

the Pulse

August 2018

THE SAINT JAMES PRESBYTERIAN MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

The Mystery of Inclusion



Midsummer's Greetings!

This Summer, my son Asher has played hard! Sleepovers with cousins and friends. Swimming in a backyard pool. Walks around Bellingham, bike rides up and down the Spokane and Wenatchee river-fronts, hiking in the Chuckanut Mountains, s'mores by the campfire. It is a good time of year to be a 3-year-old.

As he grows older, I'm watching his play begin to change and develop. One thing he is learning about is how to include and be included by others. Oftentimes, he's the youngest child in the group. He's learning how to ask for help, learning how to get involved with others, and slowly, learning how to include others in his own playful ideas. I'm fascinated as I watch him test this out in how he uses his imagination to play outdoors, run with friends, and share with others.

Isn't it amazing how we experience a powerful change in ourselves when we feel included by others? We feel like we can open up, like we can breathe and allow ourselves to be seen and known and offer a bit more of ourselves in generosity when we feel welcomed. And when we share and include each other, we benefit from the breadth of one another's personalities, gifts, resources, and imaginations.

This August, we're going to be looking at what theologian Leonardo Boff describes as "a mystery of inclusion" — The Trinity. God, Jesus, Holy Spirit — the mystery of God as Three-In-One. Through much of August, we will explore this concept and how each person of the Trinity reveals to us a unique and yet interrelated part of God's character. Boff describes it as a mystery because deep at the heart of the Trinity, in the interrelated parts of God's character, there is sacramental, holy love.

In order to practice this mystery of inclusion ourselves, we will welcome two different voices to preach in our worship at St. James. The first two weeks of August, we will hear Pastor Doug Bunnell from First Presbyterian Church of Bellingham and Pastor Greg Ellis from Birchwood Presbyterian Church come share with our community about the Holy Spirit and the Creator God, respectively. Pastor Seth will visit their churches on August 5 and 12, preaching on Jesus Christ, the second person of the Trinity. The hope with this "pulpit swap" is that we might illustrate the many-ness of God by hearing from different voices — *and yet* — at the same time, gain a sense of the inclusive, welcoming, interconnected nature of God as we see three partners in pastoral ministry share and tell the story as one cohesive preaching unit.

What an opportunity — to share and include other voices that may seem different from ours, unfamiliar to us? As we move through this series and through the month of August, it is my hope that we recognize the swift and joyous current of God's presence moving through our 3 church communities, and interconnected picture of God's triune nature, manifested in God's Kingdom on earth, here in Bellingham.

The Common English Version of the opening words of Psalm 133 says this: *"It is truly wonderful when the people of God live together in peace."* How true and how wonderful indeed!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Seth





Rev. Doug Bunnell
First Presbyterian Church



Rev. Greg Elliss
Birchwood Presbyterian



Rev. Seth J Thomas
St. James Prebyterian

August Pulpit Swap — Bellingham Presbyterian Pastors!

JUNE FINANCIAL STATUS

	June	Current Budget	Yr. to Date	Annual Budget
Income	\$15,846	\$16,469	\$111,489	\$222,277
Expenses	\$14,551	\$16,405	\$107,395	\$222,277



ONLINE DONATIONS!

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

St. James Stewardship Campaign this year is during the month of October.

Dick Carr, Chair
Finance Committee



Thank you for allowing us to share about our ministries with your PW group. It was wonderful to meet you and get to know your love for God's plan in the world. Tyler and Rochelle Holm are serving in Mzuzu, Malawi (Africa), at the invitation of the Church of Central African Presbyterian (CCAP), Synod of Livingstonia and PC (USA), PC (USA) Presbyterian World Mission and Mzuzu University. CCAP is an international church partner of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Tyler teaches theology at the University of Livingstonia, one of the synod's institutions. The Faculty of Theology on the Ekwendeni campus is training future pastors and church leaders for the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian. Rochelle works directly for Mzuzu University and manages the Water and Sanitation Centres, which are committed to increasing the availability and sustainable of clean water and improved sanitation in northern Malawi and beyond. To visit our family blog on our weekly work and life: <http://www.holminafrika.blogspot.com/>

Grace and Peace,
Tyler, Rochelle and Mphatso Holm
Mzuzu, Malawi



The next **FAMILY PROMISE WEEK** at Sacred Heart will be September 9-16. AFP training event and a "Protecting God's Children" training will be announced soon.

New Update from CherYsh America Foundation



CherYsh America Foundation has recently concluded its crowdfunding campaign, to raise funding to support their efforts to bring modern electricity systems to improve health, education, and home industries at the Saangalo home and Nsenge village community. This project will have two phases:

1. Bring modern electric and related data systems
2. Sustainable programs in health, education and home-based industries.

In addition, we have made good progress during our recent visit to Uganda. A team comprised of CherYsh and Johnson & Johnson visited Kampala and Jinja to meet with partners in engineering, education, university research, government, and NGOs. These meetings may aid in the installation of a solar power system in the village, bringing electricity and water power to Sangallo homes and neighboring areas.

CherYsh America Foundation will be working to obtain legal status in Uganda to operate and recruit a small, talented team from the Makerere University. During this time, design of the solar power and computer systems will take place, as well as ensuring all the governance issues are in order.

Laurelwood Ct., Rye, New York 10580, USA. Tel: +1.646.225.6545. Email: ena.cabre@cherysh.org EIN 45-3908275

August Birthdays

- 5 Gary Culbertson
- 7 Jeanne Uhles
- 12 Wilma French
- 13 Jill Hoyt
- 13 Lois Anderson
- 16 Megan Pfueller Melrose
- 19 Bill Read
- 23 Keena Mullen
- 24 Rick Seater
- 25 Mary van der Veen
- 28 Marilyn Monahan

August Anniversaries

- 6 Tim and Wendy Crandall
- 13 Rick and Jean Seater
- 21 Dwayne and Karen Rogers
- 21 Jim and Carolyn Mullen

Prime Timers

Prime timers will not meet in August.

They will resume on the second Friday in September for a planning meeting and potluck.

Presbyterian Women

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, Aug. 28 for this month's luncheon. Once again Gretchen Pfueller has invited the group to her home for our luncheon and meeting. Bring a salad to share in addition to summer picnic goodies from Gretchen's kitchen. Please meet in front of the church at 11:30am so we can carpool. A hearty "Thank You" to Gretchen for her generous hospitality.





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SUNDAY, SEPT. 30, 2-4 P.M.
CIVIC FIELD PARKING LOT, BELLINGHAM

WWW.FAMILYPROMISEBEDRACE.COM

For more information: Interfaith Coalition Main Office: 360-734-3983

AUGUST 2018 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Bayside Co-op Preschool Schedule: 360-733-3972 Hawthorne Learning Solutions Schedule: hlearningsolutions@gmail.com </div>			1 3:30pm Mission & Social Action 6pm SOS Men's AA 7pm Christian Faith Formation	2 10:15am Yoga 5:30pm Congregational Life 7:15pm AA	3 4pm St. James Fitness	4 10am OA 1pm Bellingham Ukulele Group
5 9:30am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship w/Communion 7:15pm AA Fairhaven	6 10am Book Group 10am Grief Support Group 4pm St. James Fitness 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study	7 10:15am Yoga 5:30pm AI Anon 5:30 Building and Ground 6pm Finance 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	8 10am Worship Committee 6pm SOS Men's AA	9 10:15am Yoga 7:15pm AA	10 9am Session Retreat 4pm St. James Fitness	11 10am OA
12 9:30am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship 12pm Session 7:15pm AA Fairhaven	13 4pm St. James Fitness 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study	14 10am Staff 10:15am Yoga 5:30pm AI Anon 6pm Bayside 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	15 6pm SOS Men's AA	16 <u>Pulse items due</u> 10:15am Yoga 7:15pm AA	17 4pm St. James Fitness	18 9:30am Weavers Guild 10am OA
19 9:30am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship 7:15pm AA Fairhaven	20 10am Grief Support Group 4pm St. James Fitness 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study	21 10:15am Yoga 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	22 6pm SOS Men's AA	23 10:15am Yoga 6pm Bell Choir 7:15pm AA	24 4pm St. James Fitness	25 8am Pet Partner 10am OA
26 9:30am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship 7:15pm AA Fairhaven	27 9am Personnel 4pm St. James Fitness 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study 6:30pm Boy Scouts	28 10:15am Yoga 12pm Women's Luncheon 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	29 2pm Membership 6pm SOS Men's AA	30 10:15am Yoga 7:15pm AA 7pm Choir	31 4pm St. James Fitness	

Bountiful Harvest

Our **Bountiful Harvest table** in the Horizon room features fresh veggies and fruit produced by congregational gardeners. You are welcome to take what you can use, and encouraged to share produce from your own garden as well. Monetary donations given for the produce are donated to the Bellingham Food Bank.





How Majestic Is Your Name

Lord, our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory

in the heavens.

Through the praise of children and infants

you have established a stronghold against your

enemies,

to silence the foe and the avenger.

When I consider your heavens,

the work of your fingers,

the moon and the stars,

which you have set in place,

what is mankind that you are mindful of them,

human beings that you care for them?

You have made them a little lower than the angels

and crowned them with glory and honor.

You made them rulers over the works of your

hands;

you put everything under their feet:

all flocks and herds,

and the animals of the wild,

the birds in the sky,

and the fish in the sea,

all that swim the paths of the seas.

Lord, our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!



910 - 14th Street, Bellingham, WA 98225
www.saintjamespres.org
office@saintjamespres.org
360-733-1325
Office Hours: Tue-Fri, 9am-2pm

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

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