

the Pulse

October 2017

THE SAINT JAMES PRESBYTERIAN MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Conversion. Communion. Calling.

The people of God are called to be of one mind as we live out our life together. We practice our faith together, leaning on each other's gifts and strengths to sustain and grow and experience the riches of God's goodness in the world. In the month of October, we turn our attention to how God calls us to steward our resources, engaging in a collective work to build up and sustain our work for the year ahead.

It is with great joy that I write to you about our annual stewardship campaign. Pledging our resources to the work of God is an act of devotion we engage in so that God might use our gifts to expand God's reign among us. As we pledge of our time and resources, we engage in acts of conversion, communion, and calling — deeply rooted disciplines of a faithful life in the way of Jesus.

Conversion: To pledge and commit out of our resources is to trust God to change our thinking about money. All that we have is a gift from God and as our hearts and minds change to reflect this understanding, so we are converted, changed, into people of generosity and trust. Faithful stewardship changes our lives, orienting us more wholly unto God's goodness.

Communion: As our lives are changed and more completely oriented toward God's good vision for the

world, so we come to know each other more deeply as we share in this common work together. Stewardship is an invitation to know and be known more deeply as a member of God's church at St. James Presbyterian. In this communion with sisters and brothers in the faith, we deepen our love of God and for each other and discover the work God has for us to do in the world, our calling.

Calling: As we intentionally steward our financial resources and spiritual gifts, so we learn to live from our truest self, the true gift we have to share with the world. By our newly converted relationship to our riches, in the communion with our friends in the faith, we come to encounter the joy of generosity and providing for the needs of others. At St. James, we have a calling to love others in the name of Jesus Christ, to share God's good news with the city of Bellingham, to care for our world and seek justice together as faithful expressions of God's abundance that has been given to us.

Friends, in this season, I invite you to be converted — change your heart and open yourselves to a new, freeing relationship with your finances and gifts. I invite you to communion — to know and be known by a community of people who share in a common work together, caring for one another and for God's good earth. And I invite you deeper into calling — to live out our collective vocation in the world through acts of generosity.

I pray that we can have eyes to see and ears to hear all the good that God is doing in our midst. Take up this invitation to conversion, communion, and calling as you share from the abundance of God's gifts in your life.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Seth



PULSE

Providing Warmth to Neighbors in Need

Interfaith Coalition’s annual winter warmth drive provides warm outerwear for everyone from babies to seniors. Please bring clean, gently-used or new winter coats and jackets, gloves, scarves and hats to worship services through October 15. If you are a knitter, handmade hats and scarves are also cherished. For many of our neighbors, this program means they won't need to spend limited income on a winter coat, or do without. Thank you for sharing the warmth!

Please hang coats under the signs near the St. James entrance and place hats, gloves, and socks in the marked baskets.

October Birthdays

- 1 Rick Hodgson
- 1 Jim Mullen
- 4 Lance Melrose
- 6 Jim DeWilde
- 8 Marilyn Methven
- 10 Neal Jackson
- 11 Carla Shafer
- 12 Christian Beaty
- 12 Ian Jackson
- 13 Don Hoyt
- 15 Rob Reimers
- 24 Claude Hill
- 24 Sean Keyes
- 25 Tom McVie
- 26 Peter Burkland
- 27 Robin Crandall
- 28 Susannah Mohr
- 31 Rook Van Halm



Pianist/Accompanist

St. James is looking for a Pianist/Accompanist to play on Sunday morning and rehearse with the choir on Thursday evening. This is a paid, part-time position. For more information contact Carolyn Mullen at 360-595-0934.

Interfaith Coalition Annual Hope Meeting and Celebration

Tuesday, October 17 at 7pm
Trinity Lutheran Church Grace Center, 119 Texas Street in Bellingham

Join Interfaith Coalition for a meaningful evening of fellowship, inspiration and opportunity. Hear from volunteers and families who share stories of compassion and hope. Learn how you can help us serve additional homeless families through a new program, Family Promise. Be part of an active and caring community of individuals and congregations dedicated to our neighbors in need. We'll have refreshments and appreciation for being our partners in change.

OCTOBER 2017



INTERFAITH COALITION

Partners in faith. Changing lives.



winter WARMTH drive

Help Interfaith provide **coats and warm items** for our neighbors in need.

DONATIONS of gently-used and new coats, hats & mittens are appreciated through Oct. 15.

NEED A COAT? Coats distributed on Sat., Oct 21 from 11am – 1:30pm and Sat., Oct. 28 from 10:30am – 12:30pm at Assumption Church Gym, 2116 Cornwall Ave in Bellingham

Warm bodies and hearts.

910 14TH STREET, BELLINGHAM | 360-734-3983 | OFFICE@INTERFAITH-COALITION.ORG
WWW.INTERFAITH-COALITION.ORG

Plan to attend the Saint James Art, Craft & Gift Faire

*Featuring the St. James Bakery
Saturday, Nov. 4, 2017, 9:30am to 3pm*



Shopping

Join us to find wonderful gift ideas, handmade crafts, beautiful art, delicious food items, and more from our talented vendors. Most of the items offered are created locally.

Relax and Enjoy

Visit our St. James Bakery to purchase something sweet or savory to enjoy with a free cup of coffee. Enjoy the beautiful view of Bellingham Bay.

Quilt Raffle

Once again our talented quilters have produced a beautiful Queen-sized+ quilt to be raffled. Tickets will be available beginning Oct. 8 in the Horizon Room, or on the day of the Faire.



Please read the
St. James'
Bakery Sale info
on the next
page.

Want to join the fun and volunteer?

Working at our Faire is a great way to get to know your fellow St. Jamesers, and it's fun as well as fulfilling.

Volunteers are needed to:

Set up and decorate Friday, Nov. 3, noon to 6pm

Support our vendors on Faire day (breaks, food)

Clean up after the event

Please call Merry Thomas (360-201-7181) to schedule volunteer time.



PLEASE, ADD THE FAIRE TO YOUR CALENDAR!

PLAN TO ATTEND and BRING SOME FRIENDS

All monies raised at the Faire
are given to local children's and women's charities.
Last year we raised \$3,000 to support our community!

The St. James Bakery

Located in the Horizon Room,
is a popular spot during our Faire.
Shoppers can rest with a cup of free
coffee and survey the wonderful array of
baked goods provided by YOU, the
talented bakers of St. James.



We truly appreciate your contributions!
Here are a few guidelines and suggestions for donations:

Best sellers

Large cookies, scones, pies, cupcakes, small cakes, candies, fudge, yeast breads and rolls, ethnic baking (lefse, shortbread, baklava; What's in your heritage?).

We've had many requests for **gluten free items**, so if you have a GF favorite, please share!

Packaging

Please do not package your items in small ziplock or sandwich bags. We have clear clamshell boxes we will use for packaging. You may bring items in a large box or ziplock and we will repackage and price items.

Please bring your food donations on Friday, Nov. 3

We have crews ready to receive items at noon on Friday. We would truly appreciate receiving most items on Friday—this allows for better display and organization. If you must drop things off on Saturday, please put them in the Horizon Room by 9am.

PULSE

AUGUST FINANCIAL STATUS

	August	Current Budget	Yr. to Date	Yr. to Date Budget
Income	\$15,449.	\$15,802.	\$148,632.	\$139,620.
Expenses	\$14,521.	\$15,678.	\$127,778	\$140,057.

FALL STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN



October 1st marks the beginning of St. James Stewardship Campaign this year! **Please plan to stay after** the Sunday service on October 1 for a short informational meeting about the campaign, including a quick summary of the contents of the packet to be distributed.

Each packet, labeled with your name, contains the status of your financial gifts as of this date in 2017. They will be ready for distribution at the church

services October 1 and 8. Our responses are very important to the life of St. James for planning purposes for the coming year. The Time and Talent forms also need to be returned. Please give your prayerful consideration as to how you may give of your time and your talents, as well as financially.

Please return your pledges to the church in the provided return envelope and place in the collection plate, or return to the office. We hope to receive your responses during the first half of October. Thank you all for your support!

Stewardship Committee:

Dave Armstrong
Peter Burkland
Marina McLeod
Pastor Seth Thomas
Dick Carr, Chair

DO YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN ESTATE PLANNING TO INCLUDE ST. JAMES?

Birchwood Presbyterian Church is hosting a workshop on Saturday October 7, 2017 from 9am to 1pm. This workshop involves information on estate planning and wills. Topics will include reasons for giving, a variety of charitable vehicles, estate planning, wills, probate and tax issues as well as case studies to help better understand how good planning can help your family as well as God's work in our community.

Plan to attend to take advantage of this useful information

Presbyterian Women

St. James Women's Association meets Tuesday, Oct. 24 at 10:30 for a bible study, followed by a potluck luncheon at noon. Lesson Two in *Horizon's Cloud of Witnesses* study book is "In Community with the Living God". Focus scriptures expand on Hebrews 1 to include verses from Hebrews 12 and Exodus 3 and 19. The concept of covenant is key.

Luncheon speaker is Linda Henderson, who will impart tips for healthy living. Business meeting will wrap up details for the **Arts and Crafts Faire** Saturday, Nov. 4.



St. James Annual Parish Lunch

Sunday, October 22nd, after Worship Service
in the Fellowship Hall

*Drinks, Main Course, Salad, and Dessert
Will be provided*



Children's Ministries

Godly Play presents the following stories:

Sunday, Oct. 1: Creation, based on Genesis 1:1-2:3. The story presents the days of creation, asking the question, "What can we know of the Giver by the gift?"

Sunday, Oct. 8: The Flood and the Ark, based on Genesis 6:5-9:17. Children follow God's people from the creation to the

re-creation and God's promise to Noah, to God's family and to us.

Sunday, Oct. 15: WORK DAY. Children complete projects and begin new work, some of it relating to retelling the stories they have heard.

Sunday, Oct. 22: The Great Family. This is the story of Abraham and Sara, based on Gen. 12-15 and 24. They put their faith in God's promises and found them to be true.

Sunday, Oct. 29: The Exodus. This is the story of the Passover of God's people, based on Exodus 11:1-15:20. This dramatic story reveals the complexity of the people's experience of God.

Worship and Music

The Worship and Music committee is in the process of planning this year's Christmas service schedule. Christmas Eve is on Sunday and Christmas Day is Monday. Our plan for this year is to have our normal Christmas program on Sunday morning and then offer a more contemplative, candlelight service later in the evening after dark. If you have feedback on this idea or would like to help in the planning by joining the Worship Committee's discussion this fall, please contact Jill Hoyt or Pastor Seth.

PULSE

Get to know your church members!

Carol and Ray Dellecker

Carol and Ray moved to Bellingham eight years ago from Sammamish, and they love this community--the outdoors, good friends, lots of activities, and the welcome of this church. They have three married daughters (one in Bellingham) and five grandchildren.

In addition to their work on St. James' Mission and Social Action committee, Carol and Ray stay busy volunteering in local schools and working with Habitat for Humanity, as well as a number of other community groups. Carol is also a member of the board of directors of the Whatcom Community Foundation.

Since retiring, they've been blessed with several memorable and meaningful trips: twice with Habitat to Haiti to assist with post-earthquake recovery efforts, hiking/biking the Camino de Santiago in Spain, and a couple of wonderful road trips in the western U.S.

They're looking forward to seeing St. James grow and thrive in the years to come.



Highlights from the 10 September 2017 Session Meeting

Session members and their associated committees:

Laurie Anderson	Membership
Dick Carr	Finance
Tracy Caruso	Nominating
Tim Crandall	Personnel
Jill Hoyt	Worship and Music
Gretchen Pfueller	Mission Social Action
Merry Thomas	Christian Faith Formation
Jeanne Uhles	Building and Grounds

Motion(s) passed since the 4 August 2017 Session Meeting:

- The motion to baptize Charlotte Aita and Aubrey Caruso passed on 24 August 2017.
- The motion to support the Interfaith “Family Promise” program passed on 10 September 2017.

If you haven’t already, please take a moment and welcome new St. James members!

Mark Beaty
Clerk of Session

NEW MEMBERS @ St. James!

Today we have the joy of welcoming new members to St. James! As we profess our faith together, we witness and celebrate God at work among us.

Joining the church:

Adam Beaty
Scott Aita
Carrie Cameron
Carol Dellecker
Ray Dellecker
Jim Gresham
Susanna Schreiber
Stacy Thomas

Stewardship Drive

Kickoff!


1 October 2017

KEEP OUR VISION

GROWING



Plan on attending!



Prayer Vigil *For Peace* **In the Middle East**

Wednesday, October 18
5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Hosted this month by

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church
2600 Lakeway Drive
Bellingham, WA
(360) 733-1277

May there be peace for all people,
Harmony between individuals, races, religions, and nations,
And God's abundance manifest for all.

<http://www.worldhealingprayers.com/8.html>

MFYDER

OCTOBER CALENDAR 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion Sun-day/Stewardship Campaign 9am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship w/Communion 7:15pm AA	2 10am Grief Support Group 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study 7pm Boy Scouts	3 10:15am Yoga 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm AI Anon 5:30pm Finance 6pm Pet Partners 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	4 3:30pm Mission & Social Action 6pm SOS Men's AA	5 10:15am Yoga 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm Building and Grounds 5:30pm Congrega- tional Life 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm AA 7:30pm Choir	6 6pm Pet Partners	7 10am OA 1pm Bellingham Ukulele Group
8 9am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship 12pm Session BYOL 7:15pm AA	9 Columbus Day 9:30am Book Group 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study 7pm Boy Scouts	10 10:15am Yoga 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	11 6pm SOS Men's AA	12 10:15am Yoga 4pm Cross-fit 3pm Christian Faith Formation 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm AA 7:30pm Choir	13 12pm Prime Tim- ers 6:30pm Church Work Party	14 10am OA
15 9am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship 11:45am Deacons 7:15pm AA	16 Pulse Articles Due! 10am Grief Support Group 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study 7pm Boy Scouts	17 10:15am Yoga 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	18 5:30pm Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Middle East at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church 6pm SOS Men's AA	19 10:15am Yoga 4pm Cross-fit 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm AA 7:30pm Choir	20	21 9:30am Weavers Guild 10am OA
For events not listed on this calendar, check out the St. James website! www.saintjamespres.org						
22 9am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship 12pm Parish Luncheon 7:15pm AA	23 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study 7pm Boy Scouts	24 10:15am Yoga 10:30am Women's Bible Study 12pm Women's Luncheon 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	25 11:15am Tai Chi 3:30pm Mission & Social Action 6pm SOS Men's AA	26 10:15am Yoga 4pm Cross-fit 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm AA 7:30pm Choir	27 3pm Membership	28 10am OA 4pm Peace Read In
Pulse articles are due on the <u>16th</u> of each month. Please mark your calendars.						
29 9am Adult Church School 10:30am Worship 7:15pm AA	30 5:15pm Tai Chi 6:30pm AA Men's Book Study 7pm Boy Scouts	31 Halloween 10:15am Yoga 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm AI Anon 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance	Bayside Co-Op Preschool For information please call 360-733-3972		Hawthorne Learning Solutions Contact Matt and Emily Hawthorne for times and dates. hlearningsolutions@gmail.com	



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

St. James Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Seth J. Thomas
pastor@saintjamespres.org

Music Director: Carolyn Mullen
Administrative Secretary: Natasha Orme
Treasurer: Marina McLeod
Children's Ministry: Zadra Nolan, Coordinator
Teachers: Erika Singh-Cundy, Sophie Rose Kendrick, Lucy Sieczk

Sunday Worship Schedule

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



World Communion Sunday October 1, 2017

