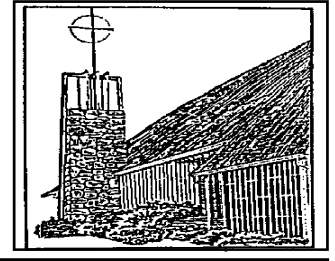


The Pulse



Volume 38, Issue 6
June 2006

FROM THE PRESBYTERIAN NEWS SERVICE MAY 22, 2006

Spending should reflect 'God's family,' Tutu tells Presbyterian crowd

South African anti-apartheid legend: Divestment 'worked for us'

by Toya Richards Hill

NEW YORK CITY — From Jew to Muslim, American to Iraqi, all are part of the family of God, South African icon Archbishop Desmond Tutu told a packed sanctuary at Good Shepherd-Faith Presbyterian Church here May 16. So how, then, can “obscene amounts of money” be spent on “defense budgets of death and destruction?” he said. How can we “sink almost into indifference” and not recognize that the dead in Iraqi are “members of your family ... members of my family?” How can we sit and not know “that people in New Orleans are still struggling, wanting to return home?” the famed anti-apartheid activist said. Each one is “a member of God’s family.”

The 1984 Nobel Peace Prize winner was here at the invitation of the Rev. J. Oscar McCloud, a personal friend of Tutu’s and the outgoing moderator of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)’s Presbytery of New York City. Tutu’s remarks were the prelude to the presbytery’s business meeting, which included the installation of incoming moderator Elder Chris Kim and other officers. Spry and full of good humor, the 74-year-old Anglican archbishop emeritus cast a loving spell with his warm smile and wise countenance. A good portion of his comments echoed his 2004 book *God Has A Dream – A Vision of Hope for Our Time*, yet at the same time Tutu expanded the message to fit current realities.

“We might find it difficult to understand that Saddam Hussein is God’s child,” Tutu said. And, he added, “even George Bush.” Yet “God has no enemies,” he said. “The Bible says, ‘if I be lifted up ... I will draw *all* men unto me,’” Tutu said, citing Jesus’ words in John 12: 32. “All will be embraced in this incredible love that will not let you go,” said Tutu, whose comments were especially poignant given his and his fellow South Africans’ long-term victimization under apartheid.

An outspoken critic of the system of racial segregation and political and economic discrimination for many years, Tutu ultimately was appointed in 1995 by then-President Nelson Mandela to chair the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The commission investigated human rights violations between 1960 and 1994, and presented its findings in 1998.

Today, years after the overt struggle, Tutu’s strong religious conviction still remains unmistakably intertwined with a political message. Just a “small fraction” of the billions of dollars being spent on defense would ensure God’s children everywhere had clean water, enough food to eat, adequate homes and affordable health care, Tutu said. And, it would ensure “levees that don’t need repairing,” he said, referencing the Gulf Coast fiasco surrounding Hurricane Katrina.

During a brief, exclusive interview with the *Presbyterian News Service* following his public talk, Tutu also reflected on the pain surrounding the conflict in Israel and Palestine and highlighted such de-humanizing tactics occurring there such as the leveling of homes.

Many have drawn a correlation between the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the South African struggle over apartheid. Tutu recalled traveling to the contested land and being with a man shedding tears as he pointed to the place where his home once stood. South Africans, too, have cried as they looked at land that was taken from them, he said.

Tutu also affirmed the use of economic divestment as a means of ending conflict, proclaiming, “It worked for us.” The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has led the way among Protestant denominations in considering divestment from corporations contributing to violence in Israel and Palestine. The PC (USA) is currently engaged in a process of “phased, selective divestment” –

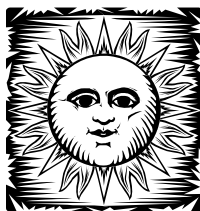
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St James Presbyterian Church
910 14th Street ~ Bellingham, Washington 98225
phone: (360)733-1325 fax: (360)733-1664 e-mail: stjpres@msn.com

YOUTH NEWS

MEGAN STAMPFLI, YOUTH DIRECTOR

Summer time is almost here! This month the youth will continue to meet on Sundays as usual, from 4:30-6:00. We will be meeting the 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th. Parents are invited and needed to volunteer for these Sundays as chaperones and snack providers. Sunday school does not meet in June, but the youth are invited and encouraged to continue attending worship. On the 25th parents and youth will be meeting at 6:00 to work out the final kinks for the mission week in July. I hope you all enjoy this sunny and beautiful month!



CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

- News from the **Oakley family**: **Matt Oakley** is going to wine school in Walla Walla. Since starting last fall he has maintained a 4.0 in courses like soil analysis and grape varietals. He recently won a \$1500 scholarship. He and his wife **Carrie** are settled into Walla Walla and enjoying it. **Brent** is living in Everett and doing better. **John-Rolf** is working on his MA in electrical engineering at UH in Honolulu. He's finished up a TA for this semester, but doing research and working for Google this summer. **Janet Oakley** won a grant from Colonial Dames to go to a teacher workshop on the Pilgrims and Wampanoag at Plymouth Plantation in Massachusetts.
- Please keep the families of the following people in your prayers; all passed away this May: **Ann Heaps-Johnson**, **Vi Gerry**, **Anne LaShell**, and **Jim Hamstreet**.

If you have news you would like to share with the St. James family, please contact the church office: 360-733-1325, stjpres@msn.com

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**.

MONTHLY CHURCH WORK PARTY

Summer is on our doorstep! Please join us for the monthly all-church clean-up landscaping ~ fix-it ~ workday: Saturday **June 10, 9 am – 12 noon**. Bring your favorite tools, and join us in maintaining our lovely church!

JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

June Birthdays

- 1 George Lake
- 1 Eleanor Lake
- 3 Ted Pritchett
- 5 Barbara Harnden
- 5 Bob Harnden
- 5 Kanai Callow
- 9 Jane Botsford
- 10 Terri Inge
- 11 Margaret Miller
- 11 Margorie Thorson
- 16 Christopher Snyder
- 20 Bev Stewart
- 22 Trent Eason
- 23 Bob Smith
- 25 Emily Thornton
- 27 John Aubert
- 27 Jeff Haggen
- 28 Mary Hawk
- 28 Jack Drury

June Anniversaries

- 1 Colleen & Ken Reimers
- 3 John & Bea Aubert
- 6 Ted & Bernice Pritchett
- 12 Bob & Madeleine Smith
- 16 Bob & Barbara Harnden
- 16 Bob & Marilyn Monahan
- 17 Tass & Les Galley
- 18 Frank & Gene Brown
- 18 Battle & Shirley Nelson
- 19 Walt & Judy Bayless
- 19 Dick & Virginia Green
- 19 Gary & Ann Culbertson
- 20 Bill & Karen Summers
- 21 Phil & Phyllis Jones
- 22 Jim & Betsy Freeman
- 25 Bob & Nancy Pace
- 26 Sue & Don Jampsa
- 28 Rook & Julie Van Halm
- 29 Randy & Mary Robinson-Mohr
- 29 Bob & Linda Raudebaugh
- 30 Claude & Faye Hill

MISSION & SOCIAL ACTION

Iran Peace Project: Kevin and Tim Terpstra, Michael Apodace and Michael Biesheval, WWU and Trinity Western students, will be visiting Iran this summer in an effort to enhance mutual understanding and goodwill. Upon their return they plan to share their experiences through written stories, video footage and photography. An information meeting will be held at the First Congregational Church on Friday, June 2 at 7 pm. Donations are welcome. Sponsor: Whatcom Peace and Justice Center.

NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES!

New pictorial directories of the St. James family are available in the church office. Please stop by during office hours, or call 733-1325.

**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.

PASTOR MARY ON SABBATICAL!

While Pastor Mary is on sabbatical this summer, check out her "blog" on the internet:

<http://stjmary.blogspot.com/>

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****Dear Members of St. James Presbyterian Church:**

Thank you so much for your regular donations to Interfaith Coalition. These gifts support our programs, which provide housing for homeless families, medical and dental programs for neighbors in need at the Interfaith Community Health Center, and matching volunteers with seniors who may benefit from meaningful social connection.

Interfaith Coalition's family housing program provides safe shelter, case management support, and hope to local families in crisis. Interfaith has eight homes that provide temporary housing for local families in crisis. Gratitude for the chance to live in the homes and begin the journey towards self-sufficiency is best expressed by one of the families who recently lived in one of our houses:

"Living in this house has brought our family closer together. We are grateful to Interfaith for opening their hearts to help us out so we were able to get up on our feet. By staying here we were close to everything so it helped us to find jobs and finance a place of our own. This helped me get some self esteem for myself. I am very proud to be living in this house. My children have been so happy. It brought smiles to us all. We want to thank everyone who has helped us out. I am grateful to you."

We sincerely appreciate your financial support and partnership.

In gratitude, Laura DeRose, Executive Director

Chamber Orchestra Concert to Benefit Interfaith Coalition

There will be a chamber orchestra concert on Sunday, June 11 at 7:30 p.m. featuring a group of talented Bellingham musicians. The concert will include works by Wagner, Haydn and Honegger. The concert will be held at the Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship, 1708 I Street, in Bellingham. Admission is free, with goodwill donations accepted for Interfaith Coalition programs, which support housing for homeless families and medical and dental programs for low-income people at the Interfaith Community Health Center.

Thank you for supporting Interfaith Coalition's auction! More than 300 supporters raised \$115,000 at Interfaith Coalition's annual spring auction on April 22. Congregational gifts contributed several thousand dollars to that total. Thank you for your congregational gifts of a garden wheelbarrow and rock garden, which raised \$253 to support Interfaith's programs. We appreciate your participation in our largest fundraising event of the year. Proceeds from the auction support programs to provide housing to homeless families, access to health care for all people in need, and meaningful social connection to older members of our community at risk for loneliness and isolation.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1...

a decision by the 2004 General Assembly that has caused much controversy, particularly between the PC(USA) and the American Jewish community.

Ultimately, though, Tutu firmly believes resolution for the world's woes rests in recognizing and lifting up each individual as part of God's family. "God does not see us in mass," he told the audience gathered at Good Shepherd-Faith church. "God knows each single one by name because their names are engraved in the palms of God's hands."

"Black, white ... rich, poor ... beautiful, not-so-beautiful ... Muslim, Christian, Jew, Buddhist," Tutu called out. "God loves you; God loves me; God loves each one of us as if we were the only person on earth." And together, we make up "the human family – God's family," Tutu said.

CHURCH MONEY MYTHS FROM PC(USA) MISSION REPORT 2005
1. "Most of the money I give ends up in Louisville!"

The vast majority of the money (90+ percent) given by individuals to their local congregation stays within their congregation to support the pastor and other staff, pay for buildings, utilities and maintenance, purchase supplies for the choir and the church school and fund local mission projects such as food banks or homeless shelters. Typically, less than 10 percent of the congregation's annual budget is sent along to support presbytery, synod, and General Assembly mission programs.

2. "Presbyterians are the most generous givers of all!"

Presbyterians are generous givers, but not the most generous. Members of the Church of Latter Day Saints and several smaller denominations give even more generously than Presbyterians, when measured as a percentage of household income. Giving by our members has kept pace with inflation over the past several decades, but has actually DECLINED as a percentage of disposable income. It is sad, but true, that as personal income goes up, the percentage we give away goes down. According to our friends at *The Empty Tomb* (a stewardship research organization) the time when all Americans were most generous was at the height of the great depression. Since that time, personal giving as a percentage of income has been on a gradual decline.

3. "The average Presbyterian gives about two percent of her/his income to the church!"

That is true, if you divide the total number of dollars given by the estimated annual income of all the members of the denomination. What we know from surveys and conversations with pastors and other church leaders is that Presbyterians tend to mirror all donors in our society. That is, in the typical congregation, 20 percent of the members give 80 percent of the money. That means that in a congregation of 100 households, with a budget of \$200,000 per year, 20 of those households provide about \$160,000 of those dollars and the other 80 households added together provide about \$40,000. Which of those households is average?

4. "Most charitable gifts come from foundations and corporations!"

Not according to *Giving USA 2005* a publication of the Giving USA Foundation. Their figures for last year show that living individuals gave \$187.92 billion to churches and charities while corporations gave \$12 billion and foundations contributed \$28 billion. Interestingly, individuals gave more than \$18 billion by bequest in 2004, which should draw in the attention of pastors and other church leaders. The amount given to churches and other religious organizations totaled more than \$88 billion.

5. "The best place to look for additional money for my church is among new members and those not giving now!"

Unfortunately, while some new members are very generous, most have not yet learned to be substantial supporters of their congregation. Some pastors report that it takes three or four new families to replace the giving amount from one "faithful member" who dies or moves away. As for increasing the giving of members who don't give much money, all development officers and professional fund-raisers know that the best place to look for increased giving is among those already committed. While our long-term goal is to challenge all our members to increased faithfulness, the quickest way to raise money needed 'right now' is by going to those who are already convinced that the church is worthy of support.

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

June 27

Women's Group Bible Study 10:30 am
2005-2006 Horizons Bible Study

Women's Association Luncheon 12 pm

Bring a friend and a salad to share! All women are invited for food, fun and fellowship!

Questions? Please call Phyllis Jones, 734-4504

••••• The Women's Association will meet for a no-host luncheon on **Tuesday, May 30** at 12 noon at the Lychee Buffet (across from Fred Meyer on Lakeway.) You may sign up in the Horizon Room or call Phyllis Jones (734-4504.)

Our summer Lummi Island picnic will occur on a date that doesn't conflict with Vacation Bible School. We will meet regularly throughout the summer, as there's no good reason not to!

**PRAYER VIGIL FOR PEACE
IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

Please join in an ecumenical prayer vigil for the Christian communities in Jerusalem, for all those who are suffering in the Holy Land, for Palestinians and Israelis, and for peace in the Middle East. All are welcome.



Sunday, June 18, 5:30 pm
Faith Lutheran Church ~ ELCA
Northwest & McLeod Rd.
733-3970

MUSIC FOR MISSION SUCCESS

The Music for Mission concert on Friday, May 12, raised \$1860 for mission support! Thank you, St. James!

From Phil & Phyllis Jones: "A big thank you to all the musicians who participated in the Music for Mission program. It was really awesome, and we are truly blessed by our music program! A special thank you to Carolyn Mullen, who put it all together."

TREASURER'S NOTE FROM SALLY ALBERS

As we head into summer, St. James Presbyterian Church is in good financial shape. The budget for this year is 10% below last year and so far we are managing to keep the expenses in line with our income. This is due to the generosity and faithfulness of the congregation. In addition to our basic operating costs, you have contributed funds to make our community and world a better place. In the table below you can see where the special designated gifts were distributed. The Music for Mission total includes some pledges to be received later in the year; these will also go to specific local charities. This represents approximately 10% of our total year-to-date income.

		Total
<u>Local Benevolence</u>		
Whatcom Peace & Justice	800	
Maple Alley Inn	342	
Bellingham Food Bank	75	
Interfaith Coalition	20	
Habitat for Humanity	10	
<i>Local Benevolence</i>	1247	
<i>Music for Mission</i>	2435	
<u>Through NPS Presbytery</u>		
One Great Hour of Sharing	1828	
Africa Aids/Matter of Faith	1575	
Tall Timber Cabin	1452	
	4855	8537

It is truly inspiring to be your treasurer!
Sally Albers

St. James Events Calendar

Church office

Open Tuesday ~ Friday,
9-12, 1-4

733-1325

E-mail: stjpres@msn.com

June 2006

Sunday schedule

9 am Adult class
10:00 Worship
12:30 pm Korean Worship
4:30-6 pm Youth Group
7 pm AA

S U N

M O N

T U E

W E D

T H U

F R I

S A T

1

6:30 pm Bell Ch.
7:30 Chancel Ch.
7:30 AA

2

3
10 am OA

4

**Summer
Worship time :
10 am**

**Pentecost
Communion**
6 & 7 pm Girl
Scouts

5

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

6

8 am Prayer Gr.
5 pm Steward-
ship
5:30 Al Anon
7:30 WA Gender
Alliance

7

5 pm Mission &
Social Action
7 pm AA Men

8

6:30 pm Bell Ch.
7:30 Chancel Ch.
7:30 AA

9

6 pm Prime
Timers

10

9 am—12 pm
Church Work
Party
10 am OA

11

11:15 am
Deacons

12

6 Girl Scouts
6:30 Boy Scouts

13

8 am Prayer Gr.
5:30 Al Anon
6 Girl Scouts
7:30 WA Gender
Alliance

14

7 pm AA Men

15

7:30 AA

16

6:30 pm
Women's Agapé
Night

17

10 am OA

18

Father's Day
5:30 pm Prayer
Vigil for Middle
East Peace (Faith
Lutheran)

19

6 Girl Scouts
6:30 Boy Scouts

20

8 am Prayer Gr.
5:30 Al Anon
7:30 WA Gender
Alliance

21

Pulse items duel
7 pm AA Men

22

7:30 AA

23

10 am OA

25

26

27

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

28

7 pm AA Men

29

10 am *Pulse* Crew
7:30 AA

30

6 pm Friday
Night Social

Vacation Church School: June 26-30

*Thanks to
the Pulse
Mailing
Crew*

Maverette Butler
Margaret de Maine
Marion Dobbie
Dottie Hager
Pat Nelson
Mel Reasoner
Margaret Rice
Inge Thurston

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, **June 21 2005.**

That issue will be mailed Thursday, **June 29.** 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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Starting June 4, Worship is at 10:00 am!!!



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