



# The Window

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

## Christmas Services



The time is drawing near when we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. This year, we will observe four services:

### December 24<sup>th</sup>

4:00 p.m.

Family Service at the Manger

*(more information to follow)*

7:00 p.m.

Family Eucharist Service

10:30 p.m.

Christmas Carols

11:00 p.m.

Christmas Midnight Eucharist

### December 25<sup>th</sup>

10:00 a.m.

Christmas Day Eucharist

## Moving Forward...



Elizabeth Hart, Sylvia Ma and Rev. Crary listen to Rev. Abernethy-Deppe.

On Oct. 28, seventy parishioners gathered for our first Town Hall meeting during this interim period. Our guest was the Rev. Canon Michael Barlowe from DioCal. The audio file and the written summary of the meeting are on our website [www.saintj.com](http://www.saintj.com).

Our Co-Interim Priests, Kathy and David, explained to us the interim process including the roles of the Transition Team and the Search Committee. So far we have more than twenty parishioners who volunteered to be on either the Transition Team or the Search Committee. The Vestry will make the appointments before the end of 2008. I hope the appointees, whoever they are, will receive your full support. Your participation in the subsequent Town Hall meetings is essential. We not only welcome your retrospection of St. James' past but we need your ideas of what St. James' could be in the future.

Please keep the Vestry and our Interim Ministry Team in your prayers as we move forward in this interim period.

Sylvia Ma, Sr. Warden

## Stewardship Corner

### Taking Risks to Spread the Spirit

Ralph and I had the pleasure of attending church twice in Hawaii. The first time was at Christ Church in Kealahou on the Big Island of Hawaii, where their Rector was leaving for a new job in Honolulu. The second church was Holy Innocents in Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii. The Priest-in-Charge, The Rev. William J. Albinger preached on the Gospel for The 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, Matthew 25:14-30. I have heard this Gospel many times but never heard it in context of the talent given to each slave as standing for the spirit of God given to each believer. We know that there were slaves who went out, took risks and increased their talents and then there was the slave who buried his talent. The master was not happy with the slave that buried his talent.

We Episcopalians have a habit of hiding God's spirit from others and only sharing it with people just like ourselves. I have to believe that God is not happy with us. God wants us to share his spirit with others, especially others who are not like ourselves. Just as the slaves who multiplied their talents took risks, we need to allow the clergy and Vestry to take risks with our pledges in order to spread God's word and instill his spirit in others. We are good stewards when we permit the Vestry to try new ways to reach the diverse population that makes up our community.

The response to Consecration Sunday and our Pledge Drive for 2009 has been very good. As of Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup> we have a total of **110** pledges for **\$254,065** pledged to the Operating Fund and **\$49,058** pledged to the Building Fund. We are especially excited about the 17 new pledges that we have received. The Stewardship Committee thanks each one of you who have pledged. There are 20 people who pledged from 2008 who have yet to pledge for 2009. We are looking forward to receiving your pledges by December 7<sup>th</sup>.

Lynn Locher, Stewardship Chair

## BREATHING ROOM

### Intentional Interim Ministry

by David †



Neil Chafin, Interim Ministry Consultant, notes: "The way a congregation chooses to use its interim time, will shape congregational growth, identity, and health for years to come."<sup>1</sup> Each one of us has certain hopes and dreams for St. James' Church. These hopes and dreams vary enormously. Interim time is the opportunity to talk about and clarify

them. To help us, there are five tasks which we will want to accomplish:

#### 1. Come to Terms with Our History

We will want to retell and celebrate our history, recognize that a chapter is "coming to a close," address issues around the departure of the previous clergy, deal with the feelings that are being generated by the changes, and allow time for healing. It's important to review our history, learn from it, and decide which elements of it we want to retain as part of our present and future.

#### 2. Examine Leadership and Organizational Needs

Every congregation today must be conscious of developing new leadership for the tasks of ministry and for incorporating younger and newer members into its body. Interim time is prime time for reviewing the membership, its needs, and its ways of organizing, and for making decisions on how to best use its resources.

#### 3. Renew Denominational Relationships

A congregation often sees the denomination through the eyes of its former Rector (for better or for worse). During an interim, most Parishes are open to exploring resources and services outside itself, and often renews relationship and linkages with neighboring congregations, area ministry, the Diocese, and the Episcopal Church Center.

#### 4. Develop a New Identity and Vision

Periodically we must redefine our sense of vision, mission, purpose and direction. During this interim we will want to survey our membership and conduct neighborhood studies to find out how effectively we serve our members and reach out into our community. "The Transition Team" will coordinate this work and develop a Parish Profile.

*(continued on page 4)*



## Bridges

By Kathy✚

When I traveled in London for the first time, I remember hearing the ever-present voice in the

underground transit system as she reminded me to “Mind the Gap.” The gap, in her world, meant the little space between the train platform and the edge of the train doorway. Miss a step and your foot goes into that space and you risk all sorts of pain and injury.

As we move through our days, we encounter lots of people from many different cultures and world views. My own history, national origin and world view is so ingrained in me that sometimes I do and say some really stupid things. I don’t pay attention and find myself offending others or pushing them away in some sad way. Gentleness, kindness, awareness, openness, all these go a long way in “mending the gap” among us.

Many anthropologists and theologians, novelists and preachers have said we have more in common than we realize. And that is cause for celebration when we finally see what is common instead of focusing on what seems uncommon, different or foreign.

This is a gentle request to mind the gap in the coming days. We will feel differently about how to be an American, a Christian, an Episcopalian and a Californian based on elections, vote counts, a national church convention and the St. James’ family interim time.

Holiday stress, economic hardship, foreign policy, the war in Iraq and Afghanistan, a new federal administration, two new priests, changes in families, seasons and employment can put stress and pressure on each of us. Be gentle and tenderhearted with one another and bear each other’s burdens. Paul understood the forces of change when he reminded us to treat one another with warmth and dignity. Mind the Gap. Mend the Gap. “Tis the season”!



## ViewPoint

by David✚

As you read this article, we are already in the Season we call “Advent” – the beginning of the new Church Year. Advent is a time when we prepare for the celebration of Christmas,

reflecting quietly on the meaning of Christ coming into our lives. With that said, you are probably laughing, since the world began it’s Christmas “push” shortly after Labor Day this year, making our observance of the Advent Season somewhat difficult, if not impossible. Makes you wonder if nothing is sacred anymore.

Growing up in a somewhat pious family, we tried to keep “Christmas” out of our home until the “appropriate” time. Our Christmas decorations didn’t go up until a few days before Christmas, and were left up until my brother’s birthday on January 6th (which is also Epiphany . . . good timing!). And I must say, I somewhat resented the world’s noisy celebration intruding in on our time of pious preparation. The problem, however, was not the intrusion. The truth was, I wanted to join the world’s party. They were having so much fun, starting with the Macy’s Day Parade.

Well, some years ago, I decided it was time for a change. No, I wasn’t going to change the world, but I could change me. You see, I had gotten myself into an “either/or” way of thinking . . . and I needed to discover how to do “both/and.” So now, in our home, we observe Advent as a time of preparation AND we “party” with the world. And, when the world puts its Christmas away for another year (December 25<sup>th</sup>), we pull our Christmas out, observing all “Twelve Days of Christmas” (December 26 to January 6). And, we share a gift each of those days. Nothing big, mind you (sometimes, it’s only a pair of socks), but somewhere in those “Twelve Days” come THE gift (and you never know when).

“Both/And is a lot of fun! We get to celebrate Christmas twice each year, with the world, and in our home. Try it! You’ll like it!

## Help Wanted

On November 1<sup>st</sup> the Liturgical Design Team and an Altar Guild representative met with the interim clergy to begin plans for Advent and Christmas. Additional members are needed on a committee to make plans for décor, liturgy, and music for the three services.

Anyone who has fresh ideas on these subjects will be welcome. Come join the committee and provide your talent. Regular meetings will be held after the 11 a.m. service on the second Sunday of the month. The next meeting is on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

Margaret Rainey, Altar Guild

## Thank you from Available For Lunch

Eighteen of us went across to Cabrillo Park Café for lunch on Nov 16<sup>th</sup>. We had great conversations and really enjoyed each other's company. Thank you.

Our next lunch outing will be on Jan 25, 2009 to celebrate Chinese New Year. Please mark your calendar and we hope you could join us for some Chinese food if you are available for lunch. Details in the January issue of the *Window*.

The Available For Lunch ministry  
Meg Williams  
Sylvia Ma

## Intentional Interim Ministry

(continued from page 2)

### 5. Commitment to New Pastoral Leadership

When a congregation has completed the four preceding tasks, it is ready to appoint a "Search Committee," whose primary purpose is to interview candidates that would be a good match for the congregation. During this phase, all of us will begin to prepare ourselves to receive our new Rector and renew our commitment to work together.<sup>2</sup>

#### Footnotes:

1 R. Neil Chafin, Interim Ministry Consultant, [www.bgct.org](http://www.bgct.org)

2 This article is based on "The Tasks of a Church During the Interim Period," by Kenneth D. Blazier (Interim Ministries-ABC, <http://www.interimministries-abc.org>), edited by The Rev. Dr. David E. Abernethy-Deppe for use at St. James' Episcopal Church, Fremont, California

## Make a difference at St. James'

'St. James' is calling for nominees of new Vestry members for the 2009-2011 term. Please give this important ministry your prayerful consideration. If you are interested or have questions please contact Greg Miller, Johanne LaRocque, Connie Rux or Scott Whitaker.

## FOOTPRINTS AND THE 9AM SERVICE

Due to the resignation of several members of FootPrints, we will begin a new contemporary Order of Service beginning in January. This Service will be under the direction of Katherine LaRose, our Minister of Music, and will utilize the music that comes from the Taize Community in France.

If you would like to participate in this new music ministry, please contact Katherine. We are looking for singers and instrumentalists. Rehearsal is on Monday nights at 7pm.

We want to thank the members of FootPrints for their excellent ministry in this Parish.

Rev. Kathy† and Rev. David†

## David won't be here in January.

In January 2009, David will be taking a leave without pay. He has a prior commitment before coming to St. James'. The Vestry was aware of this before calling him to be our Co-Interim Priest. Kathy was aware of this as well before joining us.

So during January, Kathy will be working full time, but with much encouragement, will take off the weekend of Jan 17-19. The Rev Karin White will be with us on Sunday, Jan 18<sup>th</sup>.

Sylvia Ma, Senior Warden



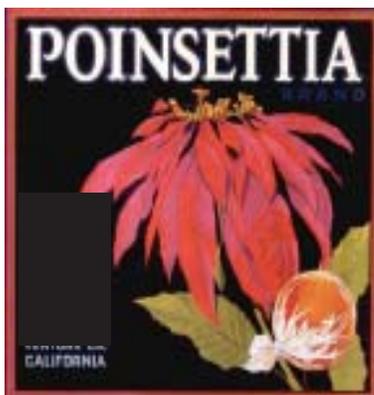
# DioNews

## "After Prop 8, Love Endures"

Bishop Marc Andrus and Assistant Bishop Steven Charleston have posted an article on the DioCal Website about Proposition 8. In it they talk about fear as "a pendulum in the human heart (which) swings with the movement of change." They noted that "fear for the future of our nation, for its economy and its place in the world, galvanized millions of Americans into decisive action." On the other hand, "Fear of human sexuality, of those who are totally vulnerable but who have been presented as dangerous, caused thousands of Californians to do just the opposite: to withdraw from change into the imagined safety of prejudice and injustice." Our Christian faith proclaims that fear is not the way, but rather love. "Love and fear don't exist in the same dimension . . . fear will come to an end, (but) love goes on for eternity." They conclude that "The Episcopal Diocese of California will continue to seek to be a place of hope, of love, an instrument of God's sheltering, overshadowing power. This Love is what will finally endure, finally prevail." The entire article is available on-line at <http://www.diocal.org>.

It is well worth reading.

Rev. David✙



It is time to plan for poinsettias for Christmas. A list will be posted in the parish hall for those who would like to provide one or more plants as a memorial to a loved one or in honor of a special occasion. Price will be \$10.

The poinsettias may be taken home after Christmas to plant in your garden.

Margaret Rainey, Altar Guild

## To All Key Holders at St. James'

As part of the Episcopal Church, USA, we have been asked by our Diocese to comply with a new national church requirement which is outlined in the document, "Called to Right Relationship," a booklet outlining the policies, standards, and resources for ensuring that our congregations are safe places for all God's people. The requirement that concerns you, as a holder of a key to St. James', is that all key holders must a) submit to a background check and b) complete an on-line course regarding safe practices for children and vulnerable adults.

This procedure may be done on-line and is available at no cost through the end of the year (December 31, 2008). Starting January 1, 2009, the fee is \$20. The process is as follows:

- The on-line course and background-checking service can be accessed by going to <http://shieldthevulnerable.org>
- Click on the "1st Time Diocese Sign-up" tab, and select "Episcopal Diocese of California" from the list. [Just an FYI, when I took this course I found that at this initial web page I had to enter this information twice before I was taken to the next page.]
- Upon completion of the course, completion certificates will be available to print or download. Please print out two copies; keep one for yourself and put the other in an envelope and leave in the church office for our clergy.
- The results of the background check are sent to the human resources officer of the Diocese of California. If there is a cause for concern, our clergy will be contacted. No one else here at church (including me) will receive the results of your background check.

As part of this process and as part of good security practices, soon we will be changing the locks at St. James'. We do this periodically. If you choose to NOT complete this requirement, you will not be given a new key.

If you are unable to complete this on-line, there are provisions for that. Let me know. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Janet Fischer, Jr. Warden

## RECENT CELEBRATIONS

### !!Happy Birthday, Ruby!!



On Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, Ruby Pike and her family celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> circumnavigation of the sun with St. James'. Ruby, who still lives on her own and drives, attributes her longevity to good genes and a medicinal glass of red wine every day! You are an inspiration to us all. Happy Birthday and God Bless You.



### Samantha and Rachel Herrick Baptized

On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, at the eleven o'clock service we were blessed with witnessing the baptism of Samantha and Rachel Herrick and with the presence of their loving family. Welcome to our family!



### Ray & Lori Hedvall Come Home to Celebrate Their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary!

On Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, old friends reunited to share in this joy with the Hedvall family.



Ray  
and  
Lori  
Hedvall



Mary Mitchell talking to Kathy Leslie.



Article and pictures submitted by Johanne LaRocque

# PASTORAL CARE

## A Perspective



*Pastor* is a Latin word related to the care of a flock of sheep and their environment. Usually a pastoral scene in art is a bucolic and serene picture of meadows filled with grazing animals. They look contented, calm, unafraid. It is a picture where we would like to step in, with a cup of coffee in hand, sit on a rock wall and take part in the calm.

The shepherd or herd tender in these pictures also has the responsibility to move the flock or herd to other areas when provisions are low, weather is deteriorating or water supplies are dwindling.



What great images for pastoral care in the parish and the world! We tend to think of pastoral care as the realm for the clergy to inhabit, a set of tasks that best rests in the hands of deacons, priests and bishops. But I think the whole church is called to be a “pastoral care people” in a world that is facing increasing challenges to families, finances, economies, international relationships and the environment.



We live out our Christian witness in our care for one another. Sometimes a little poking and prodding is in order, as flocks are moved from one place to another. And so, with gentleness and great tenderness, we help each other move along. Leaving the old pasture can be disorienting and frustrating. It takes some encouragement to get unstuck. Pastoral care for ourselves, our neighbors, the world sometimes means being a still small voice or an oasis of calm when “all hell is breaking loose.” In days of fear, grief, tragedy and catastrophe, we hold up one



another and walk with one another through those experiences with the hearts, hands and hope of a good pastor.

Providing for the flock is part of the work of deacon, priest and bishop. But think how many times in congregational and family life you have been called to be the pastors of good people facing bad times. This is truly a calling for the whole people of God.

Rev. Kathy✙

### Financial Summary

	<u>10/31/2007</u>	<u>10/31/2008</u>
Operating Cash	\$14,358	\$11,387
Building Cash	12,770	12,009

### Year-to-date Summary

Pledges budgeted	\$213,333
Pledges paid	192,262
Unpledged contributions	6,966
Other operating income	<u>18,052</u>
Total operating income	\$217,280
Total operating expenses	<u>\$246,837</u>
Income less expenses	\$(29,557)



**February 8, 2009**

**Annual Parish Meeting**

## St. James' blood drive a success.



Lynn Locher, George Vlastelica and Sandra Motley donate blood November 2<sup>nd</sup> between services.

We had eleven people register and eight were able to donate. One person donated double reds, so the total number of units collected was 9. Did you know, each pint of blood can be broken down into three components, helping up to 27 patients right here in our Bay Area community!

Watch for another drive coming summer of '09.

Johanne LaRocque



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## Become an actor in our worship services.

### Do You Like to Read?

If you do then please consider the ministry of Lector. St. James' is in need of a few more lectors at the 9am service. Lectors read the Bible lessons during the service. Please let me know if you are interested in joining the ranks of these fine people.

### Would You Like to be a Chalice Bearer?

Chalice bearers - or Eucharistic Ministers - serve at the altar and assist in distributing Communion as well as lead parts of the liturgy during our morning worship services. We are always in need of a few more people!

If you are interested, please talk to me or any other Eucharistic Minister about this wonderful ministry. The next training for Eucharistic Ministers is January 17.

Thank you!

Janet Fischer  
Eucharistic Minister & Lector Coordinator

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## Thank you, Lon Doty

After many years serving as Eucharistic Minister at the 8am service, Lon Doty is retiring. I want to publicly thank Lon for his long years of faithful service in this capacity. It has been a pleasure to work with you, Lon.

Janet Fischer  
Eucharistic Minister Coordinator

Next issue of *The Window* will be in January. We welcome your comments, pictures, essays, poems, cartoons, artwork, newsworthy items of interest, any group activity information and reviews.

**January Issue Deadline: December 15**

# World-Renowned Folk Singer John McCutcheon returns to St. James'!



Folk artist John McCutcheon will play another all-ages, one-night-only show at St. James' on Monday, January 19, 2009. Tickets will go on sale Sunday, Dec. 7, at our sales table in the parish hall (and via will-call to the church office); tickets will be for sale each Sunday through January 18, from 9am - 12:30pm. This will be his fifth concert at our venue, performing annually since 2004.

John McCutcheon performs around the world, bringing together professionals and factory workers, folk music veterans and novices, kids and grandparents alike, who find his blend of song and story, humor and insight, contemporary and traditional folk music to be an exhilarating, celebratory evening. His first concert for us in 2004 drew a sellout crowd of St. James' folks and people from around the Bay Area. Audience reviews have been raves, and each of his concerts with us play to a full house.

This is an incredible way to support St. James'. Ticket prices are affordable at \$25 for adults, \$15 for kids 5-12, and children under 5 are admitted free. Tickets to John's show make popular holiday gifts! And back by popular demand, a fantastic drawing will be held during intermission for special prizes. Tickets for the drawing will go on sale beginning on Dec. 7 as well.

Save the date, January 19, 2009, for an inspiring evening of songs, stories and smiles.

Meg Williams

## Book and Media Sale

Sunday December 14<sup>TH</sup>

9 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Parish Hall



### ST. JAMES' PRAYER LIST

In our parish, we pray for our brothers and sisters:

✧ For those who need continued healing: Stephanie, Steve, Elaine, Merle, Paul, Delfina, Norma, Lori, Jenny, John, Brian, David, Linda, Tanya, Laura, Mazie, Dave, Norman, Jewel, Everett, Rod, Svend, George, Laney, Jim, Phil, Susie, Bob, Debbie, Gail.

✧ For those who need comfort and strength: David and Linda Nelsen, and the Nelsen Family;

Jeanie, Bob & Eric Zetterholm and Family; Kae & Andy Romeril and Family.

✧ For those who need guidance and direction: Joan, Robert, Elizabeth, Michael, David, Rebeccah, Bill, Rob, Dean, John.

✧ For all those suffering economic hardship, especially the unemployed: Bill, Chad

✧ For families who are expecting children: Tamarah, Marlene, Laura, Jennifer, Allie and Cesar, Deidre and Nick, Tara, Ziggy, Shabana & Riaz.

✧ For those in the military, especially for those enduring the conflict in the Middle East: Daniel, John, Ryan, Cammy, Kurt, Jarrod, Matthew, Joseph, Kyffen, Robert, Tim, Clinton, Joshua, Tony, Valerie, Alex, Vincent, Johnny, Andrew, Angelina, Adrian, Chas, Eric, Davie, Moe, Theresa, Erica, Kenny, Steven, Patrick, Caitlin, Joshua.

✧ For those who have departed: Beverley Zetterholm, Mary Smith, Betty Keister, Michael Wild.

## Birthdays

### DECEMBER

1 Courtney Whitehouse	21 Ray Hedvall
2 John Kimber	Chris Perry
6 Paul Svenson	Jill Buono
8 Genore Schaaf	22 Bud Spalding
9 Merry Creed	Karen Koonze
Paul Dileanis	Norm Day
11 Joyce Bowman	24 James Leslie
Pegeen Perry	Imelda Gibbs
17 Barbara Gifford	25 Mary Williamson
18 Phil Johnsen	27 Fran Streckfus
Rick Wilcoxon	28 Jason Brown
19 Kelsey Peterson	30 Bob Tomkinson
Doris Cailliet Brunzie	Gary Newbrough
Adrian Madsen	31 Marlene Benedict
Donald Razzolini	Tammy Schlag
20 Sylvia Ma	Brad Hoffman



### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

24 Penny and Ken Trant



SUNDAY SERVICES AT  
8:00 AM, 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM  
WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST AT 10:00 AM  
SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 10:00 AM

For the most recent St. James' calendar, Gg to  
<http://www.mychurchevents.com/calendar/calendar.aspx?ci=G1H2J4O9J4G1G1G1>.



# SAINT JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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www.saintj.com



### Interim Co-Rectors

The Rev. David Abernethy-Deppe  
The Rev. Kathy Crary

### Administration

Secretary: Linda LeGere  
Treasurer: Jan Brandt  
Music Director, Katherine LaRose  
Sexton: Art Gallado  
Office email: office@saintj.com

### Other Important Coordinators

Altar Guild: Margaret Rainey  
Acolytes: Nancy Castaneda  
Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors: Janet Fischer  
Footprints: Katherine Larose  
Ushers: Burtin Hart

### The Window Editorial Staff

Ralph Locher  
Laura Winter

### The Vestry of St. James'

#### Senior Warden

Sylvia Ma

#### Junior Warden

Janet Fischer

#### Christian Formation & Worship

Greg Miller  
Connie Rux

#### Congregational Care & Social Ministries

Scott Whitaker  
Johanne LaRocque

#### Communications & Evangelism

Jim McConnell  
Tim Young

#### Parish Life

Jan Scrutton  
Penny Trant

#### Facilities

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Charlie Paratore

#### Clerk

Elizabeth Hart

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