



The Window

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



BREATHING ROOM **Intentional Interim Ministry** "Coming to Terms With Our History" By David †

In the December "Breathing Room" article, we identified five tasks that we will want to accomplish during this interim time. The first of these tasks is "Coming to Terms With Our History." Roger Nicholson, a member of the Interim Ministry Network and author "*Temporary Shepherds: A Congregational Handbook for Interim Ministry*," states that it's essential for a congregation facing the challenges that a change in priests brings, to get a perspective on itself and to come to an appreciation of where it is as a corporate body—emotionally, spiritually, historically, and sociologically. During the interim time, a parish will want to intentionally step back and take a long, unhurried look at itself. We at St. James' now have that luxury, to look back and to appreciate our history, both recent and long-term; to consider the present scene, discerning the good and the not so good; and to look ahead as we begin to chart our future course. Nicholson notes that every change of pastoral leadership provides a unique opportunity for a congregation to learn from its past, to weigh its present strengths and weaknesses, and to prepare itself for a new future under the guidance of a new Rector.

At the same time, interim time is very challenging for most congregations. In addition to the ongoing need to continue pastoral ministry, to provide for worship services and pastoral care, there are the crucial transitional tasks to be accomplished by the Transition Team, and eventually, by the Search Committee. Also, during this time, many issues that may have been "festering" for a long time will suddenly surface, and will have to be dealt with by the Vestry and the interim clergy. Nicholson points out that how well these issues are addressed will significantly impact the calling of the next Rector and will determine how well the congregation progresses toward furthering its vision for the future.

During Lent this year, we are going to take the time to share

our stories about St. James' - the good stories as well as those not so good. The telling of stories is a wonderful art form. By its very nature, storytelling is personal, interpretive, and uniquely human. Storytelling passes on the essence of who we are. Our stories can be a prime vehicle for assessing and interpreting events, experiences, and concepts from minor moments of daily life to the grand nature of the historical events. Storytelling is an intrinsic and basic form of human communication. More than any other form of communication, the telling of stories in an integral and essential part of the human experience.

So . . . during this Lenten Season, we are going to tell our stories, reviewing our history and celebrating our past. We will share with one another our achievements through the years and our contributions to the community and to the wider Church. At the same time we will want to "come to terms" with some of our past history by telling some the stories which were not so positive. As we share those stories, it will be important for us to express our feelings of loss, separation, hurt, disappointment, anger, guilt, or whatever strong emotions may be left over from the ending of one or more pastoral relationships, in order to bring closure to those feelings and experiences. We at St. James' have not done that for many, many years. (Editor's note: See Lenten Series article on pg. 8 for times and place.)

Roger Nicholson tells us, that unless such painful experiences get on the table, and conflicts resolved, and healthy communication restored, the chances for the success of the new ministry with our new Rector are substantially reduced. So, we are going to take the time this Lenten Season to identify, assess and celebrate what has been accomplished over the past years; and to discover and own our strengths and our weaknesses. Interim time, says Nicholson, is a good time to take an unhurried look in the mirror. "It's exciting and healing for a faith community to rediscover its past and to learn how that past informs the present life of the congregation."

This article is based on the work of Roger S. Nicholson, "*Temporary Shepherds: A Congregational Handbook for Interim Ministry*" (The Alban Institute, 1998), and was written by The Rev. Dr. David E. Abernethy-Deppe for use at St. James' Episcopal Church, Fremont, California.

Make the Earth Your Valentine

I know that this article should have appeared in February, but I received it after the deadline for the Window. I think what Dick Severy, St. Stephen's Commission for the Environment Liaison, has to say still works in March.

February is a month for acknowledging those we love. As stewards of creation, we have a God-ordained mandate to preserve our limited and precious natural resources. We know that we should “reduce, reuse and recycle.” But don’t do these things out of guilt – do them instead out of a love for the Earth that we are a part of, and intimately connected to. Mother Earth is the only home we have, and the only source we have for all that gives us life.

As the Rev. Sally Bingham explained, “If we can learn to love the natural world, we will protect it, and if we love one another we will want future generations to share the bounty that we have had during our time here.” Living lightly on the earth is thus another way of demonstrating our commitment to loving our neighbors.

One of Dostoyevsky’s characters in *The Brothers Karamazov* shared a similar sentiment: “Love all of God’s creation, love the whole, and love each grain of sand. Love every leaf, every ray of God’s light. Love animals, love plants, love every kind of thing. If you love every kind of thing, then everywhere God’s mystery will reveal itself to you. Once this has been revealed to you, you will begin to understand it ever more deeply with each passing day. And finally you will be able to love the whole world with an all-encompassing universal love.”

Every one of us can make Earth our Valentine, by taking simple steps to reduce the impact of our presence, consumption and energy use on the environment. Just as “you are what you eat,” so too we are what we breathe, drink, drive, etc. Reviewing habits and products that are ingrained in our lifestyles can help you change your relationship with the Earth. Seemingly small individual actions can make a big difference.

The following was excerpted from National Geographic's *The Green Guide* by Kate Hanley, Courtesy of COE Liaison News

One Green Year

You could decide to lose weight—again—or this year you could resolve to lighten the load you leave on the planet. Set a goal to educate yourself about food—where it comes from, how it's packaged and transported, and what happens to the waste. This week, start at the end: composting. Throwing food scraps in the garbage may seem innocuous, but decomposing food not only clogs landfills, it also releases methane—a far more potent greenhouse gas than CO₂. And encasing food scraps in a plastic bag or landfill keeps fruits and vegetables from replenishing the soil, increasing our dependence on chemical fertilizers. The University of Arizona estimates that if every American household reduced the amount of food it throws away by half, we'd cut our entire environmental impact as a country by 25 percent. Aim to do your part by composting your fruit and vegetable scraps. Or find local resources that will accept your food waste, such as a community garden, recycling center or farmer's market, and start storing scraps in your freezer until you can make a drop-off.

Lynn Locher, Stewardship chair

Lynn’s Note: Look into biodegradable bags for your scraps. These can go into your yard waste containers without any fuss. I will share some of my stash of bags if you would like to try them.

lelocher@comcast.net



Bridges

By Kathy †

Have you experienced this? You work on a project, for example, and mess with it, tweak it,

hone it, whatever, until you think it is perfect. And you get caught in a trap sometimes, fearing your ability to do something. That procrastination is born out of fear, real fear, that you won't be able to do something well, so why start it and fail?

I think the looming uncertainty of the search process can be like that for a congregation. We are so accustomed to seeing the hiring and firing of employees from the corporate model that we think we will do it the same way. It would be so much easier to hire an employee than call a spiritual guide and friend.

We need to remember we are a community of believers. Historically we have believed the disciples followed Jesus for three years before his death and resurrection. And even then, until the deep experience of Pentecost was theirs, Scriptures hint they didn't have their "ecclesiastical structures" in place. Peter didn't call them together to establish a master plan, with contingencies, worst-case scenarios and statistical analysis.

These things, the scenarios, the analysis, the planning, are not bad in themselves. But I want to stress the value of waiting, listening and proceeding in the context of deep prayer. These other things will come in time, but they should not replace the gathered community which talks, celebrates, prays and worships together, giving voice to our deepest hopes for this parish and its vision of ministry in the world.

May we worry less about perfection and consider setting ourselves on this path with no clear understanding of how the road will turn or wind back on itself. For me, these are part of the wonderful and serendipitous Christian life to which we have been called.

Faith Formation Team presents:

LIFTING THE SHADOWS

Empowering Ourselves with Knowledge to Fight Human Trafficking in our Own Neighborhoods

Human trafficking is an abuse of basic human rights, a modern-day form of slavery, and it happens right here in Alameda County. Victims of human trafficking are subjected to force, fraud, or coercion, for purposes of sexual exploitation or forced labor. Victims are young children, teenagers, men and women. As a concerned citizen, you can help liberate victims of human trafficking.

Come and hear local, state and federal organizations and agencies, who are actively involved in law enforcement and assisting victims of this human tragedy. Learn how we can become involved in helping protect our families, friends, and neighbors?

Brown Bag Luncheon and Discussion

(Bring your own lunch, drinks will be provided)

Saturday, March 21, 2009

10:00am – 2:00pm

St. James' Episcopal Church

What is human trafficking?

How can you identify victims?

How does it occur?

An RSVP is highly recommended. Please RSVP by 5 p.m. 3/18/09 to 510-797-1492 or email: workshop@saintj.com

Note: Adult-oriented discussions may not be suitable for children. Childcare can be made available if notice is given at time of RSVP.

Submitted by Meg Williams for FFT



ViewPoint

by David‡

I was asked by our Editor to share with you a timeline for the interim process as it was presented at our Annual Meeting. I want to be careful not to promise too much or to be too specific. Interims are never that neat or clean, but let me give a general overview.

First of all, we spent the last couple of months in a mutual “getting to know you.” That of course was interrupted by such things as Thanksgiving, Christmas and Epiphany. It was a time, however, in which we built important relationships and made sure that ministry services were in place, especially worship, education and pastoral care. Also, during this time, the Vestry appointed the “Transition Team,” who will develop the Community and Parish Profiles, and the Search Committee, who will interview candidates for the position of Rector and make their recommendations to the Vestry.

During Lent (March and April), we will engage in the art of Storytelling (see the “Breathing Room” article), sharing with one another the good and the not so good times at St. James’. On Good Friday, we will “let go” of the “not so good,” placing all of this at the foot of the cross. That will become the fuel for the “Light of Christ” at our Easter Vigil and the lighting of the Pascal Candle.

During Easter and much of Pentecost, the Transition Team will develop the Community and Parish Profiles. This will involve all of us in several town hall meetings, re-discovering who we are and re-identifying our vision (and, yes, re-writing our “Vision Statement”). Also, we will once again want to discern and own our “Mission” as the People of God in this place. Armed with that information, we can then pinpoint the kind of Rector we want to help lead us in carrying out OUR Vision and Mission here at St. James’.

Sometime in the Fall, we should be ready to have the Search Committee receive a list of candidates approved by the Diocese, interview candidates and make their recommendations to the Vestry.

All in all, a productive “Interim Time” lasts anywhere from 12 to 18 months.

Assistance Wanted

In an effort to continue our adult education and expand our knowledge of biblical subjects such as the Gospels, Faith Formation Team is excited to introduce a new DVD series on Sunday mornings. More details will follow as to content, but suffice it to say it will easily fit within our post-9am / pre-11am break. The DVDs are all approximately 30 minutes long, and attendees are encouraged to discuss the topic as much or as little as they care to. The series is slated to begin mid-May 2009, and run until at least mid-June. If it is a popular feature, we'll be can continue with more.

What the Team needs now, to help make this a success, are some willing volunteers to help us on one or more Sunday mornings. These Hosts or Hostess volunteers' "shift" would be from about 10am to 11am, and would help us by opening the room in the Education Building, getting the television and DVD in place, and hit the "play" button once folks come in to view, and hit "power off" once it's done. Other simple tasks will be part of the "job," but you will not be required to create any lesson plans or lead any prescribed discussion.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Team Coordinator John Maloney.

Submitted by Meg Williams

A Gift that Costs Only Time

This Easter you have the opportunity to give your loved ones a wonderful gift - your funeral service. We never know when death will happen. We all hope we will avoid death until we are 100 or so. Life is not always that predictable. Accidents do happen and suddenly our loved ones are faced with many decisions including creating a funeral service. You can spare them this effort as they grieve for their loss and take comfort in a service that truly reflects your faith.

On March 29th, the Endowment Board is presenting a program on designing your funeral service. There will be a light luncheon starting at 12:30 PM followed by presentations and workshop until 3PM. Please sign up by March 25th. You may direct questions to Jan Pearson, Lynn Locher, Dave Nelsen, Joan Roberts or Chris Lubwama

Lynn Locher for the Endowment Board

Editors' Note: See flyer on page 4 for more details.

Music and Stories of Americana Fill the Air at St. James'!

On January 19, 2009, an enthusiastic crowd of more than 250 were treated to the uplifting, patriotic, ever-meaningful music and stories of an all-American folk singer, John McCutcheon. The bottom line netted the parish budget a pleasing figure of just over **\$2900**.

However good the financial news, the better part of the evening was the performance. McCutcheon is a consummate performer, playing and singing traditional as well as original tunes. He moved effortlessly from piano to guitar, fiddle, banjo, and hammer dulcimer.

John wove in stories of childhood and childrearing, tales from his years touring on the road, and clever, topical, political humor between his songs to provide a rich, entertaining, and life-affirming narrative.

A show such as this does not come together without some dedicated and hard-working volunteers. Allow me to thank so many of our crew listed below

Gratitude goes to Suju's Coffee for providing us deliciously hot coffee at cost for the snack bar.

Thanks also for our door-prize donators, among them Sylvia Ma, Linda Nelsen, Margaret Rainey, Bob Bell, Michael Aquino, Donald Razzolini, Marnie Hartmann, Cathy Knotts, and Bruce Roberts.

And a big Thank You to our energized audience, again dispelling my anxiety that nobody would come... I love being proved wrong!

Meg Williams

A Big Thank-you to The Concert Crew



Pictured left-to-right:: FRONT ROW: Lynn Locher, Meg Williams, Donald Razzolini, Chris Perry; 2nd ROW: Genore Schaaf, Laura Winter, Sylvia Wessel, Bruce & Joan Roberts, Sylvia Ma, Johanne LaRocque, Linda Nelsen, Pegeen Perry, Jan Brandt, Barbara Dabney, Scott Whitaker; BACK Row: John McCutcheon, Bud and Jan Pearson; NOT SHOWN: Cathy Knotts, Ralph Locher, Dave Nelsen, Jan Scrutton, Andy MacRae, Marnie Hartmann, Art Gallardo

Remember, People, You are part of the Earth....

by Peggy Da Silva, Commission for the Environment
Liaison from St. Mary the Virgin Episcopal Church, San Francisco

I have a very potent memory from childhood, of going to church with my mother on Ash Wednesday each year. The church was dark, the statues draped in purple covers. We approached the altar rail and the priest smudged ashes on each of our foreheads, intoning the words, "Remember, man, you are dust, and unto dust you shall return."

The ritual seemed very significant to me, and ushered in that season of Lent with its fasting, its fish on Friday, its sadness and suffering and its anticipation of Easter. However, I don't think I ever really took the message to heart. It seemed to speak of death, and death was not something I, as a child, really thought about.

Now, as an adult, I do think sometimes of death. But more, as a Christian, I think every day about how our teachings – from the Bible and other visionaries and theologians – lead us to spirit-filled life and community-building actions. So what do I make of remembering that I (a woman, as well as the men) am dust?

I search our scriptures for guidance on living in an ecologically sustainable manner. This seems to me at least as important as the guidance on giving to the poor, loving one's neighbor, and being peacemakers. In the words about dust, I find a very strong message. It says to me that we are part of the earth. Some of the teachings of Christianity have seemed to set humanity apart from the earth. Sometimes we have thought that we should "fill the earth and subdue it." One could say that our modern societies have done an excessive job of subduing, perhaps to the point of battering, natural systems.

But in the contemplation of the words of Ash Wednesday, I am reminded that at the most basic, we are water and carbon and minerals; that the food that we eat in order to survive comes out of the earth. Therefore, it makes it imperative that we strive to nourish and sustain this earth, this dirt, this dust.

In our church community, I hope that we can continue to make steps toward lightening our collective footprints on the earth. After Easter, we will

celebrate Earth Day. I hope everyone will take a few moments during this season of Lent to think about ways that we make some changes this year in the life and practices of our community. It might mean some sacrifices, but we'll do it together. Being part of the dust, part of the earth, does not seem sad to me. I embrace it as a most powerful and life-affirming connection.

Submitted by Marnie Hartman

An Invitation to a Healing Retreat

Holy Cross Episcopal Church in Castro Valley is having a deanery "mini-retreat" on Sunday, March 8, 2009 from 12-3 p.m. The Healing Team wants to provide an opportunity for the healing teams/healing ministers of the deanery to spend an afternoon that includes sharing, reflecting, and praying for the health and growth of the healing ministry in each of the congregations.

If you are able to attend please RSVP to the Office Manager at 510-889-7233. If you are interested in carpooling from St. James', please contact Barbara Dabney, 510-441-8660 or by email to bbdabney@sbcglobal.net.

Financial Summary

	<u>1/31/2008</u>	<u>1/31/2009</u>
Operating Fund	\$ 26,328	\$ 35,401
Building Fund	\$ 15,749	\$ 12,211

Year To Date Summary

	<u>1/31/2009</u>
Pledges Budgeted	\$ 21,819
Pledges Paid	\$ 15,916
Unpledged Contributions	\$1,137
Other Operating Income	<u>\$ 807</u>
Total Operating Income	\$ 17,860
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$ 21,846</u>
Income less Expense	\$ (3,986)

Annual Meeting Summary

Ninety-nine parishioners attended our 2009 Annual Parish Meeting and potluck luncheon on February 8th. A short summary follows.

Sr. Warden Sylvia Ma thanked the four graduating vestry members Johanne LaRocque, Greg Miller, Connie Rux and Scott Whitaker for their ministries. Vestry member Jan Scrutton had been appointed to fulfill the unexpired term of a resignee and her appointment was confirmed by the whole congregation.

Four new Vestry members were elected: Mary Casas, Molly Lubwana, Greg Scheuffele and Dean Valentine. Welcome to the Vestry.



Mary Casas



Greg Scheuffele



Dean Valentine



Molly Lubwana

Five new Diocesan Convention Delegates/Deanery Representatives were elected: Bob Bell, Jan Brandt, Johanne LaRocque, Ralph Locher, and Gwen Metz. Two alternates were also elected: Joan Kimber and Elaine Vallecillo Miller.

The 2009 Annual Budget was reviewed and approved. (Also go to <http://www.saintj.com/reports/reports.html> to see the complete 2008 Annual Report as well as both the Operating and Building Budgets.)

Please continue to give your faithful support to St. James'. With God's help, we will move forward together.

In Christ,
Sylvia Ma, Sr. Warden

(Editor's Note: During the Vestry Meeting of February 12th, the 2009 Vestry elected Sylvia Ma as Senior Warden and Janet Fischer as Junior Warden. The vestry is to go on retreat on February 21st, at which time they

Available for Lunch group celebrates Chinese New Year

The Available for Lunch ministry thanks all who attended our January fellowship lunch gathering, held January 25th after the 11 a.m. service. In celebration of Chinese New Year, 24 hungry diners met at Newark Buffet, a large, bustling buffet on Newark Blvd. between Cedar and Jarvis. The food offerings were innumerable – from traditional Chinese fare of chicken, soups, and ribs, to vegetables, noodle and rice dishes, seafood and desserts. No one left hungry!

Our next gathering will take place in the spring, location and exact date to be determined and a sign-up sheet will appear in the Parish Hall. As always, all are welcome to attend, and we can accommodate anyone who may need transportation assistance.

Submitted by Meg Williams

Transition Team & Search Committee

The Vestry would like to announce the formation of the Transition Team and the Search Committee. The Transition Team's main responsibility is to gather information and put together the Parish Profile. The Search Committee's main responsibility is to screen candidates for our new rector and do the initial interviews in order to put forth two to three names for the Vestry to consider. The members of the Transition Team and the Search Committee were commissioned by our interim clergy on Feb 8th. Please keep them in your prayers as we move forward in our interim process.

Transition Team

Co-chairs:

Marnie Hartmann
Johanne LaRocque

Allison Ferro
Ashley Francis
Cathy Knotts
Connie Rux
Gloryanne Bryant
Greg Miller
Joan Roberts
Jodi Benson
Margaret Broun
Meg Williams
Steve Maina
Chaplain: EJ Hilliard

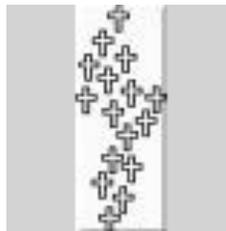
Search Committee

Co-chairs:

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

Lenten Series:

“Letting Go”



A crucial part of our Interim Time is “Letting Go” of those things which can hold us back from discerning what God is calling us to be and to do. As part of our Lenten discipline this year, we are going to hold five

Tuesday evening dialogue sessions in which we will engage in storytelling.

This time our stories are going to focus on those things we would like to “Let Go: global challenges, national problems, denominational issues, past and current challenges facing our Parish, as well as family baggage and personal issues. We will share our stories, as we are comfortable.

These dialogues will take place on Tuesday evenings, beginning March 3rd, starting with a Soup Supper at 6 p.m. (come anytime between 6-7 p.m.). At 7 p.m. we will begin our stories. We will close with the Penitential Order: Rite Two (BCP 351). As we make confession and “Let Go,” we will place our confessions in a sealed envelope. On Good Friday, these will be placed at the foot of the cross. At the Easter Vigil, they will become the kindling for the New Fire. Please join us for this very important part of our Interim Process.

Childcare will be available during the Tuesday evening classes.. Please contact Jan Scrutton at jan@scrutton.org.uk

David†

A reminder from the Communication and Evangelism Cluster

If you are not on the Saint James’ email list to receive general announcements, i.e. meeting announcements, special events, etc., please email the office at office@saintj.com to have your email added to the distribution list. The 2008 directory is available electronically, currently seven, double-sided pages in PDF format. This can be obtained by notifying the office as above. A hard copy is available upon request from the church office, which will be printed and can be picked up outside the office the next time that you come to church.

The weekly information guide distributed at the Sunday worship services is printed on GREEN paper not only to reduce costs but to help save the environment as well. The WHITE Order of Service sheet is a publication that changes as the church calendar changes.

Tim Young

Senior Warden's 2009 Annual Report

2008 was a good but challenging year at St. James'. Our Rector, the Rev. Dr. Bob Honeychurch, informed us in the beginning of June that he will be leaving us at the end of August for a job with the Episcopal National Church. The Vestry asked our Associate Rector, the Rev. Dr. Sylvia Sweeney, to stay on till the end of September to help us through the transition, which she did. Bob ministered to us for seven good years and Sylvia served as associate rector for three years. I thank both of them. I would also like to thank Arlinda Cosby, who retired last year, for her many years as our deacon. So St. James' moves into our Interim period.

Thanks to the Diocese of California, the Rev. Canon Michael Barlowe and our Interim Search Committee from the Vestry - Penny Trant, Greg Miller and Jim McConnell - we now have two great Co-Interim Priests, Kathy Crary and David Abernethy-Deppe. David and Kathy are here to take care of our pastoral needs and to guide us in the interim process. We are so blessed to have them here with us.

St. James' did not stop functioning after Bob's departure. We move forward. Thanks to all of you, all our ministries carried on throughout 2008. We grew in membership. We had a wonderful celebration of our future with the New Consecration Sunday. We continued to improve our campus and completed two major projects:

new concrete walkways, and the renovation of our bathrooms. We continued to serve our communities and participated in the Tri-City Homeless Coalition Winter Relief program by housing guests in our Parish Hall in November.

Of course, we had our usual dose good fun and food in 2008 with the McCutcheon Concert,



Book and Media Sales, Pancake Supper, Easter Egg hunt, ice cream social, BBQs, and potlucks. We worshipped together, we studied together, we did breakfast together, lunches together, camped together, and went to baseball game together. The list goes on and on. We built great fellowship in 2008.

We have moved a big step forward in our Interim period. We commissioned our Transition Team and our Search Committee. These 24 men and women will shoulder the work towards the search of our new Rector. Please keep them in your prayers. I am very grateful to

them for their commitment. I hope you are, just like me, looking forward to participate in the next step in the interim process and attend the Tuesday night classes in Lent where we will use storytelling to let go any bad feelings of our past and to step joyfully into our future.

People had asked me what happened to the Vestry when we don't have a Rector. The answer is: the Vestry carries on the job the congregation elected them to do with or without a Rector. Vestry members are elected to a three year term by the congregation. Each year four Vestry members graduate and four new members come on board. The Junior Warden is elected from the Vestry during the first Vestry meeting after the Annual meeting. The Senior Warden usually is appointed by the Rector. But since we are without a Rector, the Senior Warden is also elected from the Vestry during the same Vestry meeting.

I would like to thank you for your prayers and support, especially during the last few months. I would like to thank the Vestry for their hard work and dedication. I have learned a lot being your Senior Warden and am very grateful for the opportunity to serve you.

The state of St. James' is very good. We are financially sound. We will weather and grow during this interim period. With God's help, we will move forward.



The Philippine Independent Church

Most of us are aware that a Philippine Independent Church worships in the Little Church at St. James' on Sunday afternoons, but we know little about the church itself. I asked them to tell us a little about themselves.

"The Philippine Independent Church is a congregation of new people, educated in and liberated by the teaching of Christ, dedicated to the worship of God in spirit and in truth, nourished and sustained in the Eucharist, and commissioned to be witnesses to God's love in the world." The Iglesia Filipina Independiente (IFI), or the Philippine Independent Church (PIC), was born in 1902 during a time of political and religious struggle by the Philippines to free themselves from Spanish, and then U.S., rule. The PIC is therefore a Catholic church, however independent from Rome, and has been in full communion with the Episcopal Church, USA, since 1961, the Church of England since 1963, and is in full commun-

ion with the following ecumenical bodies: World Council of Churches (WCC), Christian Conference of Asia, National Council of Churches in the Philippines, and the Ecumenical Bishops' Forum.

The PIC and the ECUSA have a long history together. In 1947, the IFI General Assembly petitioned the House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church to bestow the Iglesia Filipina Independiente the gift of Apostolic Succession. The House of Bishops granted the request, and in 1948, in a service held in Manila, three bishops of the IFI received the gift of apostolic succession from the hands of three Episcopal bishops.

The terms of the CONCORDAT Agreement between the PIC and the ECUSA are lovely in their simplicity:

1. Each Communion recognizes the Catholicity and Independence of the other and maintains its own.

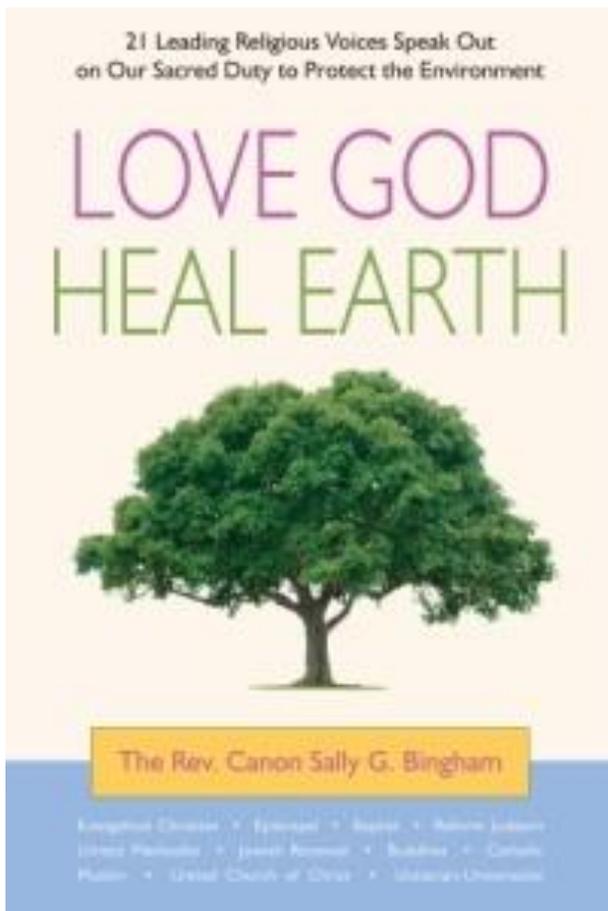
2. Each Communion agrees to admit members of the other Communion to participate in the Sacraments.

3. Full Communion does not require from either Communion the acceptance of all doctrinal opinion, sacramental devotion, or liturgical practice characteristic of the other, but implies that each believes the other to hold all the essentials of the Christian faith.

Would that all churches could agree to such simple cooperation in the work of God!

The PIC parish that worships at St. James' is the *Parish of the Holy Infant Jesus*. They have worshiped Sunday afternoons at St. James' for 32 years! This mission was started by Fr. Timoteo Quintero in 1976, who later became ECUSA bishop of Hawaii. The present priest in charge is Rev. Aurelio Picart, and the IFI Diocese of USA-Canada held their annual convention at St. James' in 2008. Average Sunday attendance at the parish averages 25 - 50 and membership includes 50 families. Services are held in English, but once in a while a guest celebrant may give the sermon in Tagalog. It is my hope that we can get to know their congregation a bit better in the near future, and perhaps visit each other's services.

Janet Fischer
Jr. Warden



Is Global Warming a Spiritual Question?

21 Religious Leaders Say YES!

What does it take to power a great awakening about Earth's environmental crisis? Until recently, science has been alone in sounding the alarms while many religious leaders have held back, viewing global warming as a purely secular issue. Now, in an unprecedented demonstration of unity and moral purpose, religious voices from across the spectrum--liberal, conservative, Christians, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists--are joining in one of the largest movements in human history...declaring the environment to be an urgent matter of faith. In *Love God, Heal Earth: 21 Leading Religious Voices Speak Out on Our Sacred Duty to Protect the Environment* (St. Lynn's Press, 2009, ISBN: 798-0-9800288-3-6, \$17.95), the Rev. Canon Sally G. Bingham brings together 21 highly regarded spiritual leaders from diverse faiths to make the case for environmental stewardship and show how their faith communities are tackling the issue of religion and environment.

Comments about this book from the worlds of science and religion:

"*Love God, Heal Earth* is a historically important contribution. Its authors of diverse faiths recognize that protecting the planet

and all of life is a transcendent responsibility - for both the scientists who study it and those of religious faith who are able to express its spiritual importance." --E.O. Wilson, Harvard biologist and naturalist, author of *The Creation: an Appeal to Save Life on Earth*

"*Love God, Heal Earth* features some of the clearest and most compelling voices in the emerging creation care movement--a unifying and rallying point for people of faith from across diverse traditions." --Jim Wallis, President of Sojourners, author of *The Great Awakening*.

About the Author

Sally G. Bingham, the principal author, is on the short list of America's most influential religious environmentalists. She is environmental minister for San Francisco's Grace Cathedral and for the California Episcopal Diocese; and founder and president of the fast-growing Interfaith Power and Light Campaign, involving more than 4000 congregations and over 500,000 people in 28 states in faith-based action to heal the Earth.

Go to www.theregenerationproject.org to order a copy.

Submitted by Marnie Hartmann

St. James' Affairs Fair

Designing your own Funeral Service

Life is short, eat dessert first and plan your funeral second.



Sunday, March 29, 2009

12:30 P.M to 3:00 P.M.



12:30 P.M. Light luncheon in the Parish Hall

1:00 P.M. Presentations in the Big Church

- Katherine LaRose : Selecting appropriate music
 - Clergy: Selecting service style and meaningful Bible passages
- Maggie Shalar: The cost of internment in the Memorial Garden or Columbarium
 - Jan Pearson: Creating memorials

2:00 Return to the Parish Hall to Design your Funeral Service

Appropriate forms will be provided

Speakers will be available for consultation

Presented by the Endowment Board

Sign up in the Parish Hall by **March 25th.**

Bishop Marc has written a pastoral letter to all members of the Diocese of California about the economic situation. The text of the letter is posted at dio-cal.org. Also, see the link to a related video of Bishop Marc commenting on the letter. All members of the Diocese of California are asked to read this letter and to see the video.

EfM Mentor Training

Tuesday, March 17
 (Multiple Day Event at CDSP)
 For Information Call Julia McCray-Goldsmith at
 (415) 869-7826

Vocations Conference

Saturday, March 21
 (All Day Event at CDSP)
 For Information Call Julia McCray-Goldsmith at
 (415) 869-7826

What does God look like?

A Kindergarten teacher: was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work.

As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, "I'm drawing God."
 The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like."

Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

New Bell Tower

In case you haven't noticed, the bell tower in front of the Big Church has been renovated. It was heavily damaged by dry-rot. New beams and brackets were installed. During the renovation process, it was noted that the bell weighs more than 200 lbs, and was made in 1945 in Japan. The funds for the renovation was from memorial donations from various parishioners over the years.

Thank you.

Sylvia Ma

Cell Phone Recycling

Thank you so much for leaving your used ink cartridges and cell phones for recycling. We are making very little money, but every bit helps. We can also recycle other things to increase our income. Please leave system consoles, i.e., Nintendo, MP3 players, and digital cameras. All items can be left in the basket outside the office. A reminder from Phoneraiser – clear all personal information from the cell phones, which can be done by removing the SIMM memory card in the phone.

Thank you for your generous contributions.

Barbara Dabney

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 15



St. James' Prayer List

Most Holy God, we pray for:

For Those Who Need Continued Healing: Stephanie, Steve, Elaine, Merle, Paul, Delfina, Norma, Lori, Jenny, John, Brian, David, Linda, Tanya, Jewel, Everett, Rod, Jim, Phil, Susie, Bob, Debbie, Gail, Manny, Kyffen, George, Fran,

Katherine, Marge, Jodi, Craig, Alyssa, Mathius, Hanni, Mr. Pope, Cathy, Florence, Marilyn. Harry.

For Those Who Need Comfort and Strength: Mary, Carol, Joan, Tom, Rhonda, Paul, Verna, Lori.

For Those Who Need Guidance and Direction: Joan, Robert, Elizabeth, Michael, Dean, Deja, Jordon, David, Barbara, Shaun, Aaron, Roger, Alyssa.

For all those suffering economic hardship, especially the unemployed: Debbie, Margaret, Dean, Jim, Kirstin, Bill, Chad, Jeffrey, John.

For Families Who Are Expecting Children: Tamarah, Marlene, Laura, Allie and Cesar, Deidre and Nick, Tara, Beth and Victor, Judy and Brad.

For those in the Military, especially for those enduring the conflict in the Middle East: Daniel, John, Ryan, Cammy, Kurt, Jarrod, Matthew, Joseph, Robert, Tim, Clinton, Joshua, Tony, Valerie, Alex, Vincent, Johnny, Andrew, Angelina, Adrian, Chas, Eric, Davie, Moe, Theresa, Erica, Kenny, Steven, Patrick, Caitlin, Joshua, Frederick, Tammy, Ashley, Christina, Trinity, Malaina, Chris, Kate, John.



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



March Birthday Celebrations

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1 David Ramsey | 22 Cody Wonycott |
| Dwarka Sankar | 24 Alice Johnson |
| 2 Hilary Sanders | 25 Janet Fischer |
| 3 Emily Locher | Pat Spencer |
| 4 Jim Lyon | Ian Perry |
| 7 Kimberly Maxey | 26 Pat Spalding |
| 15 Polly Nelsen | Shaun Duncan |
| Kelly Lowe | Sandy Jaekel |
| 16 Christopher Pikul | 28 Deja Singh |
| 20 Bill Spalding | Terri Rommelfanger |
| Laura Castaneda | Craig Benson |
| Brandon Dileanis | Bob Honeychurch |
| Catherine Amadi | 30 Mitchell Williamson |
| 21 Debra Fuller | |
| Paul Romeril | |

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 March and your name(s) is not listed, please email the appropriate info to the church office.



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

<http://www.mychurchevents.com/calendar/calendar>



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

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The Rev. Kathy Crary

Administration

Secretary: Linda LeGere
Music Director, Katherine LaRose
Sexton: Art Gallardo
Office email: office@saintj.com

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Acolytes: Nancy Castaneda
Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors:
Janet Fischer
Footprints: Katherine Larose
Treasurer: Jan Brandt

The Window Editorial Staff

Ralph Locher
Marilyn Rose
Penny Trant
Laura Winter

The Vestry of St. James'

Senior Warden

Sylvia Ma

Junior Warden

Janet Fischer

Christian Formation & Worship

Jan Scrutton
Molly Lubwama

Communications & Evangelism

Jim McConnell
Greg Scheuffele

Congregational Care & Social Ministries

Mary Casas
Tim Young

Facilities

Scott Kennedy
Charlie Paratore

Parish Life

Penny Trant
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Clerk

Elizabeth Hart

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