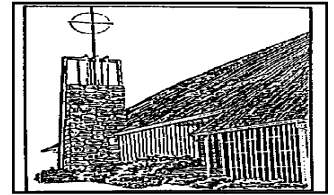


# The Pulse



Volume 37, Issue 5  
May 2005

## A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MARY ROBINSON-MOHR

What a beautiful spring we are having! It is wonderful to see things blooming in the sunshine. God's creation is indeed a wonderful gift. As God proclaimed in the creation account in Genesis 1, "It is good."

Many of you have commented to me recently about end of life issues, prompted by the media coverage of Terri Schiavo's case. Our denomination offers much guidance and discussion about a variety of issues in our world (sometimes to the chagrin of individuals). I want to share with you some of what I perceive as helpful theological guidance from the statements in recent years of our Presbyterian Church (USA)'s General Assembly about end of life issues.

Our Church has on its website a helpful summary of actions taken over recent years. In its summary on Biomedical Ethics, it states, "The last half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century has seen a revolution in biomedical technology. The ability to mechanically and/or medically prolong physical life and to determine the genetic characteristics of a human being months before birth have developed almost wholly within this period. With these developments has come an ethical dilemma: given the abilities of medical technology, what is it right to do?"

In a 1974 statement approved by the "Northern" Presbyterians, our church stated that it: "Affirms the right of older persons to stipulate that technology shall not be used to prolong biological functions when there is no medical hope of restoration to meaningful existence; and encourages older persons and their families, in consultation with their pastors, to plan for the closure of life, including appropriate measures in the treatment of terminal illness...." "Calls upon persons who are in relation with the dying to create a community in which the dying process is understood and accepted and to provide a supportive and sustaining fellowship through that dying process for both the dying person and the loved ones."

"The Covenant of Life and the Caring Community" was a comprehensive report approved in 1983. It was a long document that addressed a number of biomedical issues. Part of it states: "Great care must be given to decisions at the end of life so that the wishes of persons who are dying are heard and respected. Caution must be taken so that prolonging life does not become idolatrous. In all these areas, the church must defend life as God's good gift, affirm the responsibility of persons to make decisions about its quality and use, and recognize that each individual life is finite in its earthly tenure...." "As Presbyterians, we welcome the challenges that cause us to reexamine the boundaries and descriptions of our faith.

*continued on page 2...*

*...continued from page 1*

## MAY WORSHIP TOPICS

**May 1**  
**Holy Communion**  
Psalm 66:8-20  
John 14:15-21  
"Love Is Not Optional"

**May 8**  
**Happy Mother's Day**  
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35  
John 17:1-11  
"Left Behind?"

**May 15**  
**Day of Pentecost**  
Genesis 11:1-9  
Acts 2:1-21  
"A Conversation  
Between Heaven and Earth"

**May 22**  
**Music Sunday**  
**Trinity Sunday**  
Genesis 1:1-2:4a  
Matthew 28:16-20  
"Creator, Redeemer,  
Sustainer!"

**May 29**  
Psalm 46  
Matthew 7:21-29  
"A Tale of Two Houses"

St James Presbyterian Church  
910 14th Street ~ Bellingham, Washington 98225  
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## 2005 ST. JAMES DIRECTORY

The Membership committee, in collaboration with the church office staff, is happy to announce that the 2005 Directory is now available! Copies are available in the narthex. (If you aren't able to come to church, please call the office at 733-1325, and request that one be mailed to you.)

*Notice any errors? Mistakes? Corrections? Please notify the office as soon as possible. An addendum will be published in the near future!*

Scientific research has revealed to us that creation is not fixed, but ongoing; God calls us to be involved in the process. We behold God as the initiator and director of the process of continuing creation. Old securities are gone; new insecurities appear; hope and faith remain."

I would be glad to talk with any of you that have any lingering questions about end of life directives. In addition to the above statements, I am thankful for the overarching comfort of the Heidelberg Catechism, that proclaims "...I belong – body and soul, in life and in death – not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ..." I am also thankful for Romans 8, which celebrates that neither death nor life "...nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Grace and Peace, Pastor Mary

## PENTECOST OFFERING ~ MAY 15

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

I have a confession to make. Until I was elected Moderator of the General Assembly, I paid little attention to either the purpose or the impact of the Pentecost Offering.

What I've learned in the last two months is that it supports the ministries of our church that I care most about: programs for children at risk, for youth, and for young adults. Forty percent of the money raised in this Offering stays with you to use creatively in your own area. Some churches have allowed the youth to make their own decisions about where that money should go. Others have committed the money to after-school programs for kids who are at risk, to supporting church school teachers in partner churches around the world, or to helping their local public library develop a better children's section. Truly, we are limited only by our own creativity, and if you check out our Web site at [www.pcusa.org/pentecost/missionmap](http://www.pcusa.org/pentecost/missionmap) you can see just how creative our churches have been.

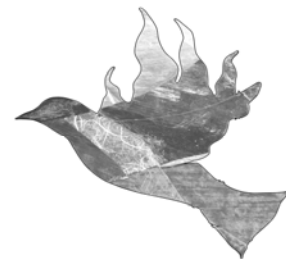
The other 60 percent of the Offering supports programs that are critical to our church: international and national Young Adult Volunteer programs, and programs supporting children and youth across the church. Supporting the Pentecost Offering is believing that we are a church with a future!

The PC(USA) has what I believe is the best volunteer program for young adults of any denomination. We send them in small groups to sites across the United States and around the world. They work in churches, schools, justice ministries, neighborhood centers—and the list goes on. They're making a real difference in the world, and they're rethinking their whole lives as a result of their experiences. These are the programs that are transforming who we are as a church in the world.

... so I send YOU

It can't be much clearer than that. We are sent into the world. We are sent to live what we believe. We are called to invest in our children, in our youth, in our young adults. Please make this special offering a priority this year—it's never been more needed than it is right now.

Rick Ufford-Chase Moderator of the 216th General Assembly



## DINE OUT FOR MAPLE ALLEY INN ~ MAY 3

The fifth annual “Dine Out for Maple Alley Inn” will take place Tuesday, May 3. More than 30 local restaurants will donate 20 percent of the day's sales to help feed people who are hungry.

“Dine Out” is a one-day, all-day event that raises money for Maple Alley Inn, an Opportunity Council program that prepares hot meals two days a week for people in need, including people who are homeless, working poor, elderly, disabled veterans and mentally ill. In 2004, “Dine Out” brought in a record amount of nearly \$16,000 in donations.

Community members can participate in the donation effort by dining out at one of the participating restaurants. Individual donations are also welcome to support Maple Alley Inn.

Sponsors for “Dine Out” are Whatcom Educational Credit Union, Brown and Cole stores, Bellingham Cold Storage, Hempler's BB Meat & Sausage, Credo Construction, Inc., Lithtex, KGMI radio and The Bellingham Herald.

For more information, and for names of participating restaurants (which is also posted in the office hallway at St. James), call the Opportunity Council at 734-5121, extension 333, or visit the “Dine Out” website at [www.opcco.org/dineout](http://www.opcco.org/dineout).

### St. James Friday Night Social and Kid's Group

Join us for an evening potluck with time afterwards for visiting with our St. James family. If you like, bring games, cards, sewing/knitting projects, music, books, or anything else that would be fun. Kids through fifth grade can participate in organized (and probably some unorganized!) games, and learn a bit about Northern Ireland. Any Irish items they would like to bring and discuss are welcome.

WHEN: May 27, 6 pm

WHERE: Fellowship Hall (please come to the downstairs door)

WHAT: Potluck dinner starting at 6; please bring a dish to share. Kids' group to start around 6:30.

Questions? Contact Patti Cromarty at 595-2639

### Women's Spiritual Renewal Dinner:

Friday, May 13, 6-9 pm

#### “Celebrating Women in Ministry”

Guest Speaker: Dottie Villevik

Come and be spiritually refreshed with your St. James sisters.

Secret Sisters Revealed and Renewed!

Bring your friends, daughters and mothers!

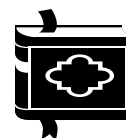
The Congregational Life will be sponsoring this dinner / workshop. \$15 / person, includes a catered dinner in the Horizon Room. Childcare will be available.

### May 4 is the last Wednesday Night Study in this series

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.

May 4:  
Mark 14:1 – 16:8  
Study book: pages 181-212



# St. James Events Calendar

# May 2005

Every Sunday

9 am Adult class  
 10:45 am Church School  
 for children  
 4:30 – 6 pm Youth Group  
 7 pm Girl Scouts

**10:30 am Worship**  
 12:30 pm Korean Worship  
 7 pm AA

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 <b>Communion</b> 6 pm Girl Scouts	2 12:45 pm Cub Scouts 6:30 Boy Scouts	3 Dine Out for Maple Alley Inn! 6:30 am Prayer Group 5:30 pm Al Anon 7 Gender Group	4 6:45 pm Wed. Night Study 7 AA Men	5 6:30 pm Bell Ch. 7:30 Chancel Ch. 7:30 AA	6	7 10 am OA
8 Mother's Day (no Youth Group)	9 6:30 Boy Scouts	10 6:30 am Prayer Group 5:30 pm Al Anon 6:30 Brownies 7 Co-op Pre-school 7 Gender Group	11 5:30 pm Weaver's Guild 7 pm AA Men	12 4 pm Staff 6:30 Bell Ch. 7:30 Chancel Ch. 7:30 AA	13 6 pm Women's Spiritual Renewal Dinner	14 9 am – 12 pm Church Work Party 10 am OA
15 <b>Pentecost</b> 11:45 am Deacons 6 pm Girl Scouts 7 Session	16 6:30 Boy Scouts	17 6:30 am Prayer Group 5:30 pm Al Anon 7 Gender Group	18 <i>Pulse</i> items due! 7 pm AA Men	19 10 am <i>Pulse</i> Crew 4 pm Staff 6:30 Bell Ch. 7:30 Chancel Ch. 7:30 AA	20	21 9 am Saturday Morning Live 10 am OA 1-5 pm Set-up for Youth Auction
22 Music Sunday & Teacher Recognition 5:30 pm Youth Auction	23 6:30 Boy Scouts	24 6:30 am Prayer Group 5:30 pm Al Anon 6:30 Brownies 7 Gender Group	25 7 pm AA Men	26 6:30 pm Bell Ch. 7:30 Chancel Ch. 7:30 AA	27 6 pm Friday Night Social	28 10 am OA
29 <b>Last day of 10:30 am Worship</b> (June 5, 10 am) Youth Gr.: Movie Night! 6 pm Girl Scouts	30 <b>Memorial Day</b>	31 6:30 am Prayer Group 10:30 Bible Study 12 pm Women's Luncheon 5:30 Al Anon 7 Gender Group				

## WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Women's Group Bible Study  
 "Quotable Women in Scripture"  
 10:30 am May 31  
 \* \* \*

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! May 31

*Questions? Please call Phyllis Jones, 734-4504*

## ST. JAMES PRAYER CHAIN

If you have a prayer  
 St. James Prayer

request for the  
 Chain/E-mail Team



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

### May Anniversaries

\* \* \*

- 1 Denise & Roy Hoffman
- 12 Dave & Twyla Bader
- 13 Bruce & Marsha Lockhart
- 26 David & Renee Meyer
- 27 Marjorie & Don Thorson



### Corrections to April Birthdays & Anniversaries

~~~

- April 25 Valerie McBeth
- April 29 Cheryl McGregor
- April 21 Clyde & Margaret  
 Rice (anniversary)

Our apologies for these mistakes! St. James  
 hopes you all had wonderful days.

### May Birthdays

\* \* \*

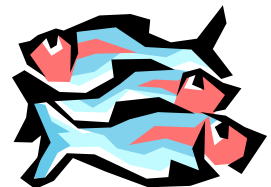
- 2 Dillon Griffith
- 3 Elizabeth Crandall
- 5 Jacqueline Hellinga
- 8 Karen Morse
- 9 Fred Richardson
- 11 Helen Oliver-Leen
- 12 Janis Harnden Bayless
- 14 Peter van der Veen
- 14 Jane Fraser
- 17 Loren Frafford
- 18 Bob Pace
- 19 Leila Terry
- 19 Phoebe McGarry
- 20 Bev Stewart
- 21 Ann Heaps Johnson
- 25 Jim Hamstreet
- 29 Dorothy Brown
- 29 Don McClenahan
- 30 Mary Gloppen

### SATURDAY MORNING LIVE!

May 21  
 9 – 11 am

A presentation by the  
 Nooksack Salmon  
 Enhancement Association

Bring comfortable walk-  
 ing shoes for a trip to  
 Fairhaven!



## YOUTH NEWS BY MEGAN STAMPFLI

The youth group has had a great April. We have had fun youth meetings and I know most of our youth had fun spring breaks! The youth were excited to have a chance to lead worship on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. This month is also shaping up to be an exciting one. Our regular youth meetings are on Sunday nights from 4:30- 6:00, with the exception of Mother's day (the 8<sup>th</sup>) when we have no youth group, and the 29<sup>th</sup> when we will have a movie night from 4:30-6:30. Our mission team raised \$298.75 at the plant sale. Thanks to everyone who bought a plant! On the 22<sup>nd</sup> we will be hosting an auction to fundraise for our mission trip to Rancho Milagro. If you have an item or service to donate please let us know by Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> so that we prepare. If it is an item you can bring it to the church by Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> or arrange for us to come and get it. More importantly we need people to attend our auction. There will be tickets available for six dollars, which will include a delicious Mexican dinner and our evening auction. The auction will begin at 5:30 PM, however items will be available to bid on following worship if you are unable to attend the evening portion. Thank you and we hope to see you

**WOMEN'S AGAPÉ NIGHT**

Women's Agape' Friday  
=  
Christian women fellowship

Put **May 13** 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*

**How to reach your Pastor:**

**The Rev. Mary Robinson-Mohr**



910 14th St. Bellingham, WA 98225  
(360)-733-1325 church  
stjmary@msn.com

(360) 715-3157 home

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* The monthly all \*  
\* church clean-up \*  
\* \* \* \* \*  
\* landscaping ~ fix- \*  
\* it ~ workday will \*  
\* be \*  
\* \* \* \* \*  
\* *Saturday* \*  
\* *May 14* \*  
\* *9 am – 12 noon* \*  
\* \* \* \* \*  
\* Bring your favor- \*  
\* ite tools, and join \*  
\* us in maintaining \*  
\* our lovely church! \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

**Welcome New Members!**

*John and Margaret Humble*

In January 2004, after some nudging from their daughter and her family who live here, the Humbles moved to Bellingham from Houston TX, where they had lived for 24 years. "It is good to be here, and being close to family is very special," they write. "We have been Presbyterian all our life and have always worshipped in a Presbyterian church except overseas where we attended non-denominational Protestant churches in Europe and the Middle East. We are happy to a part of St. James and to get to know the nice people in it."



Welcome,  
John and Margaret!

**PRAY FOR PEACE IN  
THE MIDDLE EAST**

The next prayer vigil  
will be

**Wednesday  
May 18  
5:30 pm**



**St. Paul's Episcopal Church,  
2117 Walnut St.  
Tel. 733-2890**

Come and join us in this

**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.

## FROM THE INTERFAITH COALITION

**Congregations help raise \$100,000 for the Interfaith Coalition!** On April 2, friends of Interfaith Coalition gathered at the Best Western Lakeway Inn for our annual spring auction. The light was shining brightly that night on our path through the Garden of Hope. The generosity of so many people helped us to raise \$100,000. These proceeds clear the way for the coalition to continue our work providing housing for homeless families; medical, dental, and behavioral-health care to all in need; and meaningful social connection to senior neighbors whose health and well-being may improve with increased social contact. Gifts from our member congregations generated a significant portion - more than \$6,000 - of our total proceeds.

Thank you to St. James Presbyterian Church for your gifts of a wheelbarrow with gardening supplies and flowers, and a gardening basket with a gift certificate to Bakerview Nursery. We appreciate your support of Interfaith Coalition. Our auction simply would not be the same without congregational gifts or the donation of gifts by individuals from our member congregations. The Interfaith Coalition auction is the result of all our efforts, so not only do we thank you, we congratulate you, as well. May the light illuminate the path through your own Garden of Hope.

**Thank you to the members of St. James for providing space for Interfaith's newest project "Faith in Action Friendly Visitors" program.** This is a network of trained volunteers who provide social connections to senior neighbors at risk of isolation and loneliness in Whatcom County. If you are interested in volunteering you are invited to a training session at St. James Saturday, May 21 from 9 am – 12 noon. Also, if you know of any seniors who could benefit from this program, please call us at 756-5179.

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

### ◆ From Doris Wade:

"Dear friends at St. James: As of Friday, April 15 we are moving into a new rental house so the new address is 13088 N. Roucan Dr., Oro Valley AZ 85737. It will be nice as we can get all the things out of storage and we will have a garage, plus a quieter area. Will probably be a year at least before any building lots become available so this was the best choice.

I spent 11 days in late February in Lake Havasu City AZ with my youngest brother and his wife who winter there from Nebraska. Had a wonderful time. Also was able to see their oldest daughter and her 2 children from Royal Oak MI. They were on winter break.

I'm flying to Savannah GA on May 21 so I can see my youngest granddaughter Jessica graduate from Savannah Christian High School on May 22nd. I will meet Phil and Judi there and after graduation we will spend a week in Hilton Head SC.

A week ago Sunday, we spent the afternoon at Davis Monthan Air Force base to see the big Air Show. Saw all types of planes – some huge ones that are as long as a football field. There were many stunt plane performances and the Thunderbirds gave a huge show as the finale.

Hopefully, I'll find a nice church not far from the new location. In the meantime I've attended a nice Lutheran church (ELCA) not far from this apartment... I think of you all and send my best wishes to you. Cordially, Doris"

*So nice to hear from you, Doris!*

*If you have news you would like to share with the St. James family, please send it to the church office. We would love to hear from you!*



## ST. JOSEPH ADULT DAY HEALTH PROGRAM

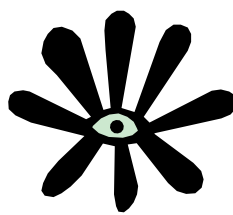
St. Joseph Hospital Adult Day Health program, a vital part of Whatcom County for 26 years, continues to promote health and wellness for adults Monday through Friday, 9:30 to 2:30 (extended hours available 8 to 5, upon request). The program may be appropriate for those who are challenged by health concerns or physical disabilities, who are socially isolated or needing help with daily activities, or who are dealing with such conditions as depression or memory loss. Following are services available to Adult Day Health participants:

- To improve or retain mobility and strength, our Occupational Therapy staff supervises daily exercise groups and the stationary bicycle program, as well as painting and building projects to improve dexterity.
- Our Registered Nurses provide a wide range of services including health assessment and counseling, foot care, medication assistance, and glucose monitoring and education for diabetics.
- Speech and hearing assessments and therapies are available, provided by WWU clinicians.
- A dental hygienist is on-site by appointment.
- Social Service Specialists can help program participants or their caregivers connect with other community resources.
- A twice-monthly support group, Caregiver Mentor Program, and classes for caregivers are among free services offered to family caregivers in the community.
- Transportation is available to most locations in Whatcom County through Whatcom Transportation Authority, Specialized.
- A nutritionally balanced lunch and a morning snack are provided.

St. Joseph Adult Day Health is a great place to meet people who are affected by similar challenges, and to benefit from a wide range of recreational activities. Participants can choose daily to play games such as Poker, Pinochle, Uno or Dominoes, or to participate in reminiscing or spiritual groups. Games such as golf, volleyball and bowling keep the body active and the competitive spirit alive. Watercolor painting classes, travel and educational slide shows, as well as community speakers and musicians, round out the calendar.

A National Study of Adult Day Services, conducted in 2002 by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (Princeton, NJ) and Partners in Caregiving (Winston-Salem, NC), found that 3,407 adult day centers currently operate in the United States. Participants in these centers range from age 18 to 109, with an average age of 72. Adult Day Services are growing (the majority of the centers opened within the past few years) but the study concluded that growth lags behind need; the current population base of our country could support 8,520 Adult Day Centers, more than twice the number available. Adult Day Centers make it possible for older adults to continue living in their current setting by providing strengthening therapies and socialization to prevent isolation and depression, as well as respite for family caregivers.

To schedule a visit or for more information about St. Joseph Hospital Adult Day Health, please call Ann or Sharon at (360) 715-6410, Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-4:30 pm.





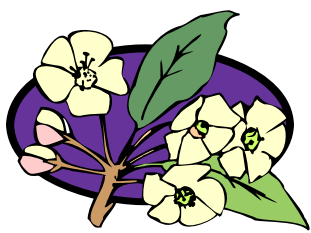


Maverette Butler  
Margaret de Maine  
Marion Dobbie  
Pat Nelson  
Mel Reasoner  
Margaret Rice

**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, **May 18 2005**. That issue will be mailed Thursday, **May 26**. 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.

*Inside this issue:*



|                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Pastor's Page</i>                 | 1 |
| <i>Pentecost – May 15</i>            | 2 |
| <i>Dine Out for Maple Alley Inn</i>  | 3 |
| <i>May Calendar</i>                  | 4 |
| <i>Youth News</i>                    | 5 |
| <i>Birthdays &amp; Anniversaries</i> | 5 |
| <i>Welcome New Members</i>           | 6 |
| <i>Church Family News</i>            | 7 |
| <i>St. Joseph Adult Day Health</i>   | 8 |
| <i>Christian Education</i>           | 9 |

**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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