

the Pulse

June 2018

THE SAINT JAMES PRESBYTERIAN MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Speaking Up

"I wish I'd told them how I felt."

"I've been holding this inside me for so long."

"Excuse me,..."

Words left unsaid and truth left unspoken — we struggle with this throughout our lives. Can you recall a time when you wish you would have spoken up to someone important to you, words of kindness, or encouragement? Or perhaps there was a moment when you witnessed

injustice and you were afraid to say anything, you found yourself mute when you knew in your heart you could say something, do something.

I personally have known this struggle for much of my youth and adult life. I have struggled to believe that I had something to say at all.

I have worked through a tendency to remain silent when I know I have an opinion to be shared, a word of insight to offer — I have worked to find value in my own voice and the contribution I can make to the world by using it. I'm a Type 9 on the Enneagram (a centuries-old personality mapping framework). Type 9's are the "Peacemakers", which often means we will choose to suppress our own voice out of fear that we may disrupt others or cause still waters to ripple.

This June and July at St. James, we're going to explore what it means for God's people to push against this tendency and learn to speak up. For 8 weeks, we'll be looking at stories from the Old and New Testaments where God's people learned to use their voices, interrupting the silencing forces of evil, oppression, power, and privilege. God's people are called to speak goodness, truth, and beauty into the world and it is through these stories from Scripture that we will begin to get a picture of what it might look like for us to speak up in our time.

Speaking up requires wisdom, discernment, and caution. In the book of James (ch. 3), we hear that our tongues can start forest fires and need taming. Certainly, our words can get us into trouble, can cause harm, be misleading and wounding. We know this well in our country's political climate — words are used to sow seeds of division and misdirection from what is true. But speaking up, as we will explore, can also be the source of liberation. We must learn the ways in which we speak up to name God's love and purpose for humanity and creation. We speak up to help set

people free. We speak up to share wisdom and participate in the coming of God's reign, in which people flourish and live in the fullness of their image-bearing being.

Because of our political and social climate, the challenge to speak up is evermore important today. I am personally struck by how often I witness people in positions of authority

or power in the world misusing their opportunity to speak truth and goodness. Either people speak untruths or the refuse to speak at all, therefore ceding their authority to the ones who will. As the church, we are called to be disciples of Christ and therefore sharers ("speakers") of the Good News to the world. When we don't speak up, when we don't call out injustice or bear witness to goodness, the silence creates a vacuum into which evil rushes — filling the silence with lies and hatred.

This summer, I want to invite you to explore the silence in hopes that you might interrupt it. The invitation is to find spaces to speak up, to name the goodness of God that you see. I encourage you to not let words go unspoken, love unshared, silence uninterrupted.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Seth



Staff Appreciation

Sunday June 10th will be Staff Appreciation Sunday. We will celebrate and honor all members of the staff during worship. Following worship there will be a party in the Horizon Room to celebrate:

- Natasha’s 10th anniversary of employment at St. James.
- Carolyn’s 20th anniversary of employment at St. James.

Please plan to honor both of these amazing women by attending the celebration party. We will provide a basket for cards and notes of appreciation.

June Birthdays

- 1 Alice Beaty
- 3 Tracy Caruso
- 5 Barbara Harnden
- 9 Jane Botsford
- 9 Fred Daugert
- 10 Terri Inge
- 10 Zach Koehn
- 14 Zadra Nolan
- 14 Lois Gray
- 15 Sue Smith
- 20 Bev Stewart
- 20 Amber Wainscott
- 23 Bob Smith
- 27 Corina Bowers

June Anniversaries

- 4 Craig and Julie Keyes
- 12 Bob and Madeleine Smith
- 16 Bob and Barbara Harnden
- 16 Bob and Marilyn Monahan
- 17 Mark and Alice Beaty
- 19 Dick & Virginia Green
- 21 Phil and Phyllis Jones
- 25 Bob and Nancy Pace
- 29 Randy and Mary Robinson-Mohr
- 30 Claude and Faye Hill



Presbyterian Women

Women’s Bible Study is taking a break. The group does not meet on June, July or August, but it does continue to meet for the fourth Tuesday of the month, for a luncheon at noon.

This month the women’s association will meet at noon on Tuesday, June 26, for the annual luncheon at the Wonderful Buffet on Meridian Street. All women are invited to attend.

APRIL FINANCIAL STATUS

	April	Current Budget	Yr. to Date	Annual Budget
Income	\$17,109	\$17,444	\$79,532	\$ 222,277
Expenses	\$18,025	\$18,611	\$75,135	\$ 222,277

ON LINE DONATIONS

Using our new system you can:

- Give from your bank account
- Make a one-time donation or set up a recurring gift
- Designate your gifts as part of you annual pledge
- Designate your per capita contribution

Go to: <https://saintjamespres.churchcenter.com/giving>



This is a good time to check your records to see how you are doing with your pledge commitment for 2018.

Dick Carr, Chair
Finance Committee

JUNE CALENDAR 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Bayside Co-op Preschool Schedule: 360-733-3972 Hawthorne Learning Solutions Schedule: hlearningsolutions@gmail.com				1 4pm St. James Fitness	2 10am OA 1pm Bellingham Ukulele Group
3 9am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship w/Communion 7:15pm AA	4 10am Grief Support Group 4pm St. James Fitness 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study 7pm Boy Scouts	5 10:15am Yoga 5:30pm AI Anon 5:30 Building and Ground 6pm Finance 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	6 3pm DEI 4pm Mission & Social Action 6pm SOS Men's AA	7 10:15am Yoga 5:30pm Congrega- tional Life 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Worship Team Rehearsal 7:15pm AA	8 12pm Prime Tim- ers 4pm St. James Fitness 6:30pm Church Work Party	9 10am OA
10 9am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship 12pm Session BYOL 7:15pm AA	11 4pm St. James Fitness 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study 7pm Boy Scouts	12 10am Staff Meet- ing 10:15am Yoga 5:30pm AI Anon 6:30pm Bayside 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	13 10am Worship Committee 6pm SOS Men's AA	14 10:15am Yoga 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm AA	15 4pm St. James Fitness	16 Pulse items due 9:30am Weavers Guild 10am OA
17 Father's Day 9am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship 11:45am Deacons 7:15pm AA	18 10am Grief Support Group 4pm St. James Fitness 5:15pm Tai Chi 5:30pm Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Middle East at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church` 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study	19 10:15am Yoga 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	20 6pm SOS Men's AA	21 Solstice 10:15am Yoga 7:15pm AA	22 4pm St. James Fitness	23 10am OA
24 9am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship 7:15pm AA	25 10am Personnel 4pm St. James Fitness 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study	26 10:15am Yoga 10:30am Women's Bible Study 12pm Women's Luncheon 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	27 6pm SOS Men's AA	28 10:15am Yoga 7:15pm AA	29 3pm Membership Committee 4pm St. James Fitness	30 9am Pet Partners 10am OA

William F. Butler (Bill)

This is a mini bio on how I (we) came to St. James. I was born on July 10, 1929 and raised in Los Angeles. Our family lived in northeast LA, which is near Pasadena and South Pasadena

I graduated in 1947 from Franklin High School in Highland Park. My brother, two sisters, their husbands, nephews and nieces, all graduated from Franklin High.

We weren't poor, but close. We survived The Great Depression and WWII. Like most kids, I worked in grocery stores and gas stations and delivered auto parts. When I got rich, I bought a bicycle for \$22.50. After high school, I enlisted in the U.S. Navy Reserves. After five years of weekends and annual month-long trainings, I transferred to a Submarine Division. After four years training on active subs from San Diego and eight weeks at the Submarine School in San Francisco, I graduated in 1954 and received my Dolphins.

Later I applied for, and got a job with Pacific Telephone Co. in L.A. and worked there for five years. I was offered a job with California Electric Power Co. in Riverside. I worked there for eight years when the company was acquired by Southern California Edison. I retired from Edison as supervisor of payroll for the company with 28 years of service. At that time, it had 18,000 employees and 5,000 retirees.

I met my beautiful wife, Maverette while working there in Riverside. After retirement and much searching, we came north to Bellingham to be near Maverette's daughter and granddaughter. I was their step dad and granddad. Needless to say, my family and friends were ticked at us for moving away. After moving in, I called my sister and tried to extol all the virtues of this beautiful area and she hung up on me. The next year they all came up to see why we moved here. They came back the next year, and the next year, and the year after that. We loved it! We had 27 visitors the first year. To be more useful I joined the Bellingham Visitors Center to help visitors from around the world. That lasted 28 years.

To meet some new friends, we went to several area churches around town to find one we were most comfortable with. We kept coming back to St. James because we liked the Sanctuary and the friendly congregation (Besides, it had the best casseroles). There was also a St. James Presbyterian Church in San Gabriel where we were from. We figured that he must have been a neat guy to have so many churches named after him.

When my wife of 54 years passed in 2016, my family wanted me to come back "home" to be with the family there. Southern California is not the same as it was 32 years ago. Right now Bellingham and St. James are my home. I intend to stay awhile longer because this is where I belong.



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Office Hours: Tue-Fri, 9am-2pm

St. James Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Seth J. Thomas
Children's Ministry: Tracy Caruso, Coordinator
Teachers: Erika Singh-Cundy, Sophie Rose Kendrick, Lucy Sieczka
Administrative Secretary: Natasha Orme
Treasurer: Marina McLeod
Music Director: Carolyn Mullen
Pianist/Accompanist: Julian Fajardo

Sunday Worship Schedule

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

*Father's Day
June 17, 2018*

