The Window

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

November 2010

We Do this In Memory

Many years ago, I sat in my aunt's living room on Florida Street in San Francisco, listening to my Nonie and my Zia Rina tell stories of the "old country", about their passage from Genoa, Italy through Ellis Island, the trek across the "new country", and the years that built up to bring them to that place – two sisters who had become the matriarchs of a family that has multiplied and extended out over the years and over the west coast. For me, it was a time of wonder and a time of feeling deeply connected to my own roots and history. It was a time to admire the wisdom of their lives and to deeply respect the journeys they had walked.

The other Sunday, I sat in EB1 listening to story after story being told of St. James' common life together. It was the first of a two-part series given by our Faith Formation Group on the History of St. James', and rather than lecture on a timeline of events, the facilitators wisely asked for some of our elders to tell the story. As I listened to the various voices, I was reminded of that afternoon in my aunt's living room, and I was awed by the deep roots of individuals who have connected themselves to this church for many years, and the legacy of story and common life that was shared with those of us who have not been part of the story for nearly as long. I had a strong, strong sense of being part of something quite amazing.

We live into our heritage when we tell the story of our past. We keep our histories alive, our sense of belonging fresh and new, when we share whom we once were while we strive to discover who we are becoming. Saint James' has been a part of the fabric of so many lives for so many generations because people have claimed this church as their own. As we continue to move into the future, we have the honor – and the responsibility - of continuing to create a church that new members, of all ages, can enter into and claim it as their own as well.

Every week, when we gather around the Eucharistic Table, we enter into an exercise of memory. Jesus tells us, "Do this in Remembrance of Me" not as an individual act that is contained within the self, but as a communal act of sharing with all who are present, with the communion of saints who have gone before us, and with the unknown family of Christians who are yet to gather with us.

From the 2nd century voice of Hippolytus of Rome,

"This feast of the Spirit
leads the mystic dance throughout the year.
The Pasch came from God, came from heaven to earth;
from earth it has gone back to heaven.
New is this feast and all-embracing;
all creation assembles at it."

Lori

[1]As quoted in *The Macmillan Book of Earliest Christian Hymns* (New York: Macmillan Publishing Company, 1988), p. 66.

Stewardship Corner

Giving Thanks

In November as we celebrate Thanksgiving, I am thankful for the St. James' community and the over 100 parishioners who attended the Stewardship dinners and luncheon. I think everyone enjoyed learning more about our new Rector, Lori, and learning something new about each other. Thank-you, Lori, for sharing your thoughts and commitment to Christ and for being with us for four meals in nine days! Thank-you to Stewardship Committee members Brad Hoffman, Sandra Motley, Ruth Poole, and George Vlastelica who volunteered countless hours to make the four events enjoyable for everyone. And thank-you to parishioners who assisted the Committee in many ways to help make our Fall Stewardship Program a success. A special thank-you to Marlene Benedict who, during one of the dinners, volunteered to join the Stewardship Committee.

The people of St. James' are an awesome force! Giving of our time, talent, and treasure helps each of us to grow spiritually in our relationship with God through the faithful management of all that God gives us. I

f you haven't done so already, now is the time to think about what portion of your treasure you are willing to share. What is God calling you to give to grow God's ministries in our congregation and community. If you haven't returned your pledge card yet, please do so as soon as you can. With all of our pledges in hand, we will be able to plan for St. James' mission and ministry in the coming year with confidence.

Gail Blalock
Stewardship Chair

"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Luke 12:34).

PLEDGE CARDS: If you didn't receive a pledge card, please contact the Church Office (797-1492) and one will be sent to you.

Home Warming Program replaces Winter Relief.

Abode Services Winter Relief Service with participating member churches has been restructured.

The new name is "Home Warming Program." Winter Relief was to get families out of their cars and off the streets during the Winter months and get them into a shelter. The program's scope was limited and the needs of our community have changed. The Home Warming Program is a year-round program designed to get families into more permanent housing.

Our parish hall will no longer be needed to house families during November; however, the need for support services for the families is still there. Abode is asking participating member churches to sponsor a family or two throughout the year. The families needs differ and the support could be helping with a security deposit at an apartment or house to helping them with food and essentials when moving into a new residence.

St James' can still provide other needs to the family if needed, e.g. tutoring, budgeting, shopping, cooking lessons, Thanksgiving Dinner and/or Christmas Dinner. The program is to help them reclaim some independence and learn to live on their own. Abode Services states some of these families may need assistance from 3 to 18 months depending on their own challenges. As a faith-based community we will do our best to help these families transition from the streets, cars, relative's garage and temporary shelters to permanent housing.

If any of you have questions, then feel free to call me at 510-795-1870 or email me at: dgfeeney@comcast.net.

Thank you.

Gregg Feeney

The Cupboard is Bare.

The Saint James Food Pantry can use an influx of a number of items. These include: boxes of cereal, boxes or bags of pasta, jars of pasta sauce, tins of chicken and tuna, cans of fruit, cans of soup, packages of fruit cups, cans or single servings of apple sauce, jars of peanut butter and jars of jelly or combination jars. The preference is for pull-top cans and medium sized instead of large. Please drop items off at the St. James office when it is open.

Andy MacCrae

Cursillo Corner

By Bob and Debbie Czerwinski

The 1st Annual Anglican East Bay Cursillo Family and Friends Picnic occurred October 9th at a wonderful little park in Pleasant Hill. Twenty-six Cursillistas and their families enjoyed the wonderful weather, great friendship and, as always, lots of food. The hot dogs and hamburgers were provided by the Anglican East Bay Secretariat, the governing body. The Cursillistas came from several of the communities throughout the east bay to include Lynn and Ralph Locher, Peter Norman and yours truly from St. James'. Hopefully, next year, the list will grow.

For those of you who have experienced Cursillo and would like to know more about the Anglican East Bay Secretariat, people behind the movement in the East Bay, the meetings are 7:00 pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month at the Church of the Resurrection in Pleasant Hill. All are welcome.

For those of you who would like to know more about Cursillo or would like to experience one, feel free to contact us (510 793-6427) or check out the following website http://www.cursilloca.org/.

Search Statistics

Our Rector Search is over and we are blessed to welcome Lori to our community! As the Search Committee prepares to officially close the books on our process, we wanted to share with you some of the statistics we will be providing to the diocese:

- We started with a total of 40 potential candidates – 13 who contacted us and 27 whom were recommended by the diocese.
- Of those 40 potential candidates, 13 submitted application packages. The others either declined to apply or did not respond.
- Those 13 Applicants included:
  - 7 in California
  - 6 outside California
- From those 13 Applicants:
  - 10 were selected for phone interviews
  - 6 of those 10 were selected for face-to-face interviews
  - 3 of those 6 were presented to the Vestry as final candidates
- The Parish Profile was posted on 12/20/09, and final candidates were presented to the Vestry on 6/1/10.

Pegeen Perry

Upcoming Events to Mark on Your Calendar!

November 6 – Remember to turn your Clocks ***Back*** one hour!

November 25 - Thanksgiving Day Service, 10:00am

November 28 – First Sunday of Advent with Lessons & Carols, 8:00 and 10:30am.
Advent Wreath Decorating for all ages, in the parish hall at 9:15am.

December 5 – Second Sunday of Advent
Las Posadas Celebration, 5:00pm.

December 12 – Third Sunday of Advent
Casual Evening Service, 6:00pm.

December 19 – Fourth Sunday of Advent
Church Greening for Christmas, Date and Time to be announced.

December 24 - Christmas Eve Services
4:00pm: Children's Service with Ad Hoc Christmas Pageant & Carols
7:00pm: Family Service
10:30pm: Festive Eucharist with Carols

December 25 - Christmas Day

10:00am: Service with Carols

December 26 - 1st Sunday after Christmas
Combined 10:00am Service

The Giving Tree

It's only November but thoughts of Christmas trees, one in particular, must begin to dance in out heads! Continuing the tradition begun several decades ago, we'll be shopping for personal gifts for the residents at Hillside Senior Care and delivering them in early December.

Look for the Giving Tree to make its first appearance soon. The Green Pages will keep everyone advised on the date for all gifts to be at church, and also the date the gifts will be taken to Hillside. You are invited to join us when the gifts are delivered because some of the residents enjoy talking with us and like some help opening their Christmas presents. Your generosity of shopping and wrapping the gifts is appreciated.

For questions about the Giving Tree:

Maggie Shalar (790-3053) Alice Johnson (792-4169
Lauren Doherty:794-8904 Sandra Motley: 656-4224

2011 Calendar Highlights

January 15: The Rev. Lori Walton's installation. Bishop Marc will join us from 11am-2pm.

January 17: John McCutcheon Concert—7:30pm. Tickets go on sale December

February 13: St. James' Annual Meeting. Watch for later details..

Financial Summary September 30, 2010

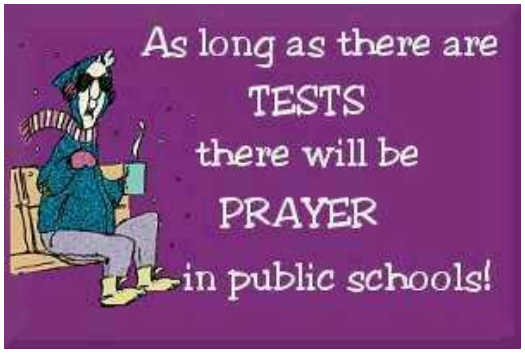
Fund Balances	9/30/2009	9/30/2010
Operating Fund	29,094	29,750
Building Fund	33,656	26,738

Year To Date Summary Operating

	9/30/2009	9/30/2010
Pledges Budgeted	196,375	172,425
Pledges Paid	161,379	155,740
Unpledged Contributions	8,090	3,257
Other Op Income*	14,041	14,066
Total Operating Income	183,510	173,063
Total Operating Expenses	193,771	180,494
Income less Expense	**(10,261)**	**(7,431)**

*Inc Fundraising

Maxine says-



The Mystery of LITURGICAL MUSIC revealed

- Get the INSIDE SCOOP on what goes on **Behind the** Scenes for Church Music.
- Learn HOW IT'S DONE AND WHO DOES IT?
- One and only one showing on:

  November 14th at 9:15am in the BIG CHURCH; COMFORTABLE SEATING

Did you ever wonder why a certain HYMN is sung on a certain day?

Did you ever wonder why a certain ANTHEM is sung on a certain day?

Did you ever notice that the hymn, the Psalm, the Gospel have the same message and the Choir Anthem fits in there as well?

Here is you chance to find out how and why. It's not a big mystery, but if you never thought about it, it can be a source of wonder or of questions.

After this session, YOU WILL START LOOKING FOR THE WAYS THAT THE MUSIC COMPLEMENTS THE READINGS ON SUNDAY.

Brought to you by your Faith Formation Team.

Preparing for the Christ Child

Join us in the Parish Hall at 9:15am on the First Sunday of Advent, November 28th, to create your own family Advent Wreath. This is a wonderful opportunity to create a wreath to mark the movement through Advent in your own home. We will supply the materials and instructions; you supply the willing hands and hearts. Look for a sheet in the Parish Hall to sign up and to let us know if you have greens you can donate.

A $10 *donation* per wreath is suggested.

Lori

Barbara Lyon celebrates her 90th birthday.

Staff

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St. James' welcomes the Christmas Season with Las Posadas.

A Family Holiday Celebration for All Ages

Sunday, December 5
From 5 –7 p.m.
On the St. James' Campus

DEADLINE TO SIGN-UP is November 28
Capacity is limited to 120 participants.

In Mexico, Christmas is an important holiday season with strong traditions. One of the most colorful traditions is the ***posada*** party, celebrated every evening from December 16 to 24. These celebrations commemorate Mary and Joseph's cold and difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of shelter. ***"Posada"*** in Spanish, simply means lodging or shelter.

Nowadays, the posada has evolved into a religious and social celebration, paying a festive homage to the journey. Each Christmas season, a processional carrying a doll representing the Christ Child and images of Joseph and Mary riding a burro walks through the community streets. The processional stops at a previously selected home and asks for lodging for the night. The people are invited in to read scriptures and sing Christmas carols called *villancicos*. Refreshments are provided by each host. The happy end to each posada has always been the piñata.

St. James' takes the spirit of the traditional 9-day Posada celebration and brings it to our campus, refashioned for our community on one special night. Sunday, December 5, we will feature seasonal treats and drinks, sing-alongs, carols, piñatas and much more. This year, there will actually be TWO piñatas, with one designed especially for our youngest celebrants.

Our posada journey will proceed around various points on our campus, ending in a grand celebration in the Parish Hall. All ages, from kids to grandparents, will enjoy this spiritual entrance to the Christmas season.

Please sign up in the Parish Hall, or call the office at 510-797-1492 to let us know you'll be joining us in what has turned into a favorite St. James' holiday tradition.

If you are interested in helping with food preparation, decorating, etc., please contact John Maloney (510-656-6809), no later than November 15.

On the night of the event, we are suggesting a free-will donation of $5 per person (for those age 10 and older), to help cover the costs of the celebration.

Need transportation? Please contact Andy MacRae (510-589-5003) or Brad Hoffman (510-790-3125) of the vestry's Congregational Care and Social Ministries cluster, no later than November 28. We want everyone to celebrate the season with us.

St James' -- Our History

On October 10 and 17, we held a conversation discussing St James' history and our participation in it. Many people participated with great stories and memories, especially Nancy Svensen, Betty McCoy, Bobbie Tomkinson and Doris Whitaker. Thanks to Andy MacRae and Bruce Roberts for helping facilitate the class, and a special thanks to all who participated. Here are some of the facts we learned:

The Little Church, Parish Hall and Rectory were moved to our current location from Thornton Avenue and Fremont Blvd (then Main St) in 1955 because the roads were planned to be widened, and the land would no longer be large enough. The big church building was built after the move and was used for education. But we outgrew the Little Church, so the new building was converted to worship space. In 1961, the current Education Building was constructed by the parishioners, and it was named Sutton Hall after our first Senior Warden. The Parish Hall was refurbished and the Administrative offices were built in 1997-98.

Big Church under construction

Many of the items in the Little Church predate everyone here, such as the altar, the hanging crown and cross, and the stone baptismal font. The windows represent the names of former parishioners, and many were prominent members of the community as well. Joe Gorman led a fundraiser to purchase the Stations of the Cross, and they were installed in the mid-eighties. The columbarium was begun in the 1980's and has been reconfigured many times over the years as it expands.

The Church originally had just folding chairs, until Boyd Lyon, rector at the time decided we needed quality chairs in our church. The altar was donated by the Meredith family in memory of their son Gregory, who was killed in Vietnam. Dick Aston made the wood cross hanging on the wall. The processional metal cross was a gift from St. Leonard's Church in England, where Boyd spent six months on a clergy swap with Jo Evans. Jo served here at the same time, and all who remember say the exchange was a wonderful experience for both churches. For a time the church configuration was opposite the current layout, with the altar at the end where we currently enter.

The large cross at Thornton Avenue was created by Ellsworth Finley in the mid-seventies. Ellsworth also started the annual backpacking trip in the Sierras and was called Moses because he could convince others to follow him!

The bell at the entrance to the Church is a Navy bell on loan from the ship Boyd Lyon served on. Dick Gifford designed the bell tower it hangs from. Our church had a softball team, and in a friendly rivalry, the bell was stolen by another team! George Vlastelica and John Maloney managed to retrieve it and it has safely remained on our campus since.

Nancy Svensen tells the story of the Library Committee which was created in the early sixties. All four women who were members ended up pregnant within the year-- Quite a story!

Doris Whitaker has been a member of St James' since 1948 and has wonderful recollections.

Boyd Lyon was an opponent of the Vietnam War, and he made sure St James' was aware of what was going on. Scott Whitaker tells of demonstrating in San Francisco, of touring the downtrodden areas of Oakland, and seeing a bigger picture of the world through St James'. When the World Trade Center was attacked in 2001, Anne Kelsey, interim rector, opened the doors for us to gather, pray and share together as a community.

There were many stories of celebrations, parties, and fun times shared as well. As you can see, St James' is more than the objects that are here. It is the people who have been here and events that have taken place.

St James' is a place with fantastic memories and is filled with God's loving spirit. The people are the most important part of our church. We continue making history and the people telling stories in the future will share what happened in the early part of the twenty-first century!

Laura Winter

St. James' Prayer List

Heavenly Father, we pray for...

For Those In The Military: Scott, Jarrod, Ryan, Bryan, Megan, Angelina, Military Children of ACBSM

For Those Suffering Economic Hardship: Tim, Jeannie, Chad, Candace

For Those Who Need Guidance and Direction: Dean, Kenny, Katee, Kimmy, Douglas, Paul, Rhonda, Deja, Jordan

For Those Who Need Comfort and Strength: Beth, Stephen Ferro and family, Irma and family, Veltrop and family, Linda, Betty McCoy and family, Diana, Virginia, Dick

For Those Who Need Continued Healing: Joy, Brad, Geri, Emily, Francis, Genore, Richard, Phil, Katee, Patricia, Kimmy, Frances, Jewel, Dick, Ivy, Roger

For Those Who Are Traveling: Marnie

For Those Who Have Died: Samuel, James, Rosadell, Ann

Tenhut Veterans!

Applebees' restaurants wants to thank you and all active military personnel for your service by offering you a free meal on **Veterans's Day, November 11.** You must show proof of service. Go to www.applebees.com for details and to locate your nearest restaurant.

Submitted by Maggie Shalar

November Birthday Celebrations

1 Ami Locher
2 Andy Romeril
4 Diem Truong Sankar
9 Kathryn Dickinson
10 Yvonne Archer
12 Nadia Sankar
13 Bob Czerwinski
17 Travis Koonze
18 Mabel Long
John Maloney
19 Gail Blalock
20 Hailey Peterson
21 Phil Sanders
22 Andrew Paratore
Karen Watkins
24 Scott Hoffman
25 John Paratore
26 Sophie Sankar
27 Andrea Ramsamy
29 Rick Spalding
Raelene Ramsamy
Luke Kirley
Judy Peeler
Don Rose
30 Rebeccah Fuller
Nancy Svenson

15 Lori and Ray Hedvall
24 Gail and Tom Blalock
27 Lynn and Ralph Locher

The next issue of ***The Window*** is in December. 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
December Deadline: November 15th

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 office@saintj.com

SAINT JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

OFFICE HOURS
8:30 AM - 1:30 PM
TUESDAY-FRIDAY
TEL: (510) 797-1492

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Sexton: Art Gallardo
Office email: office@saintj.com

Other Important Coordinators
Altar Guild: Margaret Rainey
Acolytes: Nancy Castaneda
Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors:
Janet Fischer
Footprints: Katherine LaRose
Treasurer: Jan Brandt
Ushers: Burtin Hart

The Window Editorial Staff
Ralph Locher
Marilyn Rose
Penny Trant
Laura Winter

For the most recent St. James' calendar, Go to:
http://www.mychurchevents.com/calendar/calendar

The Vestry of St. James'

Senior Warden
Jan Scutton

Junior Warden
Mary Casas

Christian Formation & Worship
Molly Lubwama
Laura Winter

Communications & Evangelism
Stephen ferro
Greg Scheuffele

Congregational Care & Social Ministries
Brad Hoffman
Andy MacCrae

Facilities
Scott Kennedy
Charlie Paratore

Parish Life
Penny Trant
Dean Valentine

Clerk
Elizabeth Hart

SUNDAY SERVICES AT
8:00 AM & 10:30AM
FAITH FORMATION SUNDAY 9:15-10:15AM
WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST AT 10:00 AM
SECOND SUNDAY AT 6:00 PM