

the Pulse

April 2017

THE SAINT JAMES PRESBYTERIAN MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

With great excitement, the Pastor Nominating Committee announced their candidate, Seth Thomas, and on March 12th he was elected by the congregation as St. James' next pastor. That means, of course, that the time has come for me to say goodbye. Although I will be in the pulpit through Easter Sunday, this will be my final newsletter article.

As I say good bye, I also want to say thank you. Thanks to all of you for receiving Keith and me so warmly into your fellowship during our time here.



Thank you to the members of the Session for so ably partnering with me in leadership, and to the deacons for your care of the congregation. Thanks to the staff members who have supported me, and one another, as together we have served the church. Thanks to the committee members, and all the volunteers, who have given unselfishly of your time, energy and talents in doing the work of the church. Thank you to the Lenten discussion groups and Bible study participants who engaged with me in thinking about our

common faith. And finally, thanks to the many who have offered me words of affirmation and appreciation along the way.

St. James has been through enough pastoral transitions in recent years that many of you are aware of the ethics regarding a pastor's leaving. So, you know I won't be around or in touch with you, not out of lack of interest or concern, but out of professional courtesy to Seth. Very soon he will be your pastor, and I will have no pastoral relationship with this congregation. This probably won't be much of an issue since I don't live in Bellingham, but it bears saying as a reminder of the importance of such ethics, which serve the health of the congregation going forward.

I am glad I will be here through Lent, and will be able to worship with you on Easter Sunday. Appropriately, we will celebrate the hope of Easter as you prepare for a new day in the life of St. James Presbyterian Church.

With appreciation,
Pastor Janet

Farewell Coffee Hour

Sad but true, we are coming to the time to say goodbye to Pastor Janet. In appreciation of the tremendous job Pastor Janet did to prepare us to call our new pastor, a Farewell Coffee Hour will be held immediately after worship on Sunday, April 9, in the Horizon Room. It is a time to express our gratitude and best wishes to Pastor Janet and Keith as we say a fond farewell.



PULSE

Greetings from the Pastor Nominating Committee

We are thrilled to announce that St. James has called a new Pastor! Seth Thomas has accepted the call and will begin his role as our new pastor on April 18th and will preach his first sermon Sunday April 30th. Information about Seth and his family was mailed out at the beginning of March. Copies of that information is available in the church office.

We want to thank the congregation for their participation, help, and support through this process. As usual, if you have any questions regarding the process or how things are going please don't hesitate to ask one of us!

Don Hoyt, Jeanne Uhles, Jenny Sue LeSchander, Tim Crandall, and Tracy Caruso



Pastor Seth Thomas

"I am so excited for the opportunity to continue to live out my calling in the city of Bellingham. I believe this community is rich with people who vibrantly bear witness to the glory of God in their lives through their passion for the outdoors and love of art, music, and food. As the Church, we are called to live out a faith that seeks justice, loves mercy, and walks humbly with God as we celebrate God's beauty and goodness all around us. What better place to do this than in our spectacularly beautiful city!"

Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Middle East

**April 19, 2017
5:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m.**

Hosted by:
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
As part of their mid-week service
2117 Walnut St., Bellingham
(360) 733-2890

Thanks you!

Thanks to all the folks from St. James who prepared, served, helped set up, and enjoyed the St. Patrick's dinner at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church on March 19.

Gretchen and Gale Pfueller
Claude & Faye Hill
Margaret DeMaine
Alice Beaty
Jeanne Uhles
Mike Smith
Bill Butler
Carol and Ray Dellecker



The Presbyterian Women's Annual Rummage Sale

Don't miss St. James Women's Association's Annual Rummage Sale!
Saturday April 8, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



It's a great opportunity to clean out your closets -- and to fill them back up again!

Spring cleaning? St. James Presbyterian Women have a solution. Sift through your closets for clothing that no longer fits or items that no longer bring you joy. Donate clothing in good repair, household items, small appliances in working order -- no large appliances. Smaller furniture, books, CDs, other media also welcome.

If you need help transporting items, call Alice Beaty who will match you with someone who can help bring your items to the church. Otherwise, items can be dropped off at the lower level, Fellowship Hall.

St. James Presbyterian Women

St. James Women's Association will meet for its monthly bible study Tuesday, April 25 at 10:30 a.m. This will be followed by a potluck luncheon at noon. This month's focus is on the non-canonical gospels in the study guide, *Who Is Jesus?*

St. James Children's Ministries

April 2: Hope Against All Hope. Focus scripture is John 11:1-45. Children will learn about God's compassion. Adults can demonstrate this quality by the way they handle the feelings of young children.

April 9: Passion Amidst the Palms. Focus scripture: Matthew 21:1-11 and 26:14 through 27:66. All ages explore the challenges Jesus faced during the days before his death. Think about how to express this concept to youngsters.

April 16: Yes! Focus scripture: John 20:1-18. Help younger children appreciate the joy of Easter and guide older ones to explore its mystery.

April 23: It's True! Focus scripture is John 20:1-18. Retell the Easter story and emphasize that Jesus is present wherever we are.



April 30: Followers of the Way. Focus scripture: Luke 24:13-35. Children begin to learn the connection of sharing bread (a meal) with each other to sharing bread in church.

Then the two went over everything that happened on the road and how they recognized him when he broke the bread. Luke 24:35

PULSE

Thank you St. James!

Thank you to all who contributed to the Interfaith Auction gifts from St. James. We donated four silent auction items:

- a garden bench with a throw, shrubs, and a welcome sign
Brought in \$300
- two outdoor end tables with wineglasses and planter
Brought in \$225
- a miniature fairy herb garden
Brought in \$150
- an Easter basket.
Brought in \$25

This year's Hope Auction was a tremendous success! The auction raised \$200,000 that will immediately be put to work helping the homeless in Whatcom county.

Thanks again for our support.
Susan Burkland, Mission and Social Action



Highlights from the 12 March 2017 Session Meeting

This is provided as a reminder of who is serving on Session and the committees:

Laurie Anderson (Membership)
Dick Carr (Finance)
Tim Crandall (Nominating and Personnel)
Gary Culbertson (Worship)
Gretchen Pfueller (Mission Social Action)
Merry Thomas (Christian Faith Formation)
Jeanne Uhles (Building and Grounds)
Mark Beaty (Nominating)

Pulse Deadline

Pulse articles are due on the 16th of every month.
All items are appreciated.
Those items submitted after the 16th may appear in the next month's issue.

Natasha Orme, Administrative Secretary
Office email: office@saintjamespres.org

Motions that were passed included:

Policy for resolution signers for banking purpose;
Policy for managing the New Covenant Fund investment portfolio;
Holding a congregational meeting on 2 April 2017 to approve a replacement Elder;
Providing a termination to Pastor Sonnanburg, last day at St. James is 18 April 2017;
Approving Corey Schlosser-Hall preaching on 23 April 2017.

Mark Beaty
Clerk of Session

April Birthdays

4	Gil Thurston
7	Patty Cromarty
7	Lillian Snow
10	Gus Danielson
12	Sally Crandall
16	Erin Keyes
17	Bruce Kraig
18	Zach Mullen
20	Sally Albers
20	Shirley Drury
23	Mark Beaty
25	Valerie McBeth
29	Cheryl McGregor
30	Mary Elmslie
30	Nicholas Jackson

April Anniversaries

1	Tom and Margaret McVie
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Mission and Social Action encourages St. James members to support Habitat of Humanity for Earth Day!

Habitat for Humanity in Whatcom County envisions a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Seeking to put God's love in action, we bring people together to build and restore homes, communities and hope.

There are many ways you can support the creation of safe, decent, affordable housing in Whatcom County and around the world! Find out more about helping Habitat for Humanity's mission: info@hfhwhatcom.org

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY EVENTS

- Saturday, April 8, is Build Community Day at the new habitat home near Birch Bay. There is a job for everyone with lunch included.
- Tickets are now available for the 15th Annual Raise the Roof Auction, April 22, at Settlemyer Hall on the BTC Campus. A \$40 ticket includes a great dinner, silent and live auctions. Contact Ray Dellecker for more information about both events.

Flowers Committee members - New blooms please!

The flower committee is a great committee to serve on at St. James. One of the focal points in worship is the beauty of flowers and greenery on display. Flowers are always a gentle reminder of the sustaining, natural world given to us by God for our enjoyment and care. We are looking for a new committee chair. These faithful members and helpers serve well: Irene Rome, Madeleine Smith, Wilma French, Cheryl McGregor, Susan Burkland and Jeanne Uhles. Thank you so much. We loved the help from Laurie Anderson this year! Ideally, but there is room for more, we need at least 4 new people and someone who is willing to chair the committee. Committee members' duties:

- love flowers
- ask 5-7 people to provide flowers on a Sunday during the year. Anyone can provide flowers and some grow their own or borrow neighbors.
- discuss and recommend flower arrangements for Christmas and Easter.
- help decorate (putting up and taking down) the sanctuary at Christmas and Easter.
- clean up the flower vase and decor area once a month on one's own schedule.
- meet 2 times a year to talk things over and plan for Christmas or Easter.
- feel rewarded through this special way of having fun while communing with God and serving our church.

If you would like to volunteer, please tell Carla Shafer (outgoing chair) We would like to have a newly expanded committee and new chair organized by April 20th (just after Easter).



build the future

15th Annual Raise the Roof Auction



when & where

April 22nd, 2017

5:30 to 9PM

Settlemyer Hall

Bellingham Technical College



cost

\$40 per ticket

includes:

- live & silent auction
- 3 drinks (beer/wine)
- appetizers • dinner
- live entertainment



buy
tickets



Scan the QR
code, purchase
at the Habitat
Store, or call
(360) 715-9170.

Proceeds from the auction will help fund the construction of Telegraph Townhomes, a multi-family development in Bellingham that will house 24 low-income, qualified families. For both residents & environment, these energy efficient, affordable units represent a paradigm shift in urban home construction. Visit hfhwhatcom.org to learn more.

*Let's build the
future!*



Donate auction items or become
an auction sponsor by calling
(360) 715-9170.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

What started as an hour-long radio appeal has evolved into the One Great Hour of Sharing and has become the most participated-in Offering in the PC(USA).

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

One Great Hour of Sharing, received during the season of Lent (March 1 - April 15), makes a difference in the world through three impactful programs: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People.



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)

- Works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters
- Receives 32% of funds raised



Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP)

- Takes action to alleviate hunger and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed
- Receives 36% of funds raised



Self-Development of People (SDOP)

- Invests in communities responding to their experiences of racism, oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these societal ills
- Receives 32% of funds raised

WAYS YOUR MEMBERS CAN GIVE

Through your congregation

Text OGHS to 20222 to give \$10

presbyterianmission.org/give/oghs

St. James is receiving the OGHS offering on Palm Sunday, April 9.



You Shall Be Called **Repairers** of the Breach

— Isaiah 58 —

DAVID BARNHART



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Find out more about the ongoing work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance at
presbyterianmission.org/pda

St. James Presbyterian Holy Week and Easter Celebrations

Palm Sunday Worship
Sunday, April 9, 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service
Thursday, April 13, 7:30 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16

7:00 a.m.

Ecumenical Sunrise Worship at Fairhaven Park

8:00–10:00 a.m.

Easter Breakfast at St. James

10:30 a.m.

Easter Celebration in St. James' Sanctuary

Easter Egg Hunt to follow

REJOICE!

APRIL CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 10am OA 1pm Bellingham Ukulele Group
2 5th Sunday in Lent 9am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship w/ Communion Congregational Meeting	3 10am Grief Support Group 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study 6:30pm Boy Scouts	4 10am Yoga 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm Al Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	5 10am Bible Study 11:15am Tai Chi 12:15am Chair Tai Chi 4pm Mission & Social Action 5:30pm Finance 6pm SOS Men's	6 10:15am Yoga 5:30pm Congregational Life 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm AA 7:30pm Choir	7 9am Rummage Sale Set Up 10am Lenten Book Discussion 4pm Cross-fit	8 9am-3pm Rummage Sale 9am Church Work Party 10am OA
9 Palm Sunday 9am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship "Farewell Coffee Hour" for Pastor Janet 11:45am Deacons 12pm Session BYOL 1pm Writers Workshop 7:15pm AA	10 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study 6:30pm Boy Scouts	11 10am Yoga 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm Al Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	12 10am Bible Study 11:15am Tai Chi 12:15am Chair Tai Chi 4:30pm Weavers Guild 6pm SOS Men's AA	13 Maundy Thursday 8am Music Teachers Assoc. 10:15am Yoga 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm AA 7:30pm Worship Service	14 Good Friday 10am Lenten Book Discussion 12pm Prime Timers 2:45pm Christian Faith Formation 4pm Cross-fit	15 9am Chuckanut Sandstone Writers Workshop 10am OA
16 EASTER DAY 7am Sunrise Service at Fairhaven Park 8am Easter Breakfast 10:30am Easter Worship Easter Egg Hunt 7:15pm AA	17 Pulse Due Date 10am Grief Support Group 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study 7pm Boy Scouts	18 Pastor Seth Thomas's starting date 10am Yoga 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm Al Anon 5:30pm Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Middle East at Congregational Church 7:30pm WA	19 10am Bible Study 11:15am Tai Chi 12:15am Chair Tai Chi 6pm SOS Men's AA	20 10:15am Yoga 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm AA 7:30pm Choir	21 4pm Cross-fit	22 Earth Day 10am OA
23 9am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship-Dr. Corey Schlosser-Hall preaching 7:15pm AA	24 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study 7pm Boy Scouts	25 10am Yoga 10:30am Women's Bible Study 12pm Women's Potluck Luncheon 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm Al Anon	26 10am Bible Study 11:15am Tai Chi 12:15am Chair Tai Chi 6pm SOS Men's AA	27 10:15am Yoga 5:30pm Worship Committee 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm AA 7:30pm Choir	28 3pm Membership 4pm Cross-fit	29 10am OA
30 9am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship					Bayside Co-op Preschool Schedule: 360-360-733-3972 Hawthorne Learning Solutions Schedule: contact hlearningsolutions@gmail.com	