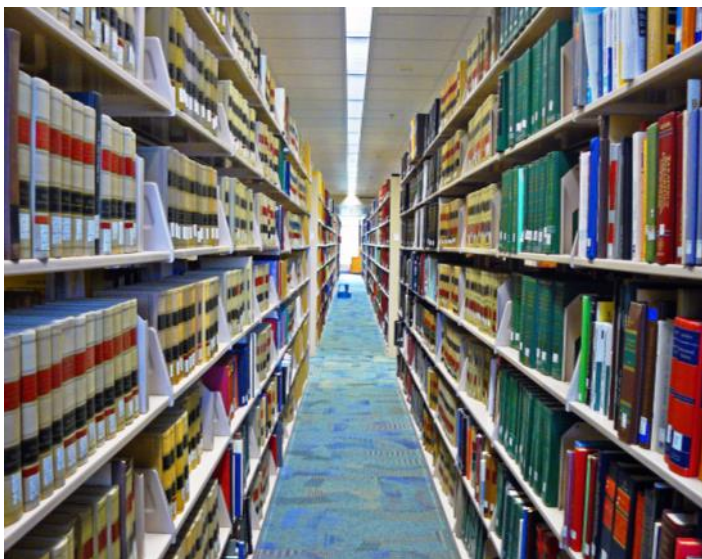


The Pulse

St. James Presbyterian Church

JANUARY 2015

“Saint James Presbyterian Church: Called to Serve God through Faith in Action.”
Article by Pastor Jon Hauerwas



You may know that I am currently pursuing a doctorate at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. The degree is called a Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.), and differs from the terminal, teaching degree known as the Ph.D. Certainly, there are some ordained pastors who have earned a Ph.D., but the overwhelming majority of clergy who pursue a doctorate receive the D.Min., which is specifically designed for pastors who wish to remain in the parish while learning additional skills for effective ministry.

In December, I completed a year-long research practicum with a focus on the history of Saint James, an emphasis upon the current challenges our congregation faces, and our vision for the future. As a part of this process, our Session affirmed a new vision statement, “Saint James Presbyterian Church: Called to Serve God through Faith in Action.” Our leadership believes that this succinct phrase best describes who we are and who we strive to be.

In January, my coursework continues. I’ll be traveling to Atlanta for two weeks to participate in a class offered by the biblical studies department. It’s been more than a year since I last visited the campus, and I’m excited to return to the classroom. While I’m away, two retired pastors will be leading us in worship. One is Bob Rieke, who previously served the United Church of Christ in Blaine. The other is Erv Roorda, a retired Presbyterian pastor who previously served as our presbytery’s COM representative during the call process which brought me to Saint James. I hope that you appreciate the mix of voices from the pulpit, and the opportunity to reconnect with Erv, who worked so closely with our PNC. And, as always, I look forward to seeing you again when my course concludes.

Peace and best wishes,
Jon

Saint James has a new Adult Fellowship and Service Group.

This new officering is targeting the younger segment of our church. As you know, it's not uncommon for a congregation to have a variety of different groups that seek to meet the needs of those who call the church their spiritual home. Saint James already offers a *men's* Bible study, *Presbyterian Women*, and *Prime Timers* (for older adults). The Adult Fellowship and Service Group is designed for those of college age and up. Singles, couples, and those with children still at home are all welcome. We have a rotating leadership model, with a different participant taking the lead for scheduling next month's event. We do not yet have set meeting dates, but typically meet once per month. As the name suggests, the group will provide a mix of fellowship and service activities. If you would like to learn more, please contact Pastor Jon.

PULSE



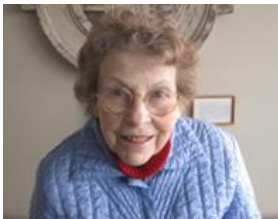
Finance Committee Status

	November	Year to Date
Income	25,656.86	228,514.04
Expenses	18,527.27	191,566.23

2014 Stewardship Campaign
As of December 6, St. James members and friends have pledged \$181,773. This is 93% of 2014 pledges. Thank you to everyone who has responded to this campaign. We are in the process of preparing a budget for 2015 using the above pledged amount.

Thanks for your support!

Welcome New Member



Marilyn Methven is originally from Tacoma but is a long-time resident of Bellingham. She worked for many years at Larrabee School. Marilyn enjoys spending time with her children and grandchildren who live locally.

Dear Members of St James Presbyterian:

December is a wondrous time of anticipation, full of joyful music, bright decorations, tasty sweets and special spiritual meaning. But many families struggle through the season, living in emergency or transitional housing, and unable to provide even the simplest of gifts for their children.

But you reached out, sponsoring a family with thoughtful gifts for each member. We wish you could have seen the faces of moms and dads, teens and little ones, as we handed out cheerfully wrapped presents this week. People who have come to expect very little received something very tangible: this community cares about people in need. Your gifts give hope for better days ahead.

Life is challenging for so many. We see domestic violence, substance abuse, mental health issues, child neglect, poverty and despair. As our partners in hope, you share our message that everyone matters. We know the holiday season is about so much more than a special package. But as one of the young boys told us, "I just didn't think anyone would get me a gift, but wow! Someone I don't even know did, and I just want to say thanks a whole lot."

We say thanks a whole lot, too. This year, you and our other sponsors provided gifts to 98 families. You are making a difference by your generosity. Our deepest appreciation for this kindness, and our warmest wishes for your Christmas and new year.

Peace and joy this holiday season, Laura Harker
Executive Director, Interfaith
Interfaith Coalition of Whatcom County
Office tel: (360) 734-3983
Cell: (360) 510-1710



JANUARY 2015



20th Anniversary Tall Timber Winter Retreat

Please join us for a fun and relaxing weekend
in the mountains!

**Friday, February 13 -Monday, February 16
President's Day Weekend**

**FAMILY FUN!
WITH YOUR SAINT JAMES FAMILY!**

Everyone is welcome!

Please feel free to bring along a friend or family member. Do not think you are too old or young to come along; you can always relax and enjoy the beautiful views from the lodge if you are not feeling energetic.

**Activities include cross country skiing,
snowshoeing, sledding, snow skate park, and playing games in the cozy lodge.**

**This year we will be sharing our retreat with Westminster Presbyterian in Olympia, so make
your reservation ASAP, space may be limited!**

More information and sign up sheets will be available in the Horizon room.
You can also contact: Teresa Bowers 671-5280, tess@sulerin.com

New hymnals for a new year.

This is the first Sunday we are worshipping together with *Glory to God*, the new Presbyterian hymn book. If you would like to donate one of these new hymnals in honor, in memory, in appreciation, or in celebration of a loved one, loved ones, or a special group of people, then please include this instruction with your check for \$20.00 to Saint James Presbyterian. Please write "hymnal" in the memo line. We will add the dedication in the front cover as you instruct us. Finally, if you would like to take one or more of the retired, blue *Presbyterian Hymnals* home with you, please feel free to do so. We will soon be finding a new home for any that are not taken.

PULSE

Indonesia: Presbyterian Mission Co-workers, Bernie and Farsijana Adeney-Risakotta

In November we received a letter from Bernie and Farsijana. They returned to Indonesia in July after his study leave in Boston and her recovery from a car accident. Hereby the main parts of their letter:

Yogyakarta, November 2014

What is it like to come back to work in Indonesia, after a glorious year in Boston? Frankly speaking, I was worried. Boston was like a dream. Farsijana healed beautifully. But I wondered how we would adjust to going back to “normal” work in Indonesia.

We needn’t have worried. As we stepped off the airplane and felt the humid heat sweep over us, we knew we were home. The lush green tropics, soaring volcanos, beautiful beaches, ringing calls to prayer, smells of spicy sweet food and the roar of kamikaze students on their motorbikes are part of our soul. Our home has been a place of grace, where Muslims and Christians from areas of violent conflict have found peace and reconciliation. Our home became a community center for empowering women and children, promoting art and creativity, serving the basic needs of hundreds of victims of earthquakes and volcanic eruptions and fostering deep discussion between people of different cultures and religions about the problems facing Indonesian society.

One ray of light that gives many Indonesians hope is the election of Joko Widodo (Jokowi) as President of Indonesia. In spite of formidable opposition from powerful members of the older political, military, business and religious elites, Jokowi won the direct election. Jokowi gives promise to lead the country in directions that prioritize education, promote religious tolerance, protect the human rights of minorities, combat corruption, prioritize the needs of the poor, enforce protection of the environment, encourage gender equality and strengthen democratic institutions. He is one of the most impressive world leaders currently in power, the elected President of the largest Muslim population and the fourth largest nation on earth. Please pray for him as he faces immense problems and heavy opposition.

Farsijana and I are assigned by PCUSA to teach at Duta Wacana Christian University (DWCU) training leaders for Indonesian Church and Society. After several years helping programs in theology at DWCU, I started to help begin the Indonesian Consortium for Religious Studies (ICRS). ICRS is the world’s first consortium of leading national, Muslim and Christian universities which cosponsor a doctoral program that shapes religious leaders trained to work across religious boundaries to address common problems. The program attracts doctoral students from 13 different countries as well as from all over Indonesia. The first year focused on how countries like Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Cambodia, Vietnam and Myanmar (Burma) manage relationships between religious majorities and minorities. The second year is now focusing on how the different countries regulate sexual and gender relationships. The third year will focus on how the countries manage religion in the public sphere (including internet).

We are thankful to the PCUSA and you who make our work possible. Without the gifts and prayers of many people we would not be able to carry on. We pray for you as you pray for us, knowing that it is God who works in all of us to do his good pleasure (Phil. 2:13).

Salam hangat,
Bernie and Farsijana Adeney-Risakotta

Session Highlights

At the December 14 meeting Session voted to:

- Call a Congregational meeting for Sunday, January 4 to elect officers
- Call a Special Session meeting for Thursday, January 8 to discuss the 2015 budget
- Hold the joint Elder/Deacon meeting on Saturday, January 24
- Call a Congregational meeting for Sunday, January 25 for the Annual Meeting

Session heard:

- The youth will be having a winter encampment
- The new adult group had their first meeting
- A rocking chair has been ordered for the children's area at the back of the Sanctuary
- Pastor Jon will be on study leave from Jan 5-18

Congregational Meetings

Session has called a **Congregational Meeting** for **Sunday, January 4** to elect officers. It will be immediately following worship.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held **Sunday, January 25** immediately following worship.

All committee reports need to be turned into Natasha by January 4 so she has time to prepare the Annual Report.

Email is preferred.

10 Things to Observe as You Visit Loved Ones

1. Spoiled food in fridge
2. Poor grooming, personal hygiene
3. Loss of interest in activities once enjoyed
4. Diminished driving skills, near misses
5. Difficulty walking; unsteady; recent falls
6. Mishandled or missed medications
7. Personality changes; irritability; sudden mood changes
8. Unopened mail; past due bills; mishandled finances
9. Poor housekeeping home maintenance; unsafe conditions
10. Depression; forgetfulness

Watch for these warning signs to see if your elderly loved one is in need of assistance and extra care. If someone seems to need help, don't be afraid to speak up and reach out.



WWU Student Club: "Progressive Christian Voices"

The student club supported by St. James is organizing a presentation on "Overcoming Disability" by Al Fox, on Wednesday, January 21. Time and place (on campus) will be announced in our Sunday bulletin.

PULSE

January Birthdays

- 1 Teresa Bowers
- 2 Phil Jones
- 3 Susan Burkland
- 4 Roy Clarke
- 7 Stacey Miller
- 8 Marty Haines
- 11 Don Mellinger
- 12 Marv Blount
- 13 Nancy Pace
- 15 Karen Summers
- 16 Joan Elsethagen
- 17 Dwayne Rogers
- 18 Genevie Pfueller Roguski
- 20 Wayne Landis
- 23 Hailey Caruso
- 26 Melany Armstrong
- 26 Betty Miller
- 28 Mark Danielson
- 31 Marlene Amman

January Anniversaries

- 2 Ed Simmers and Jane Madden

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
OF ST. JAMES

Come join us Tuesday, January 27, 2015

10:30am: Bible Study, 5th lesson in The Lounge

12:00pm: Salad Potluck luncheon in The Horizon Room

Worship with Children

You may have noticed a change in the sanctuary. On the pulpit side, the back pew has now been removed and carpeting has been installed. The pew was moved to the Horizon Room to make room for a gliding rocking chair that has been ordered and will arrive in the coming weeks. Our goal is to provide a designated, nurturing space for anyone who comes to worship with a small child. In addition to the gliding rocker and carpet, the area will also feature some quiet toys for children.

Creation

Obvious of course, now and in the beginning:
God is not a perfectionist. Good at detail for sure,
and drama, but lacking the
compulsion to get every piece of
punctuation in its proper place, ever.
And forever forgetting the finishing touches:
a proper frame, that final proofreading.

Tempting to be critical of such sloppiness,
all those excesses and omissions. For instance,
surely there is too much sadness to go around,
more than what’s necessary for lessons and poetry.

But I don’t mean there is no serious business here.
Only that there is something else on the canvas,
an art in line and color, a splash of mystery,
a priority of passion perhaps,
well beyond the right answer and its rush of applause,
something still seeping into our soil.

Janeal Turnbull Ravndal

9am Sunday Morning Adult Class

Beginning on January 4th, the 9am Sunday Morning Adult Class will begin a study of the book *One Thousand Gifts: A Dare to Live Fully Right Where You Are* by Ann Voskamp. The theme of the book is finding joy in a life of radical gratitude and becoming aware of God's presence in a way that brings deep and lasting happiness. Books are available at the class. Coffee, morning snacks, inspiration and amazing fellowship are also provided. Start the new year right -- come join us!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Happy New Year! 2015				1 New Years Day 7:15pm AA	2 4pm Cross-fit	3 10am OA 1pm Bellingham Ukulele Group
		Children's Co-Op Preschool For information please call 360-510-9558				
4 9am Fellowship Breakfast 9am Adult Bible Class 10:30am Worship - Communion 11:30am Congre- gational Meeting Annual Reports Due 7pm AA	5 2:30pm Hawthorne Learning Solution 5:30pm Solar Panel 6pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study	6 8am Prayer Group 2:30pm Hawthorne Learning Solution 4pm Cross-fit 5:15pm Finance 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	7 Epiphany 8am Men's Bible Study 2:30pm Hawthorne Learning Solutions 2:30pm Christian Faith Formation 5:30pm Mission & Social Action 6pm SOS Men's AA	8 10am Yoga 2:30pm Hawthorne Learning Solutions 5:15pm Youth 5:30pm Special Session Meeting 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm AA 7:30pm Choir	9 12pm Prime Timers 4pm Cross-fit	10 9am Church Work Party 10am OA
11 9am Fellowship Breakfast 9am Adult Bible Class 10:30am Worship Rev. Bob Rieke preaching 12pm Session + Lunch 7pm AA	12 2:30pm Hawthorne Learning Solution 6:30pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study	13 8am Prayer Group 2:30pm Hawthorne Learning Solution 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm AI Anon 7pm Preschool Parent Mtg 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	14 8am Men's Bible Study 2:30pm Hawthorne Learning Solutions 6pm SOS Men's AA 6:30pm Weavers Guild	15 10am Yoga 2:30pm Hawthorne Learning Solutions 5:15pm Youth 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm AA 7:30pm Choir	16 PULSE DUE 4pm Cross-fit	17 10am OA
18 9am Fellowship Breakfast 9am Adult Bible Class 10:30am Worship - Rev. Erv Roorda preaching 11:30am Deacons 5:30pm Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Middle East at First Church of Christ Scientist 7pm AA	19 Martin Luther King's Birthday 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study	20 8am Prayer Group 2:30pm Hawthorne Learning Solution 2:30pm Personnel 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	21 8am Men's Bible Study 2:30pm Hawthorne Learning Solutions 6pm SOS Men's AA	22 10am Yoga 2:30pm Hawthorne Learning Solutions 5:15pm Youth 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm AA 7:30pm Choir	23 4pm Cross-fit 4:15pm Membership	24 10am OA 6pm Music Teachers Assoc.
25 9am Fellowship Breakfast 9am Adult Bible Class 10:30am Worship 11:30am Congregational Meeting 7pm AA	26 2:30pm Hawthorne Learning Solution 6:30pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study 7pm St. James Literary Society	27 8am Prayer Group 10:30am Women's Bible Study 12pm Women's Luncheon 2:30pm Hawthorne Learning Solution 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	28 8am Men's Bible Study 9am Preschool 10am Pulse Crew 2:30pm Hawthorne Learning Solutions 6pm SOS Men's AA	29 10am Yoga 2:30pm Hawthorne Learning Solutions 5:15pm Youth 6pm Worship 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm AA 7:30pm Choir	30 4pm Cross-fit	31 10am OA
For events not listed on this calendar, check out the St. James website! www.saintjamespres.org						

St. James Presbyterian Church
910 14th Street
Bellingham, WA 98225

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St. James Presbyterian Church

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

Ministers: The Congregation

Melany Armstrong, Organist/Pianist
Cascade Vocational Services:
Don Bayne, Aaron Cook, Vernon Point,
Custodians
Tarryn Brands, Nursery Attendant
Ben Gamman, Youth Director
Marina Gresham, Interim Treasurer
The Rev. Jon Hauerwas, Pastor
Mike McLeod, Maintenance
Carolyn Mullen, Music Director
Natasha Orme, Office Manager
Lena Rachinski, Youth Director
Payton de Witt, Nursery Attendant
Kara Hauerwas, Carla Shafer, and Merry
Thomas, ages 3-5

**Annual Reports Due
January 4th**



Sunday Worship Schedule

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

Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
You may reach Pastor Jon after 2pm at
360-510-1750 email:
jon@saintjamespres.org

Interfaith Christmas Gift Drop Off
Volunteers

Don't forget to check out the St. James website! saintjamespres.org