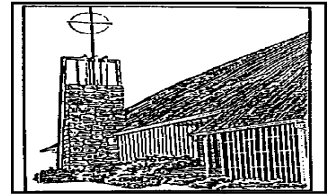


The Pulse



Volume 37, Issue 4
April 2005

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MARY ROBINSON-MOHR

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

(2 Corinthians 4:16-18)

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

We have completed our journey through Lent, and arrive at the door of an empty tomb. The Good News of Easter is Christ's resurrection, and the Good News of this resurrection is that life – and death – will never again be the same. As God's Easter people, we have a different perspective. We see that nothing – not even death – is beyond the transforming and hopeful work of God.

This means that, where the world would see hopeless entrenched warfare, we will hold out and work for peaceful solutions. This means that, where a marriage might disintegrate and end in divorce, we will see healing and new beginnings. This means that, where cycles of violence and abuse would seem to be all-powerful, we will see God urging the power of love as a more lasting bond. This means that, where pessimism and despair would overwhelm us, God gives us the courage and hope to move on. Most of all, this means that, where the world would see only dead ends, we see new beginnings and fresh possibilities.

So, we have arrived at the door of an empty tomb. What is there to see inside? Nothing, some would say. But remember, "...we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal."

Happy Easter season to you all!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Mary

APRIL WORSHIP TOPICS

April 3

Communion
*Daylight Saving
Time begins
Psalm 16:5-11
John 20:19-31
"Along Came Thomas"

April 10

Healing Service
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
Luke 24:13-35
"Living on the
Emmaus Road"

April 17

Churches Uniting in
Christ pulpit exchange
The Rev. Gary
Shoemaker, guest
preacher

April 24

Youth Sunday!

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

PULPIT EXCHANGE IN APRIL!

Sunday, April 17 will see different pastors in the pulpits of several Bellingham churches. Churches Unit-ing in Christ will sponsor a pulpit exchange that Sunday. Saint James will welcome Gary Shoemaker of First Christian Church that morning. Our pastor will preach in the pulpit of Garden Street United Methodist Church. Be sure to give a warm welcome to Gary that morning, and celebrate the unity that different churches can find in Jesus Christ!

SESSION INVITES YOU TO A STUDY

The Session has chosen to study a special program over the next several months. This is "Building Community Among Strangers: A Plan for Study and Action." It was developed by the General Assembly of our denomination and it "...presents a theological understanding for the challenges presented by the new reality of building community among strangers.... The policy statement and its recommendations call for renewed energy constructively working to overcome racism, put aside social class division, affirm equality between men and women where gender-based injustice divides, and to affirm that the Holy Spirit is at work in our interaction with people of other faiths and that the Gospel of Jesus Christ has no place for arrogance toward people of other faiths."

The Session will meet one hour before regular monthly meetings to participate in this study. They invite any and all interested members of the congregation to join them in this exploration of faith.

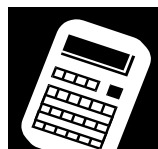
If you are interested, come join the Session on Sunday, April 10, at 6:00 p.m. Study books are available in the office for a suggested donation of \$4.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Thank you to all who have increased their pledge during the past month's supplemental pledge drive. A total of \$9,730 was pledged by 26 St. James households to fill the budget gap of \$15,309, leaving about 3% of the 2005 budget expenses unfunded. While this is still a substantial amount, the Stewardship and Budget committee has faith that the resources will be available when needed to fund both program needs and mission giving.

Thank you for your continued support!

Do you know where your "per capita" is? Each January, St. James pays a per member share to fund operating expenses for our Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. This year, that per member share came to just a few pennies short of \$40. Many St. James members choose to fund this expense separately from their pledged giving. So far in 2005, 54 members have done so. If you're not sure whether you have paid your per capita for 2005, feel free to contact Treasurer Wendy Crandall at the church office, 733-1325 extension 22.



The Interfaith Auction is coming soon!

"A Light on Our Path
through the Garden of Hope"

will be April 2 at 5:30 pm
at the Best Western
Lakeway Inn.

Enjoy friendly competition
and flavorful food in the
company of
Interfaith Coalition friends.

Your support benefits
local people in need.
Tickets: \$40 per person,
includes dinner. For more
information, call 734-3983.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

⇒ From **Bruce Kraig**: I'd like to share two letters (one from Pauline Stevenson and the other from Dorothy VanderWerff) that I received in May of 1994 when I was tired of coping with manic-depression.

“Dear Bruce: I understand how hard it is for you just now ... to continue the struggle and yet you have come so far over a difficult journey through life. You must not give up now! You have so much to offer this world. We need good people who care about the world and its people. We need your musical talent, and mostly we need you as an example to others who suffer from serious mental illness that with faith and friends we can hold on, and contribute – as you do in so many ways – till that maybe not so distant future when cures will be found. Do consider talking with a counselor and asking about adjustment of medications. I wish I could help you more, but I am here any time you need to talk or share a pot of tea! Love and prayers, Pauline”

“Dear Bruce, Your prayer request touched us all so deeply – I wonder if you know how many people in your church family (and especially your choir family) do care deeply about you and love you – In constant prayer for you – Earl and Dorothy”

Now you know why I cry buckets of tears when I remember Pauline and Dorothy. Their kindness helped me more than talk therapy and medications ever did. The past five years without talk therapy and medications have been some of the happiest years of my adult life. Faith, fellowship, family and friends have worked wonders. Thank you St. James!

If you have news you would like to share with the St. James family, please contact the church office (733-1325; stjpres@msn.com)

April Birthdays

- * * *
- 1 Alex Todd
 - 3 Carol Pagels
 - 4 Gil Thurston
 - 7 Mike Anderson
 - 7 Patty Cromarty
 - 7 Lillian Snow
 - 9 Gene Brown
 - 10 Rose & Gus Danielson
 - 10 Beti McCormick
 - 12 Jim Hawk
 - 12 Sally Crandall
 - 16 Erin Keyes
 - 17 Bruce Kraig
 - 18 Zach Mullen
 - 20 Shirley Drury
 - 20 Sally Albers
 - 21 Dorothy Daesner
 - 22 Battle Nelson
 - 22 Helen Paulsen
 - 25 Joe Pickard
 - 29 Margaret Snider
 - 30 Nicholas Jackson
 - 30 Mary Elmslie

April Anniversaries

* * *

- 4 Bob & Nancy Hamilton
- 6 Jack & Dorothy Brown
- 6 Joe & Karen Morse
- 8 Fred & Beti McCormick
- 20 Tom & Barb Kilpatrick
- 30 Jackie & Richard Cochinos

Wednesday Night Study continues...

This year's study series picks up again on April 6 at 6:45 pm. Join us for a closer look at the Gospel of Mark.

The study uses the book Say to This Mountain, written by a team of Catholic and Protestant authors who are committed to the work of justice and peace, the renewal of the church, and to Christian discipleship. Limited copies of this book may be borrowed from the Church, or you may purchase a copy for \$15.

April 6:
Mark 12: 1 – 13: 37
Study book: pages 159-178

Women's Spiritual Renewal: Celebrating Women in Ministry

May 13, 6-9 pm

The Congregational Life will be sponsoring this dinner / workshop. \$15 / person, includes a catered dinner in the Horizon Room. Childcare will be available.

More information to come in future bulletins...



St. James Events Calendar

April 2005

Every Sunday

9:00 am Adult class
10:30 am Worship
 10:45 am Church School for children
 12:30 pm Korean worship
 4:30 – 6 pm Youth Group
 7:00 pm AA

S U N M O N T U E W E D T H U F R I S A T

1
2
10 am O.A.

3 Daylight Savings Time Communion	4	5 6:30 am Prayer Gr 5 pm Co-op Pre-school – FH 5 Stewardship 5:30 Personnel 5:30 Al Anon 7 Gender Group	6 5 pm Mission & Soc. Act. 6 C.U.I.C. 6:45 Wed. Night Study 7 AA Men – FH	7 5 pm Christian Ed. comm. 5:30 Worship comm. 6:30 Bell Ch. 7:30 Chancel Ch. 7:30 AA	8 6 pm Prime Timers	9 9 am – 12 pm Church Work Party 9 am Saturday Morning Live! 10 am O.A.
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10 Healing Service 11:45 am Nominating comm.	11	12 6:30 am Prayer Gr 5:30 pm Al Anon 6:30 Brownies 7 Co-op Preschool 7 Gender Group	13 5:30 pm Weaver's Guild 7 AA Men – FH	14 2 pm Membership 4 Staff 6:30 Cong. Life 6:30 Bell Ch. 7:30 Chancel Ch. 7:30 AA	15 6:30 pm Women's Agapé Night Rummage sale set-up	16 9 am Rummage Sale 10 am O.A.
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17 C.U.I.C. Pulpit Exchange 11:45 Deacons 6 pm "Building Community" Study 7 Session	18 5:30 pm Prayer Vigil for Middle East Peace @ Our Saviour's Lutheran	19 6:30 am Prayer Gr 5:30 pm Al Anon 7 Gender Group	20 <i>Pulse</i> items due! 7 pm AA Men – FH U.M.H.E. ~ Jodi Magness	21 6:30 Bell Ch. 7:30 Chancel Ch. 7:30 AA U.M.H.E. ~ Jodi Magness	22 Earth Day	23 10 am O.A.
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24 9 am All-Parish Brunch Youth Sunday	25	26 6:30 am Prayer Gr 10:30 Women's Bible Study 12 pm Women's Assoc. luncheon 5:30 Al Anon 6:30 Brownies 7 Gender Group	27 5 pm U.M.H.E. 7 AA Men – FH	28 10 am <i>Pulse</i> Crew 6:30 Bell Ch. 7:30 Chancel Ch. 7:30 AA	29 6-7:30 pm Family & Single Adult dinner	30 9 am Weaver's Guild – HR 10 am O.A.
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WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Women's Group Bible Study
 "Quotable Women in Scripture"
 10:30 am April 26
 * * *

Women's Association Luncheon
 Bring a friend if you like, and a salad to share.
 All women are invited for food, fun and fellowship, at
 12 pm! April 26

Questions? Please call Phyllis Jones, 734-4504

ST. JAMES PRAYER CHAIN

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

SATURDAY MORNING LIVE!

"Environmental Stewardship" Wayne Landis, Pre-
 senter

Come join us again for Saturday Morning Live at St.
 James on **April 9, 9 – 10 a.m.** Come have a breakfast

NOTED ARCHAEOLOGIST TO VISIT BELLINGHAM

UMHE at WWU presents:

Dr. Jodi Magness

"Ossuaries and the Burials of Jesus and James"

WWU, Arntzen Hall 100
 Wednesday, April 20th, 7pm to 9pm

*No charge. Other events are in the planning stage for Professor Magness on April 20th and 21st.
 Check your bulletins and announcements for further details.

YOUTH NEWS BY MEGAN STAMPFLI

The most exciting news we have for April is Youth Sunday. On April 24th the youth will be leading worship at 10:30 following the parish brunch at 9:00am. We will be practicing for Youth Sunday on Friday the 22nd (Earth Day) so that our service will have a smooth flow.

We will have regular youth group from 4:30- 6:00 on all of the Sundays in April; however, April 10th is bring a friend night. Sunday school will be on the 3rd and the 17th.

On Saturday the 16th we will help sell plants at the Women's association rummage sale. The proceeds will benefit our summer mission trip and we would appreciate your support at this event. We would also like to thank everyone who signed up to have their windows washed in March. We earned \$360 on this fundraiser toward our Rancho Milagro mission trip.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: April 1st is April Fools Day, how long has it been since you've played a joke on someone. Please remember to glue a quarter to the sidewalk today or make a bunch of prank calls... especially you folks who think you are too old for that sort of thing.

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

All Parish Brunch:

9 am – Get to know your Deacons and fellow Parishioners during the annual All Parish Brunch! Bring yourself and your family for food and fellowship!

Youth Sunday:

St. James' Youth Group will be leading worship.
 Come see our best and brightest shine!

How to reach your Pastor:

The Rev. Mary Robinson-Mohr

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

WOMEN'S AGAPÉ NIGHT

Women's Agape' Friday
=
Christian women fellowship

Put **April 15** on your calendars.

Each month will be hosted by different women. The evening includes food, conversation, games and friendship building.

Hope to see you!

Save the Date!

**Nooksack Salmon
Enhancement
Association
&
Saturday Morning
Live: May 21**

9 am Presentation
10 am Field trip in the
Fairhaven area

*Sponsors: Christian
Education & Mission
and Social Action
committees*

**A retirement party for Tim and Karen
Lann of Birchwood Presbyterian**

will be held Friday, April 22 at 6 pm.

This is a celebration dinner and evening of adult fellowship, food, music, and sharing.

Cost is \$25 per person; reservations can be made by April 11 by contacting Ginger Hansey (734-5746) or Allyson Benner-Kennedy (733-8860).

There will also be a reception following the April 24 worship service at 9:30 am.

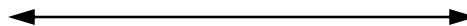
* * * * *
* The monthly all *
* church clean-up *
* * * * *
* landscaping ~ fix- *
* it ~ workday will *
* be *
* * * * *
* *Saturday* *
* *April 9* *
* *9 am - 12 noon* *
* * * * *
* Bring your favor- *
* ite tools, and join *
* us in maintaining *
* our lovely church! *
* * * * *

From the Whatcom Hospice:

**Living With Grief: Ethical Dilemmas
at the End of Life**

Hospice Foundation of America's
12th Annual free teleconference

Wednesday, April 20, 10 am - 1:30 pm
Whatcom Community College/Heiner Theatre
237 W. Kellogg Rd., Bellingham
Questions? 733-5877



Service of Remembrance
for family, friends and caregivers
who have recently lost a loved one

Sunday, April 24, 3-4:30 pm
Health Education Center
3333 Squalicum Pkwy, Bellingham
Questions? 733-5877

**PRAY FOR PEACE IN
THE MIDDLE EAST**

The next prayer vigil
will be

**Monday, April 18
5:30 pm**



**Our Saviour's
Lutheran Church**

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

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.



Maverette Butler
 Margaret de Maine
 Marion Dobbie
 Pat Nelson
 Mel Reasoner
 Margaret Rice

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, April 20 2005**. That issue will be mailed Thursday, **April 28**. 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.

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**If you wish to be added to or deleted from the church mailing list, please contact the church office:
 360-733-1325, stjpres@msn.com**

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