalding
Laura Castaneda
Brandon Dileanis
Catherine Amadi

22 Cody Wonycott

21 Debra Fuller
Paul Romeril

24 Alice Johnson

25 Janet Fischer
Pat Spencer
Ian Perry

26 Pat Spalding

27 Shaun Duncan
Sandy Jaekel

28 Deja Singh

29 Terri Rommelfanger
Craig Benson

30 Mitchell Williamson

March Wedding Anniversaries

13 Jack and Connie Rux
20 Pat and Jennifer Larsen
25 Paul and Nancy Svenson
30 Bob and Roberta Tomkinson

Please note: If your birth month or anniversary is in this month and your name(s) is not listed, please email the appropriate information to the church office.

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

SAINT JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

OFFICE HOURS
8:30 AM - 1:30 PM
TUESDAY-FRIDAY
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Acolytes: Nancy Castaneda
Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors:
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Footprints: Katherine LaRose
Treasurer: Jan Brandt
Ushers: Burtin Hart

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Laura Winter

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Jan Scrutton
Junior Warden
Mary Casas
Christian Formation & Worship
Molly Lubwama
Laura Winter
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Stephen Ferro
Greg Scheuffele
Congregational Care & Social Ministries
Brad Hoffman
Andy MacRae
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Charlie Paratore
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