



The Window

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

June 2011

Helping to Weave God's Promises



Throughout the years I have collected many treasures. They come in various sizes and colors and are scattered throughout my office and my home. One treasure is a stack of 1" yellow post-it notes, each one containing a drawing of an exotic animal done in ballpoint pen. Another treasure is rock painted in blues and reds with a small spot of glitter stuck in the middle (now more glue than glitter). I have a stuffed green dinosaur puppet, a tiny bear with a cross embroidered on his chest, a crayon drawing of me wearing my alb and stole, a paper doll crafted out of red and purple

construction paper, a cut and glued cross now serving as a bookmark in my prayer book, and a stunning bracelet of powder blue pony beads. These are just a few of my riches. Now of course, the monetary value of these pieces is minimal, if anything at all, but they are priceless to me. Each one was given to me by a child in a church, a young soul who took time to create something or to give up something dear in the name of generosity.

Children are natural givers. They understand that giving something of themselves brings happiness to others. They also learn that giving brings them happiness as well. They know that they have something to offer and can bring a smile to another's face and a brightness to their day.

So, the value is not in what they give, but in the action of giving, and so it is with our Sunday School. What we give to our children – the nuts and bolts of the course – comes secondary to the actual act of giving our time and our presence.

Through our act of spending time with the kids,

through our telling stories and helping with crafts, through our willingness to get on the floor and play, we are communicating the message of Christ's love and generosity towards them, and thus, they learn the most important lesson of all – that they are a valuable part of this community, and because of their intrinsic value, they, too can show Christ's love and generosity in return.

By now you know that I hold our children's program as the highest priority. This summer, we will be re-examining the upcoming year. For now, we will set aside the Godly Play curriculum and will begin using a new program called *Weaving God's Promises*. Using the concepts of education, worship and service, this program will give our children a foundation in scripture, the Episcopal Church, and in practices of prayer, outreach, and Christian ethics. The program is flexible enough to address many ages in one classroom and will allow us to utilize our existing Godly Play materials if desired. This curriculum is being used throughout the Episcopal Church and has received high praise for it's creativity and thoroughness. I invite you to learn more by going to their website:

<http://www.weavinggodspromises.org>.

In the next month, I will be inviting many of you to an informational gathering to learn more and to invite participation. I promise to not ask only our parents and our teachers, but to prayerfully examine the many gifts of each person in order to create a team of diverse and dynamic participants. Some of you might want to teach, others may help with the artistic side of the classroom, while some may find their comfort performing administrative tasks. We have many gifts to offer the youngest of us – and I know firsthand that there is little that is more rewarding than giving to and receiving from a child. Please join me in this adventure.

Blessings,
Lori

The Stewardship of Friendship



Friends have been on my mind lately -- friends I've known for a long time, friends I've made in recent years, months, days, and friends who are no longer here. The conventional wisdom is that good friendships enhance an individual's sense of happiness and overall well-being. I just know that friends have been a very important part of my life. It has been said that good friends are hard to come by, so it is important to show your friends that you appreciate them. You can only push people aside for so long before they stop calling and waiting for you to finally grab that cup of coffee you have been promising. Good friends make life fun and hard times bearable. Good friends are truly a gift and should be treated accordingly. It is important to keep friends not because you feel obligated to, but because it will make you a happier, healthier person knowing that you have friends you can count on.

June begins the customary summer vacation season when school is out and we typically plan vacations to visit exciting places or to visit family and friends. Friends can be useful. If you are traveling across the country, you might need a free place to stay. (Or is that what relatives are for?) If you are moving to a new home or apartment, you need friends to help you pack up the boxes and lift the furniture (or you might call George). If you are sick or lonely, it's nice to have a friend to call or visit to cheer you up. But the value of friendship is more than a matter of convenience. It is a matter of completeness.

We are all persons with strengths and weaknesses. Our friends can complement our weak areas. Although we may have much in common with our friends, they will have perspectives and opinions that are different from ours. As a team of two or more, we can be more effective than any of us could be individually.

"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work; If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Friends are those rare people who ask how we are and then wait to hear the answer. Remember your friends and don't take them for granted. Take time to thank the Lord for your friends. Then call a few of your friends and thank them for their friendship.

Gail Blalock, Stewardship Chair



Love

Faith Formation

The last of the season Faith Formation classes starts off with an recorded video interview with Nobel Peace Prize winner and former Archbishop of Capetown Desmond Tutu. Then we will discuss the content of that interview.

Ordained as an Anglican priest in 1960, Desmond Tutu went on to become Dean of St. Mary's Cathedral in Johannesburg and the first black Anglican Archbishop of Capetown, South Africa. In 1978 he was named General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches. Known for his opposition to apartheid and his commitment to stopping the spreads of AIDS globally, he won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984. He also received the Ghandi Peace Prize in 2007. His books include *The Rainbow People of God* (1994) and *God Has a Dream: A Vision of Hope for Our Time* (2004).

The video DVD will start promptly at 9:15 AM with discussion to follow in EB-1 on June 5th.

Bruce Roberts, Chairperson/Team Leader

Tongues of Fire on Pentecost Sunday



June 12 is Pentecost Sunday, the day we celebrate the birth of the Church. This year, we will also celebrate the **installation of our new deacon, the Reverend Bob Dobbin!** At the 10:30 service, we will be joined by the Archdeacon Kathleen van Sickle and we will formally welcome Bob as our deacon. Remember to wear RED for this celebration.

The next issue of *The Window* is in July. 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](mailto>window@saintj.com)

July Deadline: June 15th



Sundae Sunday!

Who needs an excuse to eat ice cream?!

June 19 will be a day of celebration celebrating the Dads in our congregation and celebrating our volunteers! We will say a special Thank You to Katherine La Rose for her contribution to our music program and to Brian Cochran for his work with the children. We will also honor the choir, the Youth Group Leaders and other Godly Play participants as we wind down this academic year.

Join us after the 10:30 AM service for ice cream on the patio. Calling all kids to bring a favorite topping!

The Beginning of a New Journey

Chris and Molly Lubwama are moving to Oakley, CA. Their presence will be missed here at St. James'. During their years with us, Chris and Molly have been very involved parishioners. Chris has been a member of the Endowment Board and a faithful usher. Molly has served on the altar guild, was at one time our treasurer and for the past two and a half years she has served as a member of our vestry. We thank Chris and Molly for all their time and talent they have shared with us. They will be missed and we wish them well on their new journey together.

Mary Casas, Sr. Warden

New Vestry Member



Molly Lubwama is unable to fulfill her term on vestry. Following the church by laws the nominee for Vestry from the previous Annual Meeting was asked to fill Molly's vacancy and he declined. Marlene Benedict was asked and accepted the nomination to vestry. The Vestry has approved Marlene as a replacement member. She will serve Molly's remaining term, June 2011 to January 2012. Marlene, thank you for your commitment to St. James'. The vestry welcomes you and looks forward to working with you.

Mary Casas, Sr. Warden

St. James' Walk-a-Rock-athon Recap 2011

This year we had our annual Walk-A-Rock-athon benefit walk and rock(ing) event on May 14th, 2011. This event benefits the Abode Home warming program at St. James'. We had 6 walkers and 1 rocker for St James' and our sister parish St. Anne's had 9 walkers, including 2 children, and a dog. Everyone enjoyed the walk-and-rock-athon and then we were able to peruse the Book and Media sale for bargains.



We will report on the total raised for this fund raiser in our July "Window".

Thank you to all the walkers/rockers and to the Parishioner, family and friends who supported us.

Brad Hoffman and Gary Gearheart



St James' Children's Vacation Bible School will be launched this summer with our theme for 2011 'Grow TALL with God'

We'll have five mornings of fun, games, crafts and teaching on our great campus where we will explore the world God created for us and gave us to look after. Our campus trees will add to our learning of the wonders around us. The Day Camp will run from 9am- 12 noon daily from July 25th-July 29th and will be headed by our rector, Lori Walton, and youth leader, Jan Scrutton. All young people from K-5th grade are very welcome to join us for the week. The cost will be \$25 a child or \$40 a family (scholarships available).

Please help us spread the word about our day camp, the more the merrier! This is a great opportunity to reach children from our own families and our local community. Sign up letters will be available at church and from the website, www.saintj.com. Check out the signs in the Parish Hall to see how you might support VBS either by helping prepare, working during the week or sponsoring us in some way.



St James' Episcopal Church, 2011



Duck Race Recap

The Ducks are gone for a year and the aprons put away. Unfortunately none of our parishioners won any of the direct Duck Benefit race prizes.

For the second year, we held our own prize drawing just for St. James' Duck supporters on Sunday, May 8th.

Winners were:

- Bruce & Joan Roberts - \$50.00 Macy's Gift Card
- The Scrutton Family - \$50.00 Elephant Bar Gift Card
- Alice & Mel Johnson - \$50.00 Elephant Bar Gift Card
- Val & Al Broke - \$25.00 Claim Jumper Gift Card
- Maggie Shalar - \$25.00 Starbucks Gift Card
- David Blalock - \$25.00 Trader Joe's Gift Card
- Marnie Hartman - See's Candy Gift Card

We offer a special Thank You to Cathy Knotts, Brad Hoffman, and to Tom & Gail Blalock for prize donations.

The Fremont "Kiwanis" Club sponsors this annual event. "Selling organizations" like St. James' have only to sell/buy the ducks from pledge forms pre-coded to St. James'. This year we earned \$1462.00 from our Duck sales, our best year in our 7 years of participation. We purchased 511 ducks (this includes the 6th free duck when five ducks were bought together) and St. James' ranked fourth in sales out of 27 organizations. Congratulations to all and Thank You to everyone who bought Ducks and who helped make this our most successful Duck benefit race event yet.

The report says that this year a respectable 7388 little *rubber duckies* fought it out to cross the finish line. Brad Hoffman collected St. James' check for over \$1460 at a Kiwanis meeting on May 17th and presented it to the parish on the following Sunday. On Race Day at Lake Elizabeth you could see Tom and Gail Blalock selling Kiwanis, Ducks assisted by Ruth Poole. The St. James' parishioners who were seen checking out the Duck race and festivities included Laura Winter and Brad Hoffman.

It was a fun day at Central Park.

Thank You for your Support!

Brad Hoffman & Tom Blalock

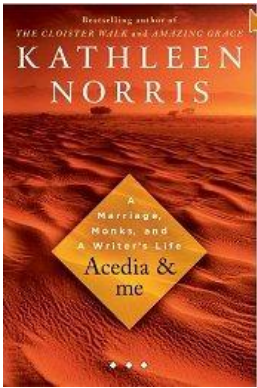
Staff

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- The Rev. Bob Dobbin.....deacon@saintj.com
- Office Administratoradmin@saintj.com
- Music Director.....music@saintj.com
- Treasurer.....treasurer@saintj.com
- Newsletter submission.....[window@saintj.com](mailto>window@saintj.com)

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- Junior Wardenjrwarden@saintj.com
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- Social Ministries/Congregational Caresocialministries-congcare@saintj.com
- Communications/Evangelism Cluster.....communications-evangelism@saintj.com
- Parish Life.....parishlife@saintj.com
- Facilities.....facilities@saintj.com

The Book Shelf



Acedia & Me: A Marriage, Monks, and A Writer's Life, by Kathleen Norris (Riverhead Books, 2008). Paperback, 334 pages, \$12.00 from amazon.com.

Have you ever read a book and wondered if the author had somehow placed a camera to record your entire life and then wrote that book about it? That's this book for me.

Norris, the author of the popular books *Amazing Grace* and *A Cloister Walk*, tells the story of her life-long struggle with Acedia. Acedia is "indifference." It is not the same as laziness, although laziness is usually included. It is not the same as clinical depression, although depression is usually included. It is not the same as boredom, although boredom is usually included. The indifference of acedia is best summed up by Kierkegaard: "I do not care for anything. I do not care to ride, for the exercise is too violent. I do not care to walk, walking is too strenuous. I do not care to lie down, for I should either have to remain lying, and I do not care to do that, or I should have to get up again, and I do not care to do that either. . . . I do not care at all." Thomas Merton concludes: "Acedia is far more insidious [than a lack of peace with others]: it is the sadness, the disgust with life, which comes from a much deeper source – our inability to get along with ourselves, our disunion with God."

The desert Fathers and Mothers were very familiar with acedia and learning to fight against it made up a large part of their spiritual discipline. Before we had the Seven Deadly Sins, the desert Fathers and Mothers had the Eight Bad Thoughts. Over time, acedia was folded into Sloth, and disappeared from our spiritual awareness as a separate vice. Norris is careful to distinguish acedia as a vice that requires spiritual intervention, separate from clinical depression which may require medical intervention. She describes her struggle with acedia during her academic life, long marriage, and her husband's final illness.

Acedia leads to scorn, lack of commitment for the long haul, giving up on doing well life's routine chores, and mindless consumerism. Norris tells us that the cure for acedia is humility and generosity, along with spiritual practices such as prayer and reciting the Psalms; these things bring benefit even if one doesn't want to do them. The book concludes with 43 pages of quotes from writers and philosophers over the past 2000 years describing acedia and its effect on life. If you can find yourself in any of these quotations, this book is probably for you.

Reviewed by Janet Fischer

Photos for Directory Picture

To all St. James' parishioners! We want you included in our new Picture Directory! Photos will be taken in the Parish Hall on Saturdays and Sundays June 4, 5, and 11, 12. Everyone can register in person on Sundays in May after services or access our website (www.saintj.com/directory) for a link to schedule a time. Each parishioner will receive a complimentary 8X10 portrait as well as a directory for participating. Photo sessions will be about 45 minutes to an hour. Participants will see their proofs immediately after being photographed and can also purchase additional portraits, such as billfold and a variety of other sizes of pictures. Contact Greg Scheuffele (gscheuffele@hotmail.com) or Valle Brokes (avbrokes@gmail.com) with questions.

Holy Week / Easter



Pictures taken by
LeaMarie Lucas



Your Faith Formation Class Suggestions



Goodbye Maggie

Please e-mail your suggestion for Faith Formation classes to brucelroberts386@sbcglobal.net Bruce Roberts your suggestions for Faith Formation classes.

Primarily the Faith Formation Team would like suggestions for the 9:15 AM Sunday morning Adult Faith Formation classes. If you have ideas for classes held evenings or Saturdays or other times, please indicate those as well. Classes or presentations can be single session or they can involve a curriculum spanning multiple sessions. Realistically we will probably not be able to support outside speakers due to budget constraints at the present time, but please suggest classes / subjects that may utilize an outside speaker for the future. Free would be good.

If you have a specific class in mind that would include specific materials such as books, DVDs or other media, please indicate them in your suggestion. Also indicate possible presenters, and location if other than Education Building classroom 1.

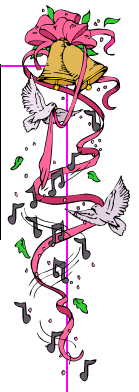
We value your input. E-mail is fast and easy to send, so we hope you can whip up a suggestion when you read this. You will be contacted by the Faith Formation Team regarding your suggestion.



| Financial Summary 30 April 2011 | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Fund Balances | <u>4/30/2010</u> | <u>4/30/2011</u> |
| Operating Fund | 32,372 | 54,052.96 |
| Building Fund | 15,825 | 25,702.86 |
| Year To Date Summary Operating | | |
| | <u>4/30/2010</u> | <u>4/30/2011</u> |
| Pledges Budgeted | 76,633 | 77,976.68 |
| Pledges Paid | 66,793 | 70,140.50 |
| Unpledged Contributions | 1,910 | 4,110.80 |
| Other Op Income | <u>7,222</u> | <u>7,087</u> |
| Total Operating Income | 75,925 | 81,338.55 |
| Total Operating Expenses | <u>80,733</u> | <u>79,049.13</u> |
| Income less Expense | (4,808) | 2,289 |

On May 15 we said goodbye and offered a special blessing to long-time parishioner Maggie Shalar before she moved to North Carolina. A member of St James' since 1979, Maggie has been an integral part of the community here. She was our Senior Warden twice, served on the altar guild, and was a member of the Memorial Garden committee since it was formed. She participated in many activities throughout the years.

Maggie, we thank you for helping form St James' into the community it is, and wish you many happy times with your grandchildren!



Lori's Wedding Shower



Pictures taken by
Marilyn Rose &
Karen Koonze





St. James' Prayer List

Most Holy God, we pray for:

Those Who Need Continued Healing: Brad, Florinne, David, Leon, Tim, Alyssa, Trinity & Holy Communion Church, Wayne, Eleanor, Annie, Aida, Leila, Verna, Sandra

Those Who Need Comfort and Strength: Doug & Family, Verna

Those Who Need Guidance and Direction: Kenny, Shaun, Aaron, Barbara, Michael, Victor, Catherine, Daniel, Gloria, Adrian, Paul, Deja, Jordon

Those Suffering Economic Hardship: Candace

Families Who Are Expecting Children: Martell & Ebony

Those in the Military: Scott, Jarrod, Angelina, Ryan, Bryan, Megan, Erica, Theresa, Mark, Mitch, Tim, Louis, Emily, Military Children of ACBSM, the families and Marines of Dark Horse Battalion, Darren, Caitlin

Those Who Are Traveling:

Those Who Have Died: Nancy, Inez, Joanne, Barbara, Evan, Doris, Phil Johnsen, Chris Williams, Carol Day



June Birthdays Celebrations

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 3 Max Whitaker | 15 Megan Vlastelica |
| Charles Paratore | Matthew Vlastelica |
| Bryneth Fuller | 16 Chris Lubwama |
| 4 Kitty Reed | 19 Margaret Allen |
| Dorothy Balderston | 21 Al Brokes |
| Nancy Castaneda | 22 Mark Locher |
| 5 Ivy Sankar | Tim Spencer |
| 9 Harold Benedict | 24 Arlinda Cosby |
| Beverly Sanders | 25 Joshua Wonycott |
| 10 Beth Newbrough | 26 Gregory Miller |
| Alison Dalmasso | 27 Marlene Benedict |
| Michael Dunn | 28 George Vlastelica |
| 12 Alyssa Lenart | Pat Vlastelica |
| 14 Rhonda Singh | |

June Anniversaries



- | |
|----------------------------|
| 12 Patrick & Jill Broun |
| Fred & Tammy Schlag |
| 19 Dick & Jan Aston |
| 21 Anne & Richard Wilcoxon |
| Karen & Tim Koonze |
| David & Judy Colby |
| 22 Judy & Charlie Peeler |
| Kem & Renee David |
| 26 Grant & Tina Davis |
| Keith & Sherea Westra |
| 27 John & Joan Kimber |
| 28 Tim & Pamela Young |

Please note: If your birth month or anniversary is in this month and your name(s) is not listed or the information is incorrect, please email the appropriate information to admin@saintj.com



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



SAINT JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Thornton Avenue at Cabrillo Terrace
PO Box 457
Fremont, CA 94537-0457
www.saintj.com

SUNDAY SERVICES AT
8:00 AM & 10:30AM
FAITH FORMATION SUNDAY 9:15-10:15AM
SECOND SUNDAY SERVICE AT 6:00 PM
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10-:30-11:15AM
WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST AT 10:00 AM
YOUTH GROUP SECOND SUNDAY
AT 7:00-8:30PM

OFFICE HOURS
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM
MONDAY - FRIDAY
TEL: (510) 797-1492

Rector

[The Rev. Lori Walton](#)

Deacon

Rev. Bob Dobbin

Administration

[Office Administrator: Aimee Garza](#)

[Music Director: Katherine LaRose](#)

Sexton: Art Gallardo

Office email: admin@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

Newsletter submission . [window@saintj.com](mailto>window@saintj.com)

The Vestry of St. James'

[Senior Warden](#)

Mary Casas

[Junior Warden](#)

Andy MacRae

[Christian Formation](#)

Stephen Ferro

Janet Fischer

Marlene Benedict

[Communications & Evangelism](#)

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