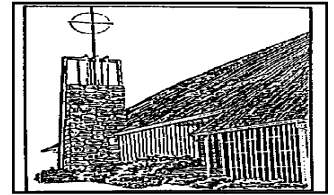


The Pulse



Volume 36, Issue 10
November 2004

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MARY ROBINSON-MOHR

What beautiful fall weather we are having! The lowered sunshine of the season really brings out the vibrant colors of changing leaves. Add to that the thrill of Mount Saint Helens' progressive bursts, and the hype preceding the upcoming presidential election, and we are having a memorable season indeed.

Fall of 2004 at Saint James Presbyterian is memorable, too. Watch for either a mailing or a contact by way of "saddlebag" from the Pony Express pledge drive soon. Our pledge drive begins Sunday, October 24, and runs through Sunday, November 14. I believe "Roy Rogers" makes an appearance in our worship service at the beginning of the pledge drive. All in all, this harvest time swathed in golds, bronzes, reds, oranges, browns, and maroons is a season to take stock of what we have, what we do, and who(se) we are.

It is with a bittersweet note that I also contemplate the recent losses we have had in our congregation. We have lost by death a notable number of brothers and sisters in the faith who have been a central part of the life of Saint James for years. While we rejoice that they go before us into the Realm of God, we need to take up the load that they have carried for us over the years. Without their endless hours of cooking in the church kitchen, or hauling building materials in a pick-up, or teaching Sunday School classes and Bible studies, or quietly giving a monetary gift to keep heat in and rain out, or serving on Session or as a Deacon, or sharing their musical talent, or ushering and inviting visitors to coffee, or praying for others in crisis, or just showing up to be part of Christ's community, we would not have a church to meet our needs. These persons, known and unknown, a part of the "great cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 11 and 12), have given to the church during their lifetime so that we - and others yet to come - can also hear and gather around the Good News.

Please consider these things as you reflect upon your gifts of time, talent, and treasure during the Pony Express pledge drive. It is time for a new generation to begin to inhabit what others have built, and to continue to build upon it for others. This is similar to the situation of Israel in Deuteronomy. A raggle-taggle assortment of slaves becomes a landed, self-sustaining people. This change did not happen because they were wonderful or superior, but by the grace of God. They are reminded of this in Deuteronomy 6:10-12:

"When the LORD your God has brought you into the land that he swore to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you - a land with fine, large cities that you did not build, houses filled with all sorts of goods that you did not fill, hewn cisterns that you did not hew, vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant - and when you have eaten your fill, take care that you do not forget the LORD, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery."

Thanks be to God for those who have gone before us, and thanks be to God for those who will come after us. In the meantime, give thanks to God with all of your being!

Grace and Peace, Pastor Mary

St James Presbyterian Church
910 14th Street ~ Bellingham, Washington 98225
phone: (360)733-1325 fax: (360)733-1664 e-mail: stjpres@msn.com

FROM THE INTERFAITH COALITION

Volunteer training begins for *Faith in Action* Friendly Visitors program

Interfaith Coalition's new program, *Faith in Action* Friendly Visitors, launches next month with the first orientation and training of volunteers on Saturday, Nov. 13, from 9 a.m. to noon at the First Congregational Church, 2401 Cornwall Ave. in Bellingham.

Faith in Action Friendly Visitors program reaches out to older members of our community whose health and well-being may improve through increased social contact. The program matches compassionate volunteers with senior neighbors, providing regular opportunities for social connection through home visits and telephone reassurance calls. All interested volunteers must complete an initial training session before being matched with a senior neighbor. Training includes discussion of topics such as characteristics and needs of lonely and isolated seniors, qualities of effective companionship, availability of community resources, and importance of client confidentiality.

In addition to volunteers for the *Faith in Action* Friendly Visitors program, Interfaith Coalition is interested in hearing from anyone who knows of senior neighbors who may wish to be matched with a friendly visitor.

Please contact Anne Fons, program director, at **734-3983** if you're interested in attending the volunteer training.

Concert to benefit Interfaith Coalition

David Goliath's Old Time Gospel Band performs selections from its debut CD at a benefit concert for Interfaith Coalition Friday, Nov. 12, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 2401 Cornwall Ave., Bellingham. Proceeds from the concert support the medical, dental and behavioral-health care provided by Interfaith Community Health Center.

David Goliath's Old Time Gospel Band is fronted by Korby Lenker of Bellingham's acclaimed bluegrass band. The Barbed Wire Cutters, which has three CDs to its credit. Lenker was one of 10 emerging artists selected from a field of 500 candidates to perform recently at the Americana Music Conference in Nashville.

General-seating tickets for this family friendly concert are \$10 each or \$5 for children 12 and younger. They may be purchased at the door or through Interfaith Coalition, **734-3983**. Doors open at 7 p.m.

HOW TO REACH YOUR PASTOR

The Rev. Mary Robinson-Mohr

910 14th St. Bellingham, WA 98225
 (360)-733-1325 church
 (360) 715-3157 home

FOOD BANK!



Remember to
 bring canned food each
 Sunday for our
 Food Basket in the Narthex.

ST. JAMES PRAYER CHAIN/ E-MAIL TEAM

If you have a
 prayer request for
 the St. James
 Prayer Chain/E-
 mail Team

call Linda Monroe
 at
 360-671-6594
 or e-mail her at
 Lidale@aol.com

The Angel Tree will be coming soon!



As in previous years,
 the Mission/Social Action committee
 will organize the Angel tree to provide
 Christmas gifts for needy families,
 selected by Interfaith Coalition.
 Details will follow in future Sunday
 bulletins.

EARLY MORNING PRAYER GROUP CELEBRATES 21 YEARS THIS JANUARY FROM FAYE HILL

On a dark and cold Tuesday morning in January, 1983, a small group of devoted pray-ers gathered in the St. James library at 6:30 am to begin a tradition that still continues today. The early meeting time was determined because each of the participants was working at the time and some of us needed to be at our jobs by 7:30 am. Today most of us have retired from our jobs, but we continue to enjoy beginning our Tuesdays in this very meaningful way.

We follow a model shared with us by Sister Florence Leone of the Kairos House of Prayer in Spokane. Sister Florence was invited to lead a two-day St. James Prayer Retreat at Lairmont Manor on January 14th and 15th, 1983. Fifty four members of our congregation attended the retreat. The model she gave us involves praying with the scripture. We use a different scripture each week which is read three times during the 40 minutes that we meet. We continue to be amazed at how the power of the scripture gives vitality and depth to our prayers. By repeating the scripture three times, we allow the meaning of the scripture to speak to us at a very deep level, preparing our hearts for God's word to be heard. We pray for the needs of our members, neighbors, the community, the world and ourselves.

We would love to have more St. James people join with us. We admit that the time is early, but we do not apologize for it. Rather, we invite you to find out for yourself how powerful this time can be. We meet every Tuesday at 6:30 am in the Lounge.

A PRAYER FOR PEACEMAKERS

God whose will is peace,
We pray for the visionaries of Colombia, the United States of America and the world who dream dreams and see new possibilities.
We pray for the hope sharers of Colombia, the United States of America and the world who do not give in to despair,
who seek to bring healing to broken hearts, broken communities, and broken institutions.
We pray for the peacemakers,
who practice nonviolence, who seek justice.
We pray for the risk takers,
who know that the costs of resisting are great
but who recognize that the risks of going along
with evil are even greater.
By your Holy Spirit, nurture and guide them.
By your Holy Spirit, inspire others to join them.
By your Holy Spirit, move us to support them.
Bless the efforts to bring peace and justice to Colombia, the United States of America and the World.
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

PRAY FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The monthly prayer vigil for peace in the Middle East continues on the 18th day of each month at 5:30 p.m. The next prayer vigil will be

**Thursday,
November 18**

**Assumption Catholic
Church**

**2116 Cornwall Ave.
715-8237**

**Come and join us in
this important time of
prayer.**



Amer-

FROM THE COLOMBIA RESOURCE BOOKLET,

THE PONY EXPRESS IS COMING BACK

FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Once again the popular Pony Express is coming to our church!

We have eleven Trail Boss Route Riders ready to ride in the important Pony Express that starts on Sunday, October 24.

Our church's last Pony Express stewardship program was a spiritual blessing and a financial success. It involved everyone, was a joy to be a part of, and inspired a deeper level of commitment to Christ and His Church.

Key leaders for this year's campaign have been working hard preparing for the Pony Express Run – including Jack Drury, General Manager; Betty Miller, Stewardship Chairperson; Wendy Crandall, Finance Leader; Pastor Mary Robinson-Mohr, Pastor Support; Margaret Van Zanten, Stewardship Studies Enabler; Shirley Drury, Route Secretary; Susan Burkland, Chief Cook; and the following Trail Bosses who will conduct the eleven saddle bag routes: Renée Meyer, Scott Wenger, Rook Van Halm, Faye Hill, Cheryl McGregor, Bruce Kraig, Mark Danielson, Bryan Brink, Joe Pickard and Susan Snyder. In addition to our Pony Express team members, David Meyer and Randy Mohr will assist the team in the “moment for Stewardship” skit to be presented on kick-off Sunday, October 24.

Betty Miller, our Stewardship and Budget Committee Chairperson, reported to the Session that our income from pledges in 2004 could end the year about \$5,000 less than required to meet our church's budget. This is due to loss of members by death, by members that have relocated, and/or members who have had changes in their economic situations.

The committee has identified areas and functions where spending could be slowed or eliminated. Standing committees have also been asked to cut expenses where possible.

As a result of our income shortfall, the committee has recommended a budget for 2005 that is less than 2004. Our pledge goal has been lowered slightly for 2005 to match our lowered budget expectations.

The committee recommends that pledging families, who are able financially, increase their 2005 pledges by 10% over their 2004 pledges. In addition the committee is asking new families and those families that have not been pledging to prayerfully consider their gratitude for God's love and goodness and their desire to contribute to God's work in the world when filling out their pledge card.

Let's all support our 2005 Pony Express Stewardship Drive and make it an outstanding success.

Jack Drury, General Manager Pony Express Program

A reminder as to how the Pony Express works:

The Trail Bosses will deliver the saddlebags to the first family on their respective routes. Congregation families are asked to promptly fill out their pledge cards and Time and Talent sheets, return these items to the saddlebag, then pass it along to the next family on the route list. A complete list of instructions is included in each saddlebag.

The Pony Express Drive will conclude at our Stewardship Dedication Sunday November 14.

St. James Events Calendar

November 2004

S U N

M O N

T U E

W E D

T H U

F R I

S A T

1
12:45 pm Cub Scouts
6:30 Boy Scouts

2
Election Day
6:30 am Prayer Gr.
5 pm Stewardship
5:30 Al Anon
7 Gender Gr.

3
6 pm Wednesday night study
7 A.A. Men

4
2 pm Membership
5 Worship comm.
7 Christian Ed.
6:30 Bell Ch.
7:30 Chancel Ch.
7:30 A.A.

5
Weaver's Guild Workshop

6
Weaver's Guild Workshop
10 am O.A.

7
Communion
1 pm New Member Orientation
3 Session
Youth Group:
4 Senior High
5 Junior High

8
6:30 Boy Scouts

9
6:30 am Prayer Gr.
5:30 pm Al Anon
6:30 Brownies
7 Gender Gr.
7 Co-op Preschool
7 Personnel

10
Pulse items due!
5 pm Mission & Social Action
5:30 Weaver's Guild
7 A.A. Men

11
Veteran's Day
6:30 Congregational Life
6:30 pm Bell Ch.
7:30 Chancel Ch.
7:30 A.A.
Church office closed

12
Session Retreat

13
Session Retreat
10 am O.A.

14
9 am College breakfast & Bible study
Stewardship Dedication
11:45 Deacons
5 – 6:30 pm Youth Group

15
6:30 Boy Scouts

16
6:30 am Prayer Gr.
5:30 pm Al Anon
7 Gender Gr.

17
Presbytery at Quilcene
7 A.A. Men

18
10 am *Pulse* Crew
5:30 pm Prayer Vigil -Assumption Catholic
6:30 pm Bell Ch.
7:30 Chancel Ch.
7:30 A.A.

19
6 pm Prime Timers

20
9 am – 1 pm Church Work Party
10 am O.A.

21
Carla Shafer, guest preacher
5 – 6 pm Youth Group Formal
Fast Food Night

22
6:30 Boy Scouts

23
6:30 am Prayer Gr.
5:30 pm Al Anon
6:30 Brownies
7 Gender Gr.

24
7 A.A. Men
7:30 Worship Thanksgiving Eve

25
Thanksgiving Day
7:30 A.A.

Church office closed

26

Church office closed

27
10 am O.A.
12 – 10 pm N.A.

28
3:30 pm Advent Festival

29
6:30 Boy Scouts

30
6:30 am Prayer Gr.
10:30 Women's Bible Study
12 pm Women's luncheon
5:30 Al Anon
7 Gender Gr.

9:00 am
10:30 am
10:45 am
12:30 pm
7:00 pm

Every Sunday
Adult class
Worship
Church School for children
Korean worship
AA

NOVEMBER WORSHIP TOPICS

November 7

Communion Sunday
Haggai 1:15b – 2:9
Luke 20:27 - 40
“A Whole New World”

November 14

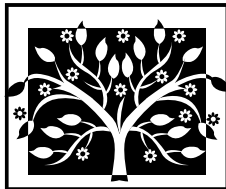
Stewardship Commitment Dedic-
ation
Isaiah 65:17 - 25
Luke 21:5 – 19
“Meaning in the
Meltdown”

November 21

Carla Shafer,
guest preacher
“Shepherd, Super
Hero or King? Sheep, the Saved or
Subjects?”

November 28

First Sunday in Advent
Isaiah 2:1 – 5
Matthew 24:36 – 44
“When Life Isn’t
Perfect”



November Birthdays

3 Irene Rome
6 Emma Conlee
7 Jean Seater
7 Ricky Hodgson
10 Dick Johnson
10 Dorothy Herrmann
10 Courtney Todd
11 David Seater
12 Julie Keyes
15 Denise Hoffman
19 Nancy Wagar
20 Bill Hatch
20 Vicki Griffith
20 Jean Kaufman
20 Caitlin Lockhart
22 Margaret deMaine
22 Miranda Keefe
22 Marilyn Madden
23 Sue Jamps
24 Eva Landis
24 Henry Von Bargaen
26 Dale Monroe
27 Wendy Crandall
28 Jack Brown
28 Gladys Eckhart
29 Charlie Griffith
29 Kraig Keyes
30 Brian Hodgson

November Anniversaries

4 Wally & Jane Botsford 14 Bob & Irene Rome

NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION

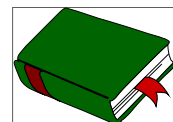
Would you like to explore membership in St. James Presbyterian Church? A New Members Orientation will be held on Sunday, November 7 at 1:00 p.m. There will be an opportunity following the orientation to meet with the Session to request membership. It couldn't be any easier! Childcare is available upon request.

Questions? Need more information? Call the church office at 733-1325, or talk with Pastor Mary.

COME, THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME! THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

Come worship with brothers and sisters in several congregations as we gather together for an ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 24, 2004, at 7:30 p.m. Saint James Presbyterian Church will host this special opportunity to worship. Come, give thanks, and give praise to our God!

2004 Mission Yearbooks



Available for
\$1.00
plus shipping

Please contact the church office if you would like to order one.

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Women's Group Bible Study

"Quotable Women in Scripture"

10:30 a.m. on the last Tuesday of each month in the Lounge
(before the Women's Luncheon)

November 30

Women's Association Luncheon

Bring a friend if you like, and a salad to share. All women are invited for food, fun and fellowship, last Tuesday of every month at 12 pm!

November 30

Questions? Please call Phyllis Jones, 734-4504



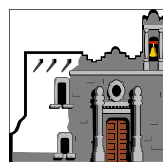
The monthly all church clean-up landscaping ~ fix-it ~ workday will be

YOUTH NEWS

BY MEGAN STAMPFLI

Hey Youth and Parents!

November is going to be an exciting month. Not only do you get two four-day weekends from school, but also youth group is going to rock! On Sunday the 7th, immediately after church (or about 11:45) we will be having a Mexico Mission Trip interest meeting. Please come or send a personal representative to gather all of this important information. If you can't make this important meeting at all, but would still like to go, send me an email or give me a call. Later in November, on the 21st, we will be having a "Formal Fast Food Night." If you don't already know what this is keep reading. We will meet at the church at 5:00 in our favorite formal, tacky formal, or as-close-to-formal-as-you-have wear. Then we will drive to four different fast food restaurants and have a progressive dinner: appetizer, salad, entrée, and dessert. However, we still need parent drivers to sign up to take us on this adventure, as well as parents to sign up to help with regular youth group meetings. I hope your breaks from school in November will keep you well energized for all of the youth group fun!



**Saturday
November 20
9am - 1pm**

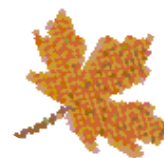
Autumn is upon us, and so are the fall chores! Bring your favorite tools, and join us in maintaining our lovely church.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

PAT NELSON, REPORTER

738-9982

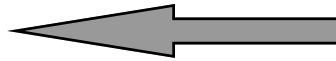
- ◆ **Laura Cheifetz** has been accepted to a travel seminar to Egypt for the January term. Congratulations, Laura!
- ◆ **Laura Hatch**, the granddaughter of **Evelyn and Bill Hatch**, who lives in Redmond, was found after being confined for eight days in her wrecked car without food or water. It is a miracle that she survived and was found. It is the answer to the thousands of prayers of family, friends, and total strangers. She is in the care of wonderful doctors at Harborview Hospital in Seattle. Prayers are needed now for her healing and for the family to recover from the trauma. Evelyn and Bill are thankful for the support they have received and thank God for this miracle.
- ◆ **Jenny Sue LeSchander** is currently in training for the Seattle marathon, which takes place on Nov. 28. She has never run one before, and in fact this will be her first race ever! She has been training with Bellingham Fit since May 29. We'll be cheering for you, Jenny Sue!
- ◆ **Wayne Keller** participated in senior games competitions this summer in Seattle, Puyallup, Olympia and Bremerton. At Puyallup alone, he won seven golds and six silvers AND all blue ribbons. Not too shabby, Wayne!
- ◆ **Dave & Pat Nelson** just returned from a 10 day trek through the New England states. They said the fall colors got better the longer they were there. Pat's favorites were the Newport Mansions and a 45 min. narrated ferry trip through the Thimble Islands in CT. Dave enjoyed touring the USS Constitution narrated by naval personnel and the Mystic area. Most of a day was spent in the Village & seeing tall ships and listening to sea chanties & scheduled demonstrations of catching lobster and hoisting sails. After 3 days in Boston on foot & trolley, they rented a car & drove as far north as Portland, Maine. Pat says, "The weather was perfect & people were quick to help if they saw us looking at tour maps. The food & views were awesome making it one of our most pleasant vacations." Both are ready to go again & do other things, as well as stay longer.
- ◆ **The Crandall Family** was featured in the October 15 edition of the Bellingham Herald "Neighbors Profile" section. In addition to having several members on the front cover of the paper, **Tim** was highlighted in the special insert. We were proud to see that mentioned "your church," Tim!



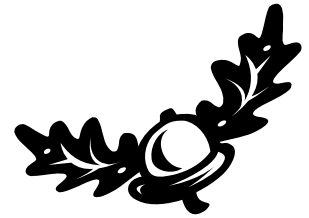
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910 14th Street
Bellingham, WA 98225

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Pat Nelson
Helen Paulsen
Mel Reasoner
Margaret Rice
Inge Thurston

WORSHIP TAPES AVAILABLE FOR LOAN.

Our morning worship service is audio-taped each Sunday.
If you know of anyone who would like a copy of any recent service, please check one out in the church library.



SUNDAY MORNING PARKING

Four reserved (handicapped) parking spaces are designated in our front, 14th Street parking area. In addition to these designated spaces, we would like to save all of the 14th Street parking on Sunday mornings during the Worship Service for those who need level access and our first-time visitors. If you have no difficulty climbing stairs, please use the lower parking area or the Lowell playground lot. The Lowell lot is accessed off of Taylor between 14th and 15th. There is a stairway down to 14th at the south end of the area.



***The Pulse* is published once per month, with the exception of the combined July/August issue.**

Articles and announcements for the next issue must be **received** in the church office no later than Wednesday, **November 10, 2004**. That issue will be mailed Thursday, **November 18**. If you have something that you would like considered for publication, call the church office at 360-733-1325, e-mail stjpres@msn.com, put it in *The Pulse* box near the church office or mail it to St. James Presbyterian Church, 910 14th Street, Bellingham, WA 98225.