

PULSE

JANUARY 2010

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A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JERRY POOLE

On the day after Thanksgiving I walked past a TV monitor announcing that Tiger Woods had been in an accident and was hospitalized with possibly serious injuries. The real story came forth later.

I remember when Tiger was an amateur, winning tournaments while a student at Stanford. Then there was the day he won his first Masters tournament. I think many of us have carried assumptions about him. Some were reliable: that he was a great golfer, that he took extreme care to keep his public persona neat and tidy, practically perfect in every way. Most of us came to believe that he was the same person in private that we saw in public.

Yet we could point to a few clues that disputed that notion. I recall some occasions when Tiger finished second in a tournament. When interviewed, instead of congratulating the winner and commending him on the quality of his play, Tiger would often disclose that his own putting game was off or his driver was slicing that day and such was the reason why he did not win.

Tiger Woods no doubt is still a great

golfer, perhaps the greatest. But like all people, Tiger's ability has limits. The farther away from the golf course he goes, the more his fallible humanity is revealed, just like the rest of us. When we encounter people with exemplary skills in one field let's not assume they are equally gifted in others.

In recent days people have criticized and even ridiculed Tiger Woods. In the eyes of some he's gone from hero and role model to villain. His just-revealed failures are of deception, adultery and misuse of power. He persuaded some of his "partners" with money and others with his fame. He traded on his stellar reputation mistakenly believing it would shadow him always.

Billy Graham said preachers should operate with the bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other. I've been mulling over what the bible has to say to people in Tiger's situation. It has plenty! We could start with a detailed review of sin and redemption in the book of Romans. More to the point I have been thinking about the warnings that our bible offers.

Here's a sample:

"Let your fountain be blessed, and rejoice in the wife of your youth, a lovely deer, a graceful doe. . ."

Proverbs 5:18ff

"For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. . ." I Timothy 6:10

Here's a warning NOT from the bible: **"Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely"** Lord Acton: 1887.

In Luke 12:2 ff: Jesus says: **"Nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. Therefore, whatever you have said in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have whispered behind closed doors will be proclaimed from the housetops."**

Those biblical warnings are not just for Tiger. Inside each of us lurk some of his less commendable qualities. Haven't we at some time wanted the world to operate according to our plans? Haven't we ever wanted the world to know our name? Many of us are tempted in the way he was. We must hear the alarm sounding in I Peter 5:8ff: **"Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your**

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faith. . .” Heed the words of I Corinthians 10: 12; **“So if you think you are standing watch out that you do not fall.”**

Let’s keep Tiger Woods and his family in our prayers. (Yes, even the famous need prayer!) They will face consequences, matters of character, trust and forgiveness. They must know that even more than before, their every step will be recorded by photographers. They will still be tempted to choreograph every act so as to maximize their positive public

relations potential. Not much spontaneous living will be allowed them. Would we really want a life like that? Even if \$600 million came with it? Not a chance. I’d rather follow the one who said: **“I have come that you might have life, and have it abundantly.”**

HNY
In His grip,
Jerry



Financial report for November 30, 2009

Sally Albers, Treasurer

General Fund:

- 1) Income for the month totaled \$18,205.94, over budget by \$4,592.94, helped by 5 Sundays. Building use income was also high, including payments for 3 special events.
- 2) Expenses totaled \$16,122.95, under budget by \$623.05. Nearly all expense categories were under budget for November. One exception is caused by a \$200 advance for the Advent Festival and \$100 for coffee, both classified under Congregational Life. The expense was booked in November; but free will contributions and other collections to offset Advent costs will not be deposited until December.
- 3) General Fund balance is now a positive \$3,188.43

Designated Giving/Named Activities Fund:

- 1) November had several special collections. We received \$530 for Church World Service “Blankets+” appeal, \$437.35 for the Food Bank collected at the Thanksgiving Eve Service, \$405 for Poinsettias for the sanctuary in December, \$178.50 in other offerings (such as for high chairs), \$120 for the Angel Tree, and miscellaneous others for a grand total of \$1774.61.
- 2) Checks were issued for Church World Service, Christmas Poinsettias, and 2 new high chairs. Also Home Port Learning Center and Atfaluna each received \$138.80 from our local share of the Pentecost Offering, and \$218.15 went to the Whatcom Peace & Justice Center from the local share of the Peacemaking Offering.

Youth News Liz Turner

The youth have been enjoying a full and fun holiday season. In November, we had two movie nights, and in December we went Ice Skating at the Bellingham Sportsplex. We’ve been hanging out on Sunday mornings in our newly-renovated youth room.

Thank you, Saint James congregation for your unwavering support of the youth group during 2009. We are encouraged and inspired by your enthusiasm.

Now that the new year is upon us, we are tossing around a lot of ideas for ways to share God’s love with each other, our community, and the world in 2010. We plan to have a couple of brainstorming sessions, and come up with possibilities for another fun and meaningful year.

Endowments at New Covenant Funds:

Buildings & Grounds committee spent \$10,624.66 from our Facilities Endowment to replace our broken sidewalk. Meanwhile the Balanced Growth Fund accounts net asset value increased from \$69.63 to \$72.07, an increase of \$22,436.28 so we have more “spendable balance” now than at the end of October. The two smaller endowments continue to be below their principal value, although each improved (music by \$216 and CE/Youth by \$648) in November.

KRAL'S SCRAWLS

The Rev. Tamalyn Kralman

As I sit down to type this I am overwhelmed by a stack of gifts that must be mailed, others that must be wrapped, and still others yet to be purchased. I've spent the day dealing with two cars in need of repair - one now in the shop, one soon to be there. (I'm almost longing for horse and buggy days.) I have a house in need of cleaning because company is coming, baking still to do, and a Christmas dinner to plan and shop for. Of course, by the time you read this none of these will even be issues anymore. In fact, few of the things that are plaguing you on this gray, rainy day will even be a part of your reality as you hold this newsletter in your hand. We'll have entered a new year, some of you will have made resolutions and we'll be looking at our nice, clean 2010 slates.

Isn't it lovely how God just keeps giving us fresh starts? Each day starts anew. No matter what has come before, dawn comes again and

we start all over. New breath, new day, new beginnings. I don't generally make resolutions. I just keep striving to live my life better. (It doesn't always mean I do, I just keep striving!) But, maybe in this new year we can all make a promise to ourselves and to our God.

Isn't it lovely how God just keeps giving us fresh starts?



We're going to be thankful for our new beginnings and we're going to make the best of them. Yes, we're

still going to mess up. We're still going to have problems that plague us and gray days that drive us nuts. But we're going to remember that God walks with us, each step of the way, through each of them, and that tomorrow we can start again.

Peace,
Pastor Tam

Be sure to mark your calendars:

Sunday, Feb. 7 is the We Care Party for our Sunday School Kids. We'll need cookie bakers and people to lend a hand as we decorate cards and bags for our shut-ins. It's a lot of fun. Please talk to Pastor Tam if you're available to help.

Coming in March - watch for details about our College Care Packages. This will be the third year for this wonderful project as we put together boxes of goodies and gifts for our college and military kids, letting them know that we love, appreciate, and miss them.



Hooray for our Christmas Pageant Crew!

Were you able to see our Christmas Pageant Slideshow? Liz Turner put together the script and directed our on site photo shoot. Teresa Bowers, Mark Danielson, Bob Pace, Nancy Richter, and Rich Stipe served as drivers and production assistants. Our actors were (in order of appearance) Lizzie Crandall, Zadra Nolan, Anna Stipe, Parker DeWilde, Liam DeWilde, Corinna Bowers, Gus Danielson, and Erin Wood. Pastor Tam and the Christian Education Committee extend BIG thank yous to all of them for their incredible help. We couldn't have had such a beautiful program without your help. And stay tuned. Tim Crandall is working to get the program uploaded to our church website. In the meantime, you can see it on Pastor Tam's Web page. Contact her for details.

January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Happy New Year 2010</i>						1 10am OA
3 Epiphany 9am Adult Class 9-10am Fellowship Breakfast 10:30am Worship— Communion 7pm AA	4 7pm Troop 7 (FH, SC) 7pm Troop 7 Parent mtgs	5 ANNUAL REPORTS DUE 8am Prayer Group 10am Staff 4pm Worship 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	6 7am Men's Group 11am Whatcom Literacy Council 5:30pm Personnel 6pm AA SOS	7 9am Health 10am Sew & Sews 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm AA Fair-haven 7:30pm Choir	8 12pm Prime Timers	9 9am Church Work Party 10am OA
10 9am Adult Class 9-10am Fellowship Breakfast 10:30am Worship 7pm AA	11 7pm Troop 7 (FH, SC)	12 8am Prayer Group 4:30pm Stewardship 5:30pm AI Anon 7pm Preschool Parent mtg 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	13 7am Men's Group 11am Whatcom Literacy Council 6pm AA SOS 6:30pm Whatcom Weavers Guild	14 10am Sew & Sews 12-5pm Friendly Visitors 6:30pm Bell Choir 6:30pm CL 7:30pm AA Fair-haven 7:30pm Choir	15	16 10am OA 5pm Family Game Night
17 Pulse Articles Due 9am Adult Class 9-10am Fellowship Breakfast 10:30am Worship 12pm Deacons 7pm AA	18 Martin Luther King Jr. 5:30-6pm Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Middle East at Assumption Church 7pm Troop 7 (FH, SC)	19 8am Prayer Group 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	20 7am Men's Group 10am Preschool Parent mtg 11am Whatcom Literacy Council 6pm AA SOS	21 10am Sew & Sews 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm AA Fair-haven 7:30pm Choir	22	23 10am OA 5:30-9pm Whatcom Music Teacher's Association
24 9am Adult Class 9-10am Fellowship Breakfast 10:30am Worship Ordination of Officers 12:30pm Session plus lunch	25 5:30 Girl Scouts Troop 230 7pm Troop 7 (FH, SC)	26 8am Prayer Group 10:30 Women's Bible Study 12pm Women's Luncheon 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	27 7am Men's Group 10am Pulse Crew 11am Whatcom Literacy Council 6pm AA SOS	28 10am Sew & Sews 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm AA Fair-haven 7:30pm Choir	29	30 10am OA
31 9am Adult Class 9-10am Fellowship Breakfast 10:30am Worship Annual Congregational Meeting Hargleroad Baby shower 7pm AA	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="flex: 1;"> <p>Contact Wendy Crandall If you have any questions</p> </div> <div style="flex: 2; text-align: center;">  <p>Join us January 31st <i>We're having a Baby shower</i> for Matt & Emily Hargleroad After church in the Fellowship hall</p> </div> </div>					

Session Highlights for December 18, 2009 by Carla Shafer, Clerk of Session

- Guests Corey Schlosser-Hall and The Rev. Erv Roorda provided information to the session on how to proceed with seeking an installed pastor. They advised on how the Pastor Nominating Committee is elected and what might be addressed in the Church Information form.
- Zachariah “Zach” and Megan (Pfueller) Melrose have been welcomed as new members. Zach and young son, Lance, were baptized on November 29, 2009. Zach is being deployed to Afghanistan soon. Megan and Lance will be living in Bellingham for awhile.
- Our Youth Leader Liz Turner has successfully completed her job’s probationary period. Great work, Liz!
- Building and Grounds and Stewardship committee are developing a funding plan and an elevator installation/remodel plan.
- The preschool space use reimbursement rate was increased by \$15/month for the contract year 9/1/2010.

Dates to remember:

- Annual reports are due by 9 AM on Tuesday, January 5, 2010
- The next Session meeting is January 24th at 12:30. This will accommodate year end reporting.
- The “turnover day” for church elders and deacons will occur on ordination/installation day on January 24, 2010.
- January 31, 2010 will be our annual congregational meeting.
- Arbour North Architecture has been approved to provide preliminary design documents for the eventual construction project related to installing an elevator.
- The remaining \$ 203 in the budget for local Mission will be disbursed to the Food Bank.
- The remainder of a positive year-end balance of the 2009 budget (should there be one) will be made available for local mission support. It will be distributed as follows: Interfaith Coalition and Tierra Nueva 20% each; United Ministries in Higher Education (UMHE), Habitat for Humanity, Salvation Army and Lighthouse Mission 15% each.
- St. James will apply to the Synod for the Morris Evangelism grant of \$10,000.00 to help support eventual construction project related to installing an elevator.
- A Youth Activities Budget of \$400 was established from the Youth activities restricted fund and should cover the first half of the new year.
- The Christian Education Committee was given funds to purchase a digital camera for use covering church activities.

Presbyterian Women of St James

Luncheon on January 26th at 12pm in the Horizon room

Bible Study meets at 10:30 a.m. in the Lounge

The St. James Literary Society Book Club will meet on Jan 25, at 5:30 p.m. The book for January is Snow Falling on Cedars.



Copies of the book from The Bellingham Public Library Bellingham Reads kit will be available for pickup in the church office.

Please consider joining us for great book discussions and a chance to connect with other book lovers. If you have questions, please contact Barb Kilpatrick or Karen Summers.

January Birthdays

1	Teresa Bowers
2	Phil Jones
3	Susan Burkland
7	Stacey Miller
8	Marty Haines
9	Beverly Sherman
9	Charles Snyder
13	Nancy Pace
15	Karen Summers
16	Joan Elsethagen
17	Dwayne Rogers
18	Genevie Pfueller Roguski
20	Wayne Landis
21	Peg Wilke
22	Michael Hoffman
23	Fred McCormick
26	David Meyer
26	Betty Miller
26	Marianne Thomas
28	Kris Baker-Sely
28	Mark Danielson
31	Marlene Amman

January Anniversaries

2	Ed Simmers & Jane Madden
26	Rex & Ann Lary





St. James

PRYSBYTERIAN CHURCH

91014th Street, Bellingham, WA 98225
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Ministers: The Congregation
Interim Pastor: The Rev. Jerry Poole
Minister of Educational Programs:
The Rev. Tamalyn Kralman
Secretary: Natasha Orme
Treasurer: Sally Albers
Youth Leader: Liz Turner
Custodian: Tim Chandonnet
Music Director: Carolyn Mullen
Organist / Pianist: Kirsten Rutschman
Parish Nurse: Barbara Kilpatrick
Mission: New Earth / Tierra Nueva, Bob & Gracie Ekblad
PC (USA) Regional Liaison to Jordan, Israel & Palestine: Doug Dicks



Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Worship
10:45 a.m. Children's Time

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE: "Books, Not Bars, Education, the Media and America's Prison System"

Saturday, January 16, 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Whatcom Community College Syre Center.

Registration is at 9.30 a.m., keynote address is at 10 a.m. Sponsored by Whatcom Human Rights Task Force, co-sponsored by Whatcom Community College, Northwest Indian College, Bellingham Public Schools, Woodring College of Education. Details: www.whrft.org

PRAYER VIGIL FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST Monday, January 18, 5.30 p.m. at Assumption Catholic Church, facilitated by Pax Christi Bellingham.



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