

the Pulse

July 2018

THE SAINT JAMES PRESBYTERIAN MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



The Stillness of Summer

Summer is here! School's out! BBQs, trips to the lake, hiking, picnics, movies on the Village Green, concerts in the park...Bellingham is an amazing city in the summer!

For all the activity and excitement of this season, we also know that summer is a time of rest. A time to slow down our lives and kick off our shoes, to sit and enjoy the ones we love. There is an invitation to stillness — whether that's around a bonfire or with a cup of coffee in the pre-dawn light of these long days. We do well to attend to this invitation, to find the places of stillness and silence, in order to find ourselves again in the quiet, to focus and seek God's voice in prayer.

We cultivate an immense space in ourselves when we learn to engage stillness and rest. The practice of keeping the Sabbath, for instance, is a gift given to God's people so that we might be still and replenish the reserves in ourselves that can only be found by stopping, slowing down, and breathing in the glory of creation around us. We stop on the Sabbath day — stop from creating, stop from working, cease from striving to make the world in our own image. And

when we stop, we open ourselves up to the glory of God that we have been too busy to see. This glory fills us and opens us up, making us more able to engage our world in those other 6 days with strength and purpose.

The stillness of summer is, as well, an invitation to restoration and replenishment. Perhaps this summer affords you some time to slow down with family and friends. Perhaps you're taking a road trip or visiting grandchildren. How might the activity of these leisurely endeavors invite you to slow down and appreciate the stillness of a moment a little more? Will there be moments when you sit beside someone who love and simply

take a breath? I hope these will be opportunities to catch a little bit of the glory of Sabbath rest that God intends for us all. I hope these moments will roll together into an accumulation of restorative time, calling your soul back out from the place it was hiding through the frenzied pace of the rest of the year.

In these months of June and July, we're talking about what it means to "speak up" as God's people. And the more I study these texts, the more I realize that while we are called to speak up, we also must replenish the reservoir from which we speak. In other words, we need stillness and silence in order to give us ground to stand on when we stand up and speak out. They are partners, practices that feed each other. The more we cultivate the space of stillness in ourselves, the greater our ability to then speak with wisdom and courage.

Family of God — I hope that you find God's deep rest and restoration in this season. I hope that it builds you up so that we can continue to come back together, tell stories of how God is at work around us, and then, as a people energized, we might continue to pursue the challenging and good work God has in store for us.

May God's peace rest upon you,

Pastor Seth



Give ***a big thank you*** to all of those at St. James

who volunteered to make the second week at Sacred Heart another great success for Family Promise.



MAY FINANCIAL STATUS

	May	Current Budget	Yr. to Date	Annual Budget
Income	\$16,111	\$20,184	\$95,643	\$222,277
Expenses	\$17,708	\$21,739	\$92,843	\$222,277



ONLINE DONATIONS!

Using our new system you can :

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

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

ENJOY THE SUMMER!

Dick Carr, Chair
Finance Committee



Dave & Pat Nelson

They are in their second marriages. Pat has a daughter and son. Dave has two sons and a daughter. They also have seven grandchildren.

They met at the Modesto and Empire Traction RR. When Dave found out that Pat played the piano, she became his accompanist in 1983. In 1985, they formed Mellow Sounds. They enjoyed doing their music in restaurants, events and church. On July 16, 1988, they were married. Being members of Escalon Presbyterian Church, they both became Elders. Both served on Session.

In July of 1999, after putting his 30 years in on the RR, they retired and moved to Sudden Valley where

they built their retirement home. They found their church home at St. James soon thereafter. They have done music at church and the Bellingham Community Chorus.

In looking back on what they have done they know that God was leading them all the way. They thank you for being such a large part for their lives.

Highlights from the June 10, 2018 Session Meeting

Session members (Class) and their associated committees:

Laurie Anderson (2019)	Membership
Dick Carr (2019)	Finance
Tracy Caruso (2020)	Christian Faith Formation
Tim Crandall (2018)	Nominating
Faye Hill (2020)	Personnel
Jill Hoyt (2018)	Worship and Music
Gretchen Pfueller (2018)	Mission Social Action
Jeanne Uhles (2019)	Building and Grounds

Treasurer Marina McLeod reports that the church financial status is healthy. Although behind in annual pledges, the increased amount received from general offerings has closed the gap.

The Building and Grounds Committee reports that the extensive bathroom renovation is complete. Kudos to Jeanne Uhles and her team!

Two job announcements have been posted for staff vacancies; Director of Children & Family Ministries and Janitor. Our new accompanist's first day with the congregation will be 1 July.

The Deacons' lunch and the annual salmon cookout will be a combined event this year. Plan on attending on July 22 after church service.

Mark Beaty (2018), Clerk of Session

PULSE

July Birthdays

- 1 Milt Schayes
- 2 Jo McLeod
- 3 Parker DeWilde
- 4 Carolyn Mullen
- 5 Pat Nelson
- 7 Inge Thurston
- 10 Bill Butler
- 12 Merry Thomas
- 16 Karen Rogers
- 17 Karen Harnden Haggen
- 18 Charlotte Burkland
- 20 Nebiyu Tesfa
- 21 Gretchen Pfueller
- 25 Ed Simmers
- 25 Betsy Freeman
- 26 Bob Monahan
- 31 Brian Seater

July Anniversaries

- 9 Jim and Jody DeWilde
- 16 Dave and Pat Nelson
- 20 Gale and Gretchen Pfueller
- 21 Melany and David Armstrong
- 24 Randy and Teresa Bowers
- 29 Stacy and Pastor Seth Thomas

Presbyterian Women

The St. James Women's Association will meet Tuesday, July 24 at noon for a potluck salad luncheon in the Horizon Room. Guest speakers are Presbyterian Missionaries Tyler and Rochelle Holm, who are working in Mzuzu, Malawi, Africa. We look forward to hearing about their mission in that part of the world.

Don't miss it !



**The Annual Congregational Picnic, combined with the annual Salmon Barbecue!
Sunday, July 22, right after worship, on the front lawn.**

We will provide Salmon, garlic bread, hot dogs for the kids, and ice cream bars for dessert.
In addition to the wonderful food, we will have fun and games for all!

Please bring a salad or side dish to share. You may also want to bring your own lawn chair
(more comfy than the church folding chairs!)

Watch for the sign up in your church bulletin or call the office (360-733-1325) to register.

The event is free - donations accepted to cover costs.

JULY CALENDAR 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1 9:30am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship w/Communion 7:15pm AA	2 9:30am Book Club 10am Grief Support Group 4pm St. James Fitness 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study	3 10:15am Yoga 5:30pm AI Anon 5:30 Building and Ground 6pm Finance 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	4 Independence Day! 11:15am Tai Chi 6pm SOS Men's AA	5 10:15am Yoga 5:30pm Congregational Life 7:15pm AA	6 4pm St. James Fitness	7 10am OA 1pm Bellingham Ukulele Group	
8 9:30am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship 12pm Session 7:15pm AA	9 4pm St. James Fitness 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study	10 10:15am Yoga 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	11 11:15am Tai Chi 3:30pm Mission & Social Action 6pm SOS Men's AA	12 10:15am Yoga 7:15pm AA	13 12pm Prime Timers 4pm St. James Fitness 6:30pm Church Work Party	14 10am OA	
15 9:30am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship 11:45am Deacons 7:15pm AA	16 Pulse items due 10am Grief Support Group 4pm St. James Fitness 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study	17 10:15am Yoga 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	18 11:15am Tai Chi 6pm SOS Men's AA	19 10:15am Yoga 7:15pm AA	20 4pm St. James Fitness	21 9:30am Weavers Guild 10am OA 2:30pm Set up picnic	
22 9:30am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship ANNUAL PICNIC! FOLLOWING WORSHIP 7:15pm AA 	23 4pm St. James Fitness 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study	24 10:15am Yoga 12pm Women's Salad Potluck 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	25 11:15am Tai Chi 6pm SOS Men's AA	26 10:15am Yoga 7pm Bell Choir 7:15pm AA	27 4pm St. James Fitness	28 10am OA	
29 9:30am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship-Hymn Sing 7:15pm AA	30 9am Personnel 3pm Membership (Ten.) 4pm St. James Fitness 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study	31 10:15am Yoga 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p>Bayside Co-op Preschool Schedule: 360-733-3972</p> <p>Hawthorne Learning Solutions Schedule: hlearningsolutions@gmail.com</p> </div>				



910 - 14th Street, Bellingham, WA 98225
www.saintjamespres.org
office@saintjamespres.org
360-733-1325
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: Kaitlyn Ronstadt

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

