

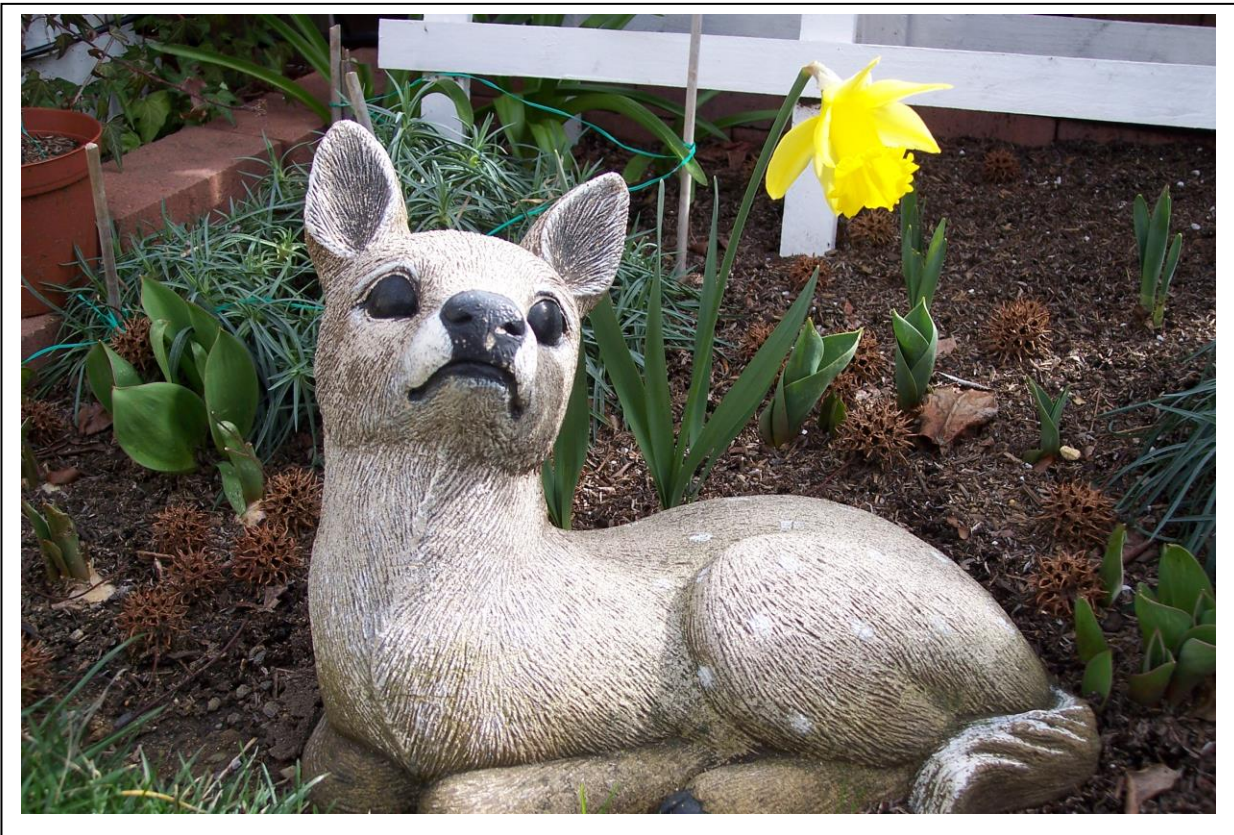
ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH
HISTORIC RED CHURCH NEWSLETTER



MARCH 2019

Hello St. James Family,

Well, Spring is almost here!



Due to our recent snow storms, we had to cancel church services two weeks in a row. We are blessed by our water supply due to the storms, however we really missed seeing our church family. It was so good to be with you all again last Sunday on the 24th of February.

Lots of news for March 2019 and April 2019. We are now approaching the season of Lent, which involves a lot of events. Lent is always started off with the Shrove pancake supper on Tuesday, March 5th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.. Dak and Ashley Champeaux have volunteered to make the same delicious pancakes that they served last year. All of the trimmings will accompany the pancakes. Everyone is welcome, friends, family and all. There is no charge just come. Please RSVP to the church office (209) 532-1580. Thank you Dak and Ashley for offering your services.

On March 6th Ash Wednesday services at 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.. A soup luncheon will follow the 11:00 a.m. service.

Starting March 8th Stations of the Cross will be held at 6:00 p.m. every Friday until Easter Sunday. This is a very meaningful and touching service making us very aware of what Lent and Easter is all about.

Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead on Sunday, March 10th the start of Daylight Savings time. Thank goodness we will have sunshine longer in our days.

St. Patrick's Day is on Sunday, March 17th.

Sunday, April 14th is Palm Sunday. This is a very special service. Please join us for this meaningful Lent occasion.

Thursday, April 18th at 6:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship Service at St. James. Followed by a Seder Dinner in the social hall. Once again all are welcome. There is no charge. Please call the church office (209) 532-1580 to RSVP.

Friday, April 19th Is the Good Friday Service at 12 noon at St. James.

Saturday, April 20th is The Great Easter Vigil Service at 6:00 p.m. at St. James. Bring your bells to ring.

Sunday, April 21st is our most Glorious Easter Service at St. James. Bring your bells to ring.

Please put all of these dates on your calendar. We look forward to celebrating this most meaningful time with all of you. Please see full schedule for all services attached to our newsletter.

The Red Church Thrift Store staff is working hard to make it more successful. Please encourage your friends, family and neighbors to visit the store to see what treasures can be found there.

The Prayer Chain continues to be active. For prayer requests contact Liz Bartnek, or Ruth Walter. When you inform the office of any prayer needs, please also call Liz or Ruth so the prayer chain can also pass on the prayers. Also if anyone is aware of a church member who is ill or in any other need, please contact Sylvia Ward. She is our greeting card lady.

We are in need of more Altar Guild members. If you are interested in joining the Altar Guild, please contact Debi Esque:

Debi Esque has volunteered to help with care taking needs in the parish. If you have a need, contact Debi Esque:.

Thank you Dak for being our Music Director. Please consider joining the choir under Dak's professional leadership and training. Choir practice is now held in the social hall at 9:00 a. m. on Sunday mornings. How good it is to sing praises to our God. A big thank you to Flo Duncan and Susan Reid for our beautiful piano accompaniment at choir practice and all of our worship services.

Thanks to Mary Lynn Ashburn for her continued work for the Back Pack Program. Thanks to all who donate to this much needed ministry and all who work for the needs of the homeless

Fr. Walter and the staff wish to thank everyone for helping in many ways to enable our church family and membership to grow.

Thanks to all of our members who work so hard to help keep St. James a beacon to our community.

Please join us for our uplifting Wednesday service at 11:00 a.m. followed by healing prayers and a potluck. It is a most enjoyable gathering.

Be a witness for our Lord by inviting your friends and neighbors to our famous St. James historical Red Church services. All are welcome to this most friendly landmark church.

We are sending out the newsletter by E-mail. Please give us your current E-mail address so that we send you the newsletter and check your E-mail address for accuracy.

Anyone wishing to submit an article to our newsletter, please make sure to submit the article to Ruth Walter no later than the 25th of the month. Either E-mail it to vernelwalter@yahoo.com, or call (209) 888-1111.

Ruth Walter's new cell phone number is: (209) 888-1111 active starting March 1, 2019.

To have the “Friday Reflection”, the Diocese of San Joaquin newsletter sent to your email address weekly, use the website: <https://diosanjoaquin.org> and go to the home page and click on the Subscribe here button for the “Friday Reflections”.

LENTEN PROGRAM

Lent is a season of renewal. Part of our Lenten Program this year is to take on something new. As part of our meditation during these forty day of Lent, you are invited to take up and practice a rule of life called: **THE WAY OF LOVE**. Meditation guides for this rule of life called; “**THE WAY OF LOVE**” are available in the back of the church or in the Office.

Anyone paying attention in recent months knows Presiding Bishop Michael Curry has been telling us about a rule of life – **THE WAY OF LOVE**. We are called to **Turn, Learn, Pray, Worship, Bless, Go, and Rest**. The meditation guide we will be using in Lent gives us some starting points to try this rule of life.

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF SAN JOAQUIN

The Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin is inspired by our Baptismal call to strive for justice, peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being, our prophetic tradition, the call of the Gospel, and the life of Jesus himself. It is because of this that our diocese has engaged our world in these and other ways:

- *The homeless and back ministry.
- *Trafficking Education
- *Life Transformed: The Way of Love
- *Gun Violence
- * SJRAISE (San Joaquin Refugee And Immigration Support and Empowerment)

We will begin to have discussions about what each of these ministries entails and how we can support them. Not all members of our congregation are expected to have an interest in every one of these ministries. My prayer is that members of our congregation will find one or more of these ministries that engage our world to be of interest and passionate about.

Fr. Verne L. Walter

BISHOP'S WARDEN HAPPENINGS

Your Bishop's Warden is looking toward March

As we know the weather altered plans for us all during February. St. James Concert Series had to cancel the concert featuring the group from Lodi called "Music with Strings Attached", on snow day February 10th. Bishop David Rice had scheduled a visitation to St James Sonora on February 17th, with time set aside to preside at the Northern Deanery Meeting on Saturday the 16th. More snow!

The Northern Deanery Meeting was moved to St Paul's, Modesto and both Susie Reid and I attended representing St. James Sonora. The parish report for St James featured our work to restore the roof of the main Church building, the significant improvement in the Red Church Thrift Store operations resulting in profit and more secure jobs for all the employees there. Additionally, our effort to better support the Lighthouse Ministries work, with whom we share the Parish Hall space was reported.

We also announced the upcoming play to be premiered in the Red Church on March 17th "Truly Unforgettable". Michelle Allison, a regular at the annual Dr Martin Luther King Day celebration in Sonora will bring her new play showing the life of Natalie Cole and the relationship to the music of her famous father Nat "King" Cole. Lots of familiar & great music from the eras of both these stellar artists. Don't miss it.

During the meeting Bishop David talked about the upcoming San Joaquin Pilgrimage of Hope from May 5th through May 20th. The Pilgrimage will be a walking caravan from the Fresno Cathedral to the State Capital in Sacramento ending there on California's Day of the Immigrant. As pilgrimage, in Bishop David's words "as we walk and as we stop to rest, we will intentionally offer prayer, praise, and reflect the Jesus Movement in very obvious ways". Bishop David expects to lead this pilgrimage for the entire distance.

An "Invitation to Bid" was sent to 34 qualified roofing contractors for the restoration of the main Church building roof during summer this year. Bids are due back to St. James Sonora by April 2nd & we are hopeful of evaluating and selecting a successful bidder by mid-April. An informational report was prepared and sent to the Diocesan Council outlining the Roof Restoration effort.

Donations to St. James Episcopal Church while you shop. If you use Amazon to purchase, why not shop via smile.amazon.com? There, when you log in the first time, you can choose "St. James Episcopal Church, Sonora" as your charity. For each purchase via smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate a small percentage. While it may not seem like much, in just the last 3 months, Jeff and I have donated \$54.46. Every little bit helps. This only works via this portal to Amazon, not the regular Amazon.com and not the phone/tablet app. Thank you, Juli Fountain for the Information.

STEWARDSHIP

This is the first in a series of articles about Christian stewardship.

What is stewardship? Christian stewardship is the faithful management of all that God gives us—our time, our talents, the financial resources entrusted to us—all that we have and are. As stewards we offer a portion of what God has given us for God’s use through the church. God uses our offerings to transform us spiritually and to extend Christ’s transforming love to others.

Christian stewardship emphasizes the abundant gifts given to us by God and the abundant gifts we in turn want and need to give to God. This is why we exist as a congregation. This is what we have to celebrate! Our time! Our money! Our whole selves given as a gift to God!

Christian stewardship is giving with grateful and generous hearts. It is our response to God’s grace and abundance.

Fr. Verne L. Walter

TREASURER’S REPORT

January 31, 2019

OPERATING ACCOUNT BALANCE: 1-01-2019:		\$	40.43
Total Operating Income:	\$	9,152.01	
Less Total Disbursements:	\$	<u>8,771.07</u>	
Total Operating Fund Balance:	\$	380.94	\$ <u>380.94</u>
OPERATING ACCOUNT BALANCE: 1-31-2019:		\$	421.37

WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

Sunday 9:00 a.m., Choir Practice in Parish Hall.

Sunday 9:45 a.m., You are invited to join Fr. Verne for Morning Prayer in The Red Church Chapel.

Sunday 10:00 a.m., Worship Service in The Red Church followed by a light brunch. All are welcome.

Wednesday 11:00 a.m., Worship Service with Gospel reflection and sharing followed by a Healing Service in The Red Church. A potluck lunch following the Worship Service in the Parish Social Hall.

God's Blessings,

Fr. Verne & Ruth Walter and your St. James Family.

CALENDAR

MARCH 2019

Sunday, March 3, 2019: 9:00 a.m., Choir Practice in Parish Hall.

Sunday, March 3, 2019: 9:45 a.m., You are invited to join Fr. Verne for Morning Prayer in The Red Church Chapel.

Sunday, March 3, 2019: 10:00 a.m., Worship Service in The Red Church

Tuesday, March 5, 2019: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., There will be a Pancake Supper at The Red Church Parish Social Hall to celebrate Shrove Tuesday. If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to the Church Office, (209) 532-1580.

Wednesday, March 6, 2019: 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.,
Ash Wednesday services in The Red Church. A Soup Luncheon will follow the 11:00 a.m. service every Wednesday during Lent in the Parish Social Hall.

Wednesday, March 6, 2019: 1:00 p.m., Outreach Committee meeting.

Friday, March 8, 2019: 6:00 p.m., Stations of The Cross in The Red Church.

Saturday, March 9, 2019: 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., tour of the Historic Red Church.

Sunday, March 10, 2019: Daylight Savings Time begins.

Sunday, March 10, 2019: 9:00 a.m., Choir Practice in Parish Hall.

Sunday, March 10, 2019: 9:45 a.m., You are invited to join Fr. Verne for Morning Prayer in The Red Church Chapel.

Sunday, March 10, 2019: 10:00 a.m., **Worship Service** in The Red Church.

Wednesday, March 13, 2019: 11:00 a.m., Wednesday Service with Gospel reflection and sharing followed by a Healing Service in The Red Church Chapel. A potluck lunch follows the Worship Service in the Parish Social Hall in the Parish Social Hall.

Friday, March 15, 2019: 6:00 p.m., Stations of The Cross in The Red Church.

Sunday, March 17, 2019: 9:00 a.m., Choir Practice in Parish Hall.

Sunday, March 17, 2019: 9:45 a.m., You are invited to join Fr. Verne for Morning Prayer in The Red Church Chapel.

Sunday, March 17, 2019: 10:00 am, **Worship Service** in The Red Church.

Sunday, March 17, 2019: 12:00 noon, Bishop's Committee Meeting in the library.

Sunday, March 17, 2019: 3:00 p.m., "Truly Unforgettable", a premier play by Michelle Allison in The Red Church.

Wednesday, March 20, 2019: 11:00 a.m., Wednesday Service with Gospel reflection and sharing followed by a Healing Service in The Red Church Chapel. A potluck lunch follows the Worship Service in the Parish Social Hall in the Parish Social Hall.

Friday, March 22, 2019: 6:00 p.m., Stations of The Cross in The Red Church.

Sunday, March 24, 2019: 9:00 a.m., Choir Practice in Parish Hall.

Sunday, March 24, 2019: 9:45 a.m., You are invited to join Fr. Verne for Morning Prayer in The Red Church Chapel.

Sunday, March 24, 2019: 10:00 a.m., **Worship Service** in The Red Church.

Sunday, March 24, 2019: 3:00 p.m., St. James Concert Series - Jazz @8 and Scholarship Winners in The Red Church.

Wednesday, March 27, 2019: 11:00 a.m., Wednesday Service with Gospel reflection and sharing followed by a Healing Service in The Red Church Chapel. A potluck lunch follows the Worship Service in the Parish Social Hall in the Parish Social Hall.

Friday, March 29, 2019: 11:00 a.m., St. James Concert Series Board meeting in the The Red Church Chapel.

Friday, March 29, 2019: 6:00 p.m., Stations of The Cross in The Red Church.

Sunday, March 30, 2019: 9:00 a.m., Choir Practice in Parish Hall.

Sunday, March 30, 2019: 9:45 a.m., You are invited to join Fr. Verne for Morning Prayer in The Red Church Chapel.

Sunday, March 30, 2019: 10:00 a.m., **Worship Service** in The Red Church.

Submitted by Amateur Publisher: Ruth Walter

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[Facebook.com/StJamesEpiscopalChurchSonora](https://www.facebook.com/StJamesEpiscopalChurchSonora)

The Most Rev. Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop
The Right Rev. David Rice, Bishop
The Rev. Cn. Anna Carmichael, Canon to The Ordinary
The Rev. Verne L. Walter, Priest-in-Charge
The Rev. Amy Larsen, Deacon
The Rev. Michael Backlund, Associate Priest
The Rev. Andy Anderson, Supply Priest
Ron Sneddon, Bishop's Warden
People's Warden