



With the arrival of November, we enter the season of gratitude. In truth, our faith calls us to be thankful all the time. The emphasis thanksgiving receives this time of the year reminds of the attitude – toward life, toward one another, and toward God – we are to have every day of every year. So much has been written about gratitude, from many wiser than I, that I’m not sure what I could add. So, instead I offer the following quotes for your reflection.

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.
– Colossians 3:16-17

Concentrate on finding what is good in every situation and you will discover that your life will suddenly be filled with gratitude, a feeling that nurtures the soul.
– Rabbi Harold Kushner

It is not happiness that makes us grateful, but gratefulness that makes us happy. – Gratefulness.org

Saying thank you is more than good manners. It is good spirituality. – Alfred Painter

If the only prayer you say in your whole life is “thank you,” that would suffice.

– Meister Eckhart

As I express my gratitude, I become more deeply aware of it. And the greater my awareness, the greater my need to express it. What happens here is a spiraling ascent, a process of growth in ever-expanding circles around a steady center. – Brother David Steindl-Rast

Before we can count we are taught to be grateful for what others do. As we are broken open by our experience, we begin to be grateful for what is, and if we live long enough and deep enough and authentically enough, gratitude becomes a way of life. – Mark Nepo

Mature prayer always breaks into gratitude.

– Richard Rohr

Gratitude is happiness doubled by wonder.

– G.K. Chesterton

To speak gratitude is courteous and pleasant, to enact gratitude is generous and noble, but to live gratitude is to touch heaven. – Johannes A. Gaertner

PULSE



To be grateful is to recognize the Love of God in everything (God) has given us – and (God) has given us everything. Every breath we draw is a gift of (God's) love, every moment of existence is a grace, for it brings with it immense graces from God. Gratitude therefore takes nothing for granted, is never unresponsive, is constantly awakening to new wonder and to praise of the goodness of God. For the grateful person knows that God is good, not by hearsay but by experience. And that is what makes all the difference.

– Thomas Merton

Reflect upon your present blessings of which every person has plenty; not on your misfortunes of which all people have some.

– Charles Dickens

In the New Testament, religion is grace and ethics is gratitude.

– Thomas Erskine

Gratitude goes beyond the "mine" and "thine" and claims the truth that all of life is a pure gift. In the past I always thought of gratitude as a spontaneous response to the awareness of gifts received, but now I realize that gratitude can also be lived as a discipline. The discipline of gratitude is the explicit effort to acknowledge that all I am and have is given to me as a gift of love, a gift to be celebrated with joy.

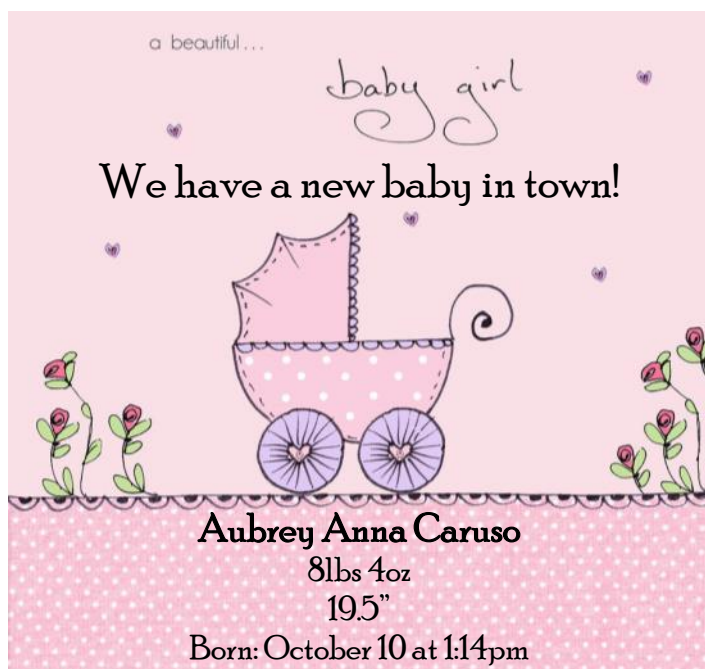
– Henri Nowen

It is only with gratitude that life becomes rich!

– Dietrich Bonhoeffer

There's plenty to ponder in these quotes. I invite you to select from among them words that speak to you; then use them as devotions during the month of November. Then, may your Thanksgiving be about food and fellowship, time with family and friends, and all that we enjoy about this holiday. But may it also be about remembering what it means to live with gratitude, not just on Thanksgiving, but every day of the year.

With thanksgiving,
Pastor Janet



NOVEMBER 2016

The Saint James
Arts, Crafts & Gifts Faire
Featuring the St. James Bakery
Saturday, Nov. 5, 2016, 9:30am to 3pm



Join us to find wonderful gift ideas, handmade crafts, beautiful art and more from our 17 arts, crafts, and food vendors!

Visit our Coffee Shop for free coffee and a bounty of fresh baked goods. (Please note—we are not serving lunch this year.)



BUY YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS

- > For our beautiful queen-sized quilt.
- > To win one of the great items donated by our faire vendors.

WOULD YOU HELP? Volunteers are needed to:

- > Support our vendors (breaks, food).
- > Clean up after the event.

Please call Margaret McVie (360-380-1079) to schedule volunteer time.

COULD YOU DONATE:

- > Baked goods for our sale: Pies, cupcakes, candies, cookies and other home-baked delights. We will have packaging ready for these donations. Donated food items should be delivered to the Horizon Room Friday afternoon or by 9:00 am Saturday.



**MOST IMPORTANT:
 ADD THE FAIRE TO YOUR CALENDAR,
 PLAN TO ATTEND and BRING A FRIEND!**

All monies raised at the Faire
 are given to local children's and women's charities.
 Last year we raised \$2,800 to support our community.
 With your help we can increase that amount this year.

PULSE

September Financial Status

	September	Current Budget	Yr. to Date	Yr. to date Budget
Income	\$18,515	\$17,702	\$171,777	\$170,224
Expenses	\$15,895	\$20,168	\$153,331	\$169,941

Financial Committee
Dick Carr, Chair



Stewardship Campaign

The Stewardship Committee wants to thank everyone who has responded with providing us your Pledge form and Time and Talent form. These responses are key to planning for 2017 financial aspects and the activities which you are willing to support. The formal part of the campaign ended on October 31, 2016. If you have not responded with your Pledge form and Time and Talent form, PLEASE take the time now to indicate your support on each form and get it to the church office either via the U.S. mail or bring it in person. We, the contributors as members and nonmembers alike, look forward to how our contributions will affect our mission during 2017 as we welcome our new permanent pastor.

Stewardship Committee:

Dave Armstrong	Peter Burkland
Marina McLeod	Pastor Janet Sonnanburg
Martha Speer	Dick Carr, Chair

***If the only prayer you say in your whole life is “thank you,” that would suffice.
– Meister Eckhart***

Notes of Appreciation:

Thank you for your generous response to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. Almost \$1,200 was received with 25% + \$856 to be divided among Engedi Refuge in Lynden, which houses and supports women who have been victims of human trafficking, Tierra Nueva's Jail Ministry, and Whatcom Peace & Justice Center. 25% will be distributed by NW Coast Presbytery and 50% goes to PCUSA Peace and Global Witness efforts.

Thank you for the many single-serve food items shared with local street youth who are assisted through N.W. Youth Services. Please keep the food coming!

Thanks to Bill Read for delivering the much appreciated food as well as several bags of appropriate clothes following the Co-op Preschool's garage sale.

Thank you for warming the hearts, souls, and bodies of many with your abundant gifts of coats and warm weather accessories. Interfaith Coalition distributed

the coats on Sunday, October 23.

"O Christmas tree..." Beginning the first Sunday in Advent, November 27, the Angel Tree will be adorned with gift requests for those who are assisted by/through Interfaith Coalition.

Instructions:

1. Select a tag
2. Sign for tag on clip board
3. Return gift in gift bag with tag attached by Sunday, December 18
4. Check your name off on clip board

Monetary gifts are also much appreciated.

For more information please contact Gretchen Pfueller at 360-734-3953.

GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The PNC sent questionnaires to about 25 candidates who seemed like the best fit with St. James. We are now in the process of reviewing the responses and listening to a couple of sermons from each candidate. We have identified a handful of candidates who we will interview over the phone to get to know them better and to get more details about their vision for ministry. We are still accepting applications, so if you know someone who might be interested in the pastor position at St. James, please have them submit their Personal Information Form (PIF). As always, 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

Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

First Christian Church

495 E. Bakerview Road, Bellingham

Wednesday, November 23, 2016

6:30 p.m.

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Bellingham, will host this year's Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service, giving thanks for the many blessings God and God's good creation have provided.

PULSE

Helping Those Affected by Hurricane Matthew

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) urges your support for those affected by Hurricane Matthew. The category 4 hurricane has already been blamed for at least 100 deaths, and early assessments confirm extensive damage in southwestern Haiti and eastern Cuba, as well as the southeast coast of the United States. PDA was already active in the area, doing long-term recovery work related to the 2010 earthquake in Haiti and Superstorm Sandy of 2012.

PDA is working alongside established partners to respond to this latest crisis. Immediate response has helped provide essential food, water and supplies for impacted communities and villages. As long-term recovery needs are determined, PDA will continue its support to ensure those in impacted areas to ensure a comprehensive recovery.

The needs for the response are great. God's people are once again called on to stand in the "gap" -- Give. Act. Pray. Gifts can be made by phone at 1-800-872-3283, or by check, given to the church or mailed to: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700. Include DR000193/Matthew on the subject line.



“The duty of helping one’s self in the highest sense involves the helping of one’s neighbors.” -Samuel Smiles

.....

NOVEMBER 2016

The Syrian Refugee Crisis: An Eyewitness Account



Patty Fink, a public transportation consultant from Portland, Oregon, and her 15 year-old son Peter, will give a slide presentation on the Syrian refugee crisis on **Thursday, November 10, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. at the Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship at 1207 Ellsworth St., Bellingham**. The Finks will describe their recent experiences in the Ritsona Refugee Camp near Chalkida, Greece where they volunteered. They will share the story of two Syrian Muslim mothers and their children whom Patty and her volunteer colleagues befriended and are currently assisting. We will learn about ways we can enable these two families to create a new life outside of the camp. There will be a free will offering to support the families.

Sponsors of this event are Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship Social and Environmental Justice Committee, Whatcom Human Rights Task Force and Whatcom Peace & Justice Center.

Please contact Genia Allen-Schmid at geniaAS@gmail.com for more information.

Presbyterian World Mission

Presbyterian World Mission brings God's global family together to heal the wounds of poverty and violence and proclaim God's saving love in Jesus Christ.

The year 2016 marks 179 years of international mission by the Presbyterian Church. Over the years, Presbyterian missionaries have planted churches, built hospitals, and started schools on every continent. The seeds sown by those missionaries have, in many places, developed into self-sustaining churches and institutions now led by local Christians. In fact, more than 94 million Christians around the world now belong to churches that were founded or co-founded by Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) mission workers.



Today, nearly 200 mission co-workers in approximately 50 countries are engaged in equally vital ministries of sharing faith and working against poverty and violence.

Presbyterian World Mission helps Presbyterians offer a witness to Jesus Christ in today's world by sending mission personnel to face the challenges of evangelizing and continuing the historic emphases of the Church.

In collaboration with U.S. Presbyterians and global partners, World Mission inspires, equips and connects communities of mission practice to engage in God's mission: to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, help the most vulnerable—women and children—and promote reconciliation amidst cultures of violence.

We invite you to step into the circle of global discipleship with World Mission.

.....

PULSE



Celebrating 60 Years of Women Ministers

This year marks the 60th anniversary of women teaching elders in the PC (USA). On October 24, 1956, the Rev. Margaret Towner was ordained as the first woman minister in the Presbyterian Church. Towner recently celebrated her 91st birthday, and though honorably retired, she remains an active member of her presbytery. The Rev. Rachel Henderlite was the first woman ordained as a teaching elder in the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. (the Southern Church) in 1965. Last year commemorated the 50th anniversary of her ordination. We celebrate the gifts women bring to ministry.

St. James Presbyterian Women

All Presbyterian women are invited to the monthly bible study and/or luncheon, scheduled for Tuesday, November 29. The bible study begins at 10:30 a.m. in the Lounge. This month we will explore the theme “Who Is Jesus?” through the perspective of Luke, a well-educated historian and storyteller, who likely had access to materials used previously by fellow gospel writer, Mark.

St. James Children

Children will continue their study of God as creator, and will end the month with the beginning of Advent. November 6 offers a glimpse of God as a comforting presence in our lives. November 13, children see God in a new light -- bringing peace and joy. The following week, November 20, encourages adults to give children an accurate picture -- through stories and art -- of who Jesus is. The month's study ends November 27, Advent, with a focus on Isaiah 2, in which families are encouraged to find time for a quiet anticipation of the one who embodies the hope of peace and love.

Sunday, Nov. 6:

“God Is Near To All”: The focus is on Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21. Children need help in understanding that God can be trusted, even if they are angry or feel alone.

Sunday, Nov. 13:

“Joy Begins Now”: The focus is Isaiah 65:17-25. Children need to know that God has an imagination, just as they do. God can imagine a world of peace and joy.

Sunday, Nov. 20:

“Christ Over Chaos: The focus is on Colossians 1:11-20. Using story and artwork, adults can help children understand Jesus as a Middle Eastern man of humble background.

Sunday, Nov. 27:

“God’s Path to Peace” is the focus of the first Sunday of Advent. Main scripture is Isaiah 2:1-5. Adults can help create an environment of anticipation, of waiting for Jesus, the one who would bring peace and love into their busy lives.

Session Highlights for 10/12/16

Discussed:

- We have had a prowler which has heightened the need to take new precautions. To increase our church building security, at the recommendation of the Bellingham Police Department, we are rekeying the building so doors can be opened with codes. All groups using the building will have an assigned code, which will be recorded as used. Also, camera monitors may be installed. Groups using the building will check the building before they leave, to see that no one is inadvertently left inside.
- St. James assisted the preschool garage sale clean up by suggesting a donation of unsold clothing that teenagers might use be given to Northwest Youth Services. The preschool parents sorted the clothes and Bill Read delivered 80 pounds of clothing. Thanks Bill!
- The replanting planned for south of the church may be postponed until spring. However, the Story Garden, some benches, and book holders for a lending library, may be installed this fall. The project is the joint efforts of Building and Grounds and Christian Faith Formation committees. (Subsequent to the meeting, it was determined the project could move ahead.)
- Budget planning documents with proposed costs need to be submitted by committee chairs to the treasurer or Finance Chair Dick Carr, by November 1, 2016.
- The Peace and Global Witness offering raised \$1,156. The committee is researching how we might respond to needs in Syria.
- The adequacy of the database for tracking membership and friends was discussed again.

Action Taken:

- Zadra Nolan was promoted to lead teacher and program coordinator with a pay raise retroactive to September 18, 2016.
- Information about giving to Hurricane Matthew affected areas from PCUSA will be shared with church members and friends.

Glory to God

Two more of our new Glory to God Hymnals have been dedicated in honor of loved ones. Laurie Rechholtz dedicated a Hymnal in honor of Kristen Rechholtz Commons; and Madeleine Smith dedicated a Hymnal in honor of Lance Smith. Labels have been affixed inside the covers of two of our pew Hymnals. If you wish to take part in dedicating a Hymnal in this way, please do so by placing a check made out to St. James Presbyterian Church into the offering plate with an attached note stating "Dedicated by.....in honor of.....", or send it in the mail to the church. The cost of one hymnal is \$20. Thank you, Kay Carr, chairman

It is only with gratitude that life becomes rich!
– Dietrich Bonhoeffer

PULSE

November Birthdays

3	Irene Rome
3	Patricia Harris
7	Jean Seater
7	Ricky Hodgson
10	Dick Johnson
11	David Seater
12	Julie Keyes
19	Nancy Wagar
20	Caitlin Lockhart
22	Margaret deMaine
22	Miranda Keefe
22	Marilyn Madden
24	Eva Landis
25	Marie Mellinger
27	Wendy Crandall
29	Craig Keyes
30	Brian Hodgson

November Anniversaries

14	Bob and Irene Rome
----	--------------------



Advent Festival Sunday

December 4
Fellowship Hall after Worship

Join the fun! First lunch will be served following worship. Then we move on to an afternoon of making fresh evergreen wreaths and decorating cookies. Yes, you read that correctly. This year are trying something new with cookies instead of gingerbread houses. All materials will be available. Please bring your own wreath-making tools. Invite your family and friends!



Veteran's Day November 11, 2016



It is not happiness that makes us grateful, but gratefulness that makes us happy.

– Gratefulness.org

Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Middle East

November 18, 2016, 5:30 p.m.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

1100 14th Street, (360) 734-2850



Join our ecumenical prayer vigil for the Christian, Jewish, and Muslim communities in Jerusalem, for Israelis and Palestinians who are suffering in the Holy Land, and for peace in the Middle East and the world.

The next Prayer Vigil will be on March 18th of next year at the First Church of Christ, Scientist, 118 Grand Ave, Bellingham, WA (360) 733-6070

For more information, please contact St. James Presbyterian Church at office@saintjamespres.org

NOVEMBER CALENDAR 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 8am Prayer Group 10am Yoga 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	2 10am Bible Study 4pm Mission & Social Action 6pm SOS Men's AA	3 10:15am Yoga 5:30pm Building and Grounds 5:30pm Congregational Life 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm AA 7:30pm Choir	4 8:30am Arts and Crafts Faire Set Up 4pm Cross-fit	5 Daylight Savings-Fall Back at 2am 10am OA 9am-6pm Arts and Crafts Faire
6 9am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship w/Communion 7:15pm AA	7 10am Grief Support Group 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study 6:30pm Boy Scouts	8 Election Day 8am Prayer Group 10am Yoga 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm AI Anon 5:30pm Finance 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	9 10am Bible Study 3pm Christian Faith Formation (ten.) 5pm Weavers Guild 6pm SOS Men's AA	10 10:15am Yoga 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm AA 7:30pm Choir	11 Veteran's Day 12pm Prime Timers 4pm Cross-fit	12 9am Church Work Party 10am OA 1pm Bellingham Ukulele Group
13 9am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship 12pm Session (BYOL) 7:15pm AA	14 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study 7pm Boy Scouts	15 8am Prayer Group 10am Yoga 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	16 PULSE DUE 10am Bible Study 6pm SOS Men's AA	17 10:15am Yoga 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm AA 7:30pm Choir	18 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Middle East at Sacred Heart 6pm Music Teachers Assoc.	19 10am OA
20 9am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship 11:45am Deacons 7:15pm AA	21 10am Grief Support Group 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study 7pm Boy Scouts	22 8am Prayer Group 10am Yoga 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	23 10am Bible Study 6pm SOS Men's AA 7:30pm Thanksgiving Eve Service at First Christian Church	24 Thanksgiving Day 7:15pm AA	25 3pm Membership 4pm Cross-fit	26 10am OA
27 9am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship 7:15pm AA	28 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm St. James Literary Society	29 8am Prayer Group 10am Yoga 10:30am Women's Bible Study 12pm Women's Potluck Luncheon 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	30 10am Bible Study 6pm SOS Men's AA	<div>Co-op Preschool Schedule: 360-510-9558</div> <div>Hawthorne Learning Solutions Schedule: contact hlearningsolutions@gmail.com</div>		



St. James Presbyterian Bell Choir



St. James Presbyterian Church

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

Children's Ministry:
Zadra Nolan, Teacher & Coordinator
Clerk of Session: Carla Shafer
Custodians: Cascade Vocational Services:
Don Bayne, Aaron Cook, Vernon Point
Interim Pastor: The Rev. Janet Sonnanburg
Music Director: Carolyn Mullen
Office Manager: Natasha Orme
Organist/Pianist: Melany Armstrong
Treasurer: Marina McLeod

Sunday Worship Schedule

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

So once in every year we throng
Upon a day apart,
To praise the Lord with feast and song
In thankfulness of heart.

~Arthur Guiterman
The First Thanksgiving

