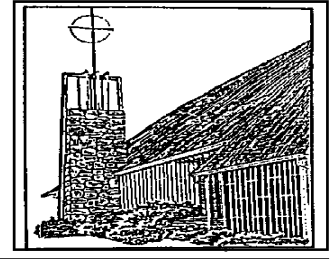


The Pulse



Volume 37, Issue 9
October 2005

OCTOBER WORSHIP TOPICS

October 2, 2005

*World Communion
Peacemaking Offering
Shower of Stoles
Psalm 19*

Matthew 21:33-46

“The Fruits of Peacemaking”

October 9, 2005

*Shower of Stoles
Michael Adee, guest preacher
From More Light
Presbyterians*

October 16, 2005

*Service of Healing
and Wholeness
Stewardship Pledge
Drive begins
Psalm 99*

Matthew 22:15-22

“Whose Coin Is This?”

October 23, 2005

*Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Matthew 22:34-46
“Top Priority”*

October 30, 2005

*Daylight Saving Time ends
Reformation Sunday
Stewardship Pledge
Dedication*

“Always Keep the Good”

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MARY ROBINSON-MOHR

For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead.
– James 2:26

Have you noticed that October is a month with many themes? Many institutions use October as a time to educate persons about or promote their causes. October is “Domestic Violence Awareness Month,” for one. Many schools and universities hold homecoming celebrations during October, too.

October holds many themes for Presbyterian churches, and for our congregation in particular. The first Sunday in October is World Communion Sunday, a time when we remember that we are not just an isolated and local community club. A big part of our identity states loudly and clearly that we are part of a worldwide movement, a belief beyond our horizons, and that is Christianity. We will express our unity in Christ with other Christians across the unseen but very real boundaries of nation, race, and culture as we gather around Christ’s Table.

In the spirit of World Communion, the Presbyterian Church, USA affirms its commitment to Peacemaking as “The Believer’s Calling.” The Peacemaking Offering will be dedicated during our World Communion worship service. This expands the theme of our worldwide unity to also reflect upon our calling as Christians to bear the reconciliation of God to the broken world around us on personal as well as community levels.

The Shower of Stoles display will enhance our worship space throughout our season of worldwide commitment and peacemaking on two Sundays, October 2 and 9. It will give us the opportunity to prayerfully and worshipfully consider an issue that has attracted many debates, prayer, and thought in our denomination, namely, how much or how little persons of different sexual orientations should participate in the work and witness of the Church. The display will conclude with a guest preacher on October 9, Michael Adee of More Light Presbyterians.

The 2005 season of Stewardship Commitment begins on Sunday, October 16, and continues through October 30. You will be invited in several ways to consider how the responsible and faithful caretaking of all of your resources enhances and

cont. on page 2

St James Presbyterian Church

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Cont. from page 1

further the ministry to which Christ calls us, individually and corporately. Moments for Mission will appear in worship throughout the month, calling us to celebrate what we have done together in faithful ministry.

The last Sunday of October is Reformation Sunday. Amid the affirmations of our Reformed Tradition, I offer to you words from our Confession of 1967 that seem to encompass all of the “many themes of October”:

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God’s reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God’s message of reconciliation and shares God’s labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call. (Book of Confessions, 9.31)

May October be a time for our congregation to grow in its works of faith, and in its ministries and commitment to be God’s reconciling community in the world!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Mary

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

1	Rick Hodgson	27	Robin Crandall
1	Jim Mullen	28	Susannah Mohr
3	Wilma Krug	31	Nancy Hamilton
6	Jim DeWilde	31	Rook Van Halm
6	Sonja Hellinga		
6	Renee Meyer		
7	Dick Madden		
10	Neal Jackson		
11	Carla Shafer		
12	Ian Jackson		
14	Lillian Keim		
16	Joe Morse		
16	Vi Gerry		
17	Nick Stampfli		
20	John Templeton	14	George & Eleanor Lake
24	Claude Hill		
25	Tom McVie		



October
Anniversaries
* * *

**CONENANT REGIONAL
CONFERENCE ~ OCT. 15**

October 15, 2005

Keynote Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Susan Andrews

Preacher: Rev. Dr. James Noel

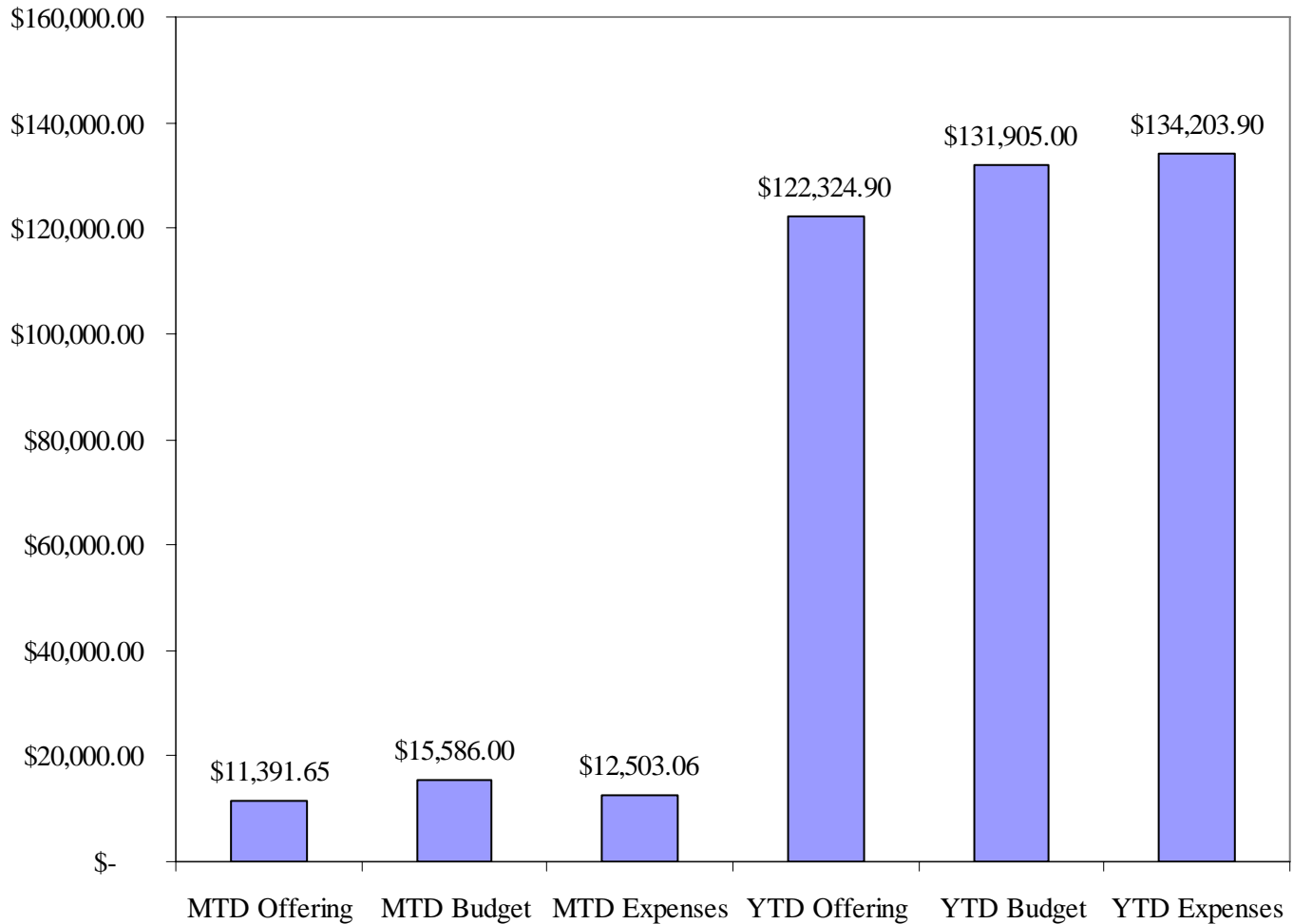
**Newport Presbyterian Church
4010 120th Ave. SE
Bellevue, Washington**

In our Reformed tradition, we affirm that the timeless and eternal providence of God is always revealing fresh truth in the unfolding chapters of history. How, then, do we understand the authoritative word of Scripture in a new century—when scientific, biblical, and ethical understandings have been reshaped by contemporary knowledge and scholarship? How does the essential fabric of covenant theology weave itself into the fabric of 21st century living?

This conference will explore the dynamic tensions between freedom and law, between individual and corporate sexual ethics, between the boundaries of purity and the generosity of love. We will examine how we can balance the grace and truth of Jesus Christ.

TREASURER'S REPORT WENDY CRANDALL

August 2005 Treasurer's Report



Year to date, income is \$15,797.59 below budget. Expenses are being kept in check, partly by deferring budgeted mission giving including denominational and local mission programs.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE JACK DRURY, CHAIR

COME CELEBRATE WITH US !!!

Join us for the All Congregation Potluck in the fellowship hall following the Sunday service on **October 16**. This All Congregation Potluck Lunch will be part of the 2005 fall pledge drive program. At the lunch pledge packages, instructions and time and talent forms will be distributed. Best of all, the Stewardship Committee, assisted by the Congregational Life Committee will serve a special baked ham entree. Members are asked to bring a potluck dish as follows: A-F (last names) bring salads, G-M bring vegetables/potatoes/fruits and N/Z bring desserts. Following the lunch will be a program of music and skits for your entertainment. Carolyn Mullen will present a short music program. This will be followed by the Men's Quartet singing some favorite songs. The final skit will be presented by the Building and Grounds Committee. Members are urged to attend the All Congregation Lunch on October 16. This is a very important time in our church's life. Make a special effort to attend this function.

WELCOME MICHAEL ADEE!

We have an opportunity to hold a season of reflection around our Peacemaking Offering, to consider who God invites to the Table of Jesus Christ. To that end, the Membership Committee is sponsoring a second showing of the Shower of Stoles on World Communion and Peacemaking Sunday, October 2, and on Sunday, October 9. We are delighted that the display of the Shower of Stoles will conclude with a special guest preacher, Michael Adee. Below is some information about Michael, so that you may become acquainted with this gifted Presbyterian.

Michael has been working in the LGBT community and the HIV-AIDS Community since 1988. A human rights/gay activist and an educator, Michael works for the full inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons in society and in faith communities. He earned his Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Communication from Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.

Having served as a college professor in Louisiana, Kentucky and Ohio, he has also been a hospital and hospice chaplain, bereavement counselor, campus minister, diversity consultant, tennis coach and a teacher/relief worker in Zimbabwe, Africa. Michael served on the founding Board of Directors of Friends For Life, the Baton Rouge AIDS Task Force and as their first volunteer communications director. He served as a buddy and volunteer trainer for AVOC, AIDS Volunteers of Cincinnati and as the Executive Director of Stonewall Cincinnati, and program developer for Cincinnati PFLAG..

Michael is the former Executive Director of The Experience, a national LGBT educational/wellness organization, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He has served on the Board of Directors of The Coalition for Equality in New Mexico and for the Santa Fe Human Rights Alliance. He is a member of Santa Fe PFLAG and the first openly gay elder, First Presbyterian Church, Santa Fe. He began his work as the National Field Organizer for More Light Presbyterians in 1999.

In addition to his community leadership and service, he has received numerous awards and recognitions. These include: Outstanding Young Men of America; Outstanding Instructor and Who's Who Among Colleges and Universities at Louisiana State University; the Norse Leadership Society Award for Teacher of the Year, Northern Kentucky University; the National Community Service Award, Vitas Hospice, for his work as a hospice chaplain and bereavement counselor.

A noted speaker and teacher, Michael has spoken at hundreds of national, regional and local conferences and meetings, on college campuses and in communities of faith across the country. He weaves insight, compassion and humor into his presentations.

Over time, he has held memberships in and participated in the Wilderness Society, the Sierra Club, the National Organization for Women, ACLU, Amnesty International, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the Human Rights Campaign, the Southern Poverty Law Center, Habitat for Humanity, and the United States Tennis Association.

In addition to being an activist and an educator, as an out gay athlete he has competed in tennis in the last three Gay Games, most recently in Sydney, Australia where he was a quarter-finalist. Michael believes in a world where every person is valued, every person has enough and where all persons have full, equal, human and civil rights.

SHOWER OF STOLES

The Shower of Stoles is here! The Shower of Stoles is a collection of hundreds of liturgical stoles from gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons from twenty-three denominations in five countries. Each stole contains the story of a GLBT person who is active in the life and leadership of their faith community in some way: minister, elder, deacon, teacher, missionary, musician, administrator or active layperson. October 2 and 9, stoles will be displayed in the church. *Organized by the Membership committee.*

YOUTH NEWS MEGAN STAMPFLI, YOUTH DIRECTOR

What was the witch's favorite subject in school?... spelling! October is here and school is well on its way. Youth group is off to a good start, but there is still a lot to plan. We will be having a youth and parent meeting on the second to decide exactly what we want to do as a group this year. For the month of October youth group will be at its regular time, from 4:30 to 6:00 on Sundays. On the 30th we will have a special Halloween party during our regular time. On the 9th and 23rd the Jr-Sr High has Sunday school during worship; on the 2nd, 16th, and 30th we hope they will be able to join us for worship. If you have any questions about the youth group or would like to be on our email list my email is pye_d_pye@hotmail.com. Have a great October!

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

- * **Jack and Shirley Drury** recently returned from Alaska. Highlights of their trip included an eight hour Tundra Wilderness Tour in Denali National Park narrated by a naturalist. On the tour they saw moose, Dall sheep, lynx, grizzly bears, smaller animals and lots of birds. The second highlight was a nine hour boat tour to the Tracy Arm Fjord to the South Sawyer Glacier and Sawyer Glacier about 32 miles from the entrance to the fjord. We saw many whales, seals and birds. We also visited the Anchorage Museum of History and Art to learn more about Alaska. We had a wonderful trip and enjoyed everything.
- * From **Sean Baird**: Excerpted from his blog (<http://underafricanskies.blogspot.com/>) ... I recently received an encouraging email from a member of St. James in Bellingham reminding me that they are still praying for me and even more touching reminding me that I am still a part of the St. James family. I wanted to say thank you to any St. James members reading this, thank you so much for your encouragement, your prayers, and your love. I am so blessed to have been welcomed into your community and I am continuously touched by how much you strive to be what Christ calls us to be... Thank you St. James Presbyterian Church...
- * **Dave & Pat Nelson** returned after a 5-week road trek through the United States. The main reason for their trip was to attend Pat's 50th H.S. reunion in Illinois. Their travels took them to Spokane sights, Glacier Park, the Badlands, Mt. Rushmore, Dinosaur Park, the Black Hills, Ellsworth AFB & Air Museum, parts of S. & N. Dakota, the Mall of America in MN, areas of WI, and Barnum & Bailey Circus grounds before getting to IL. While there, they took a Metro train to Chicago and toured via river ferry thru' the locks and out into L. Michigan. After a stay at a friend's in IL, they headed home, stopping to see Bridges of Madison County in IA; also spent a few hours at a National Music Museum on S. Dakota campus at Vermillion. The Hwy. #90 rockslide gave them a few more hours of delay in getting home. At this printing, they are flying to CA to visit friends and relatives and are doing some music for a friend's wedding anniversary celebration.
- * **Stacey Thurston** of Portland and **Jeremy Thurston** of Edmonds, grandchildren of **Gil & Inge Thurston** are off to different parts of the world. Stacey is going to Nanking, China to teach English and Jeremy is going to Zambia, Africa with the Peace Corps for two years to help the people farm Tulapia fish in ponds.
- * **Welcome New Members!**
 - * **Matt Hargleroad** joins us by reaffirmation of faith from Jeffersonville, IN. He is employed at Fairhaven Runners, and enjoys running (obviously) and reading. Welcome Matt!
 - * **Wayne Terry** has visited St. James for a few months, and joins us by transfer of membership from another church in Bellingham. He's retired from the U.S. Civil Service, and has lived in Bellingham for about 5 years. He spent most of life in the greater Washington D.C. area, and moved here to be closer to B.C., where he spends a lot of time. He used to play ice hockey, and has a nine-year old cat named Tabby. Welcome Wayne!
 - * **Emily Thornton** joins us by reaffirmation of faith from Louisville, KY. She is employed as a substitute teacher for the B'ham school system, and enjoys knitting, crossword puzzles, Scrabble™, cooking and taking long walks. Welcome Emily!

Please send your family news to the church office! (733-1325; stjpres@msn.com)



**St. James Presbyterian Church
910 14th St.
Bellingham WA 98225
(360) 733-1325**

Holiday Bazaar

The women of St. James are currently making plans for the annual holiday bazaar which will be held on Saturday, November 5, 2005 in the Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in reserving a table, please fill out the following form and mail it, with your check for your table to Ann Lary, 2316 Broadway, Bellingham WA 98225 (tel. 360-734-7534). Your check, made out to St. James Women’s Association, will confirm your reservation. Until payment is made, your table reservation is not confirmed.

_____ **I would like to reserve a FULL table for \$20.**

_____ **I would like to reserve a HALF table for \$10.**

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Please state any special requirements you might have (i.e. access to an electrical outlet, table against the wall, corner table, etc.).

FROM THE INTERFAITH COALITION

*** INTERFAITH'S WINTER COAT DRIVE**

Join us for Interfaith Coalition's annual winter coat drive. This successful program brings warm coats to people in need throughout the county. Coats are distributed through the county food banks as well as the community's schools. Please bring clean, good quality winter coats to the worship services this month. Children's coats are especially needed. Sunday, October 23rd is the last Sunday to bring in items. This program is sponsored by Interfaith Coalition and the Whatcom County Food Banks. Thanks for sharing the warmth!

*** Fall trainings for Friendly Visitors**

"Most of my friends and family don't live nearby, so I can go days without seeing anyone. I'm so thankful for a program that is of no cost and sends someone to my home." Senior neighbor Interfaith Coalition's Friendly Visitors program matches compassionate volunteers with older members of the community whose health and well-being may improve with increased social contact. Trained volunteers make weekly home visits to seniors. Before they are matched, all volunteers and seniors are interviewed and carefully screened to ensure the most compatible and helpful matches are made. The goal is to create friendships that are mutually rewarding. Individuals who wish to make a difference in a senior neighbor's life may attend one of the following upcoming training sessions: Tuesday, October 18 from 1 - 4 p.m. at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church in Bellingham Saturday, November 5 from 9 - Noon at United Methodist Church in Lynden. Please call Interfaith's Friendly Visitors at 756-5179 to reserve a space at either session, or to refer a senior to the program.

MISSION & SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Peacemaking: Palestine/Israel The Presbyterian Peacemaking Program and the International Center in Bethlehem announce an "Educational Event for Presbytery Teams" in Israel and Palestine, April 25-May 5, 2006. In our presbytery, the event is being coordinated by the Social Concerns, Justice and Peacemaking Committee. For more information, please contact Pastor Steve Knowles, Emanuel Presbyterian Church, Bothell (425) 486-6388, or Barbara Battin at: barbarablattin@aol.com

CROP Walk Thank you to everyone who volunteered at or walked in the CROP Walk at Lake Padden! It was a success.

PRAYER VIGIL FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Please join in an ecumenical prayer vigil for the Christian communities in Jerusalem, for all those who are suffering in the Holy Land, for Palestinians and Israelis, and for peace in the Middle East. All are welcome.

Tuesday, October 18 5:30 pm

Faith Lutheran Church - ELCA

Northwest & McLeod Rd.

733-3970

SATURDAY MORNING LIVE!

Please join us again for Saturday Morning Live! Come have a breakfast roll, coffee, good fellowship, and deepening conversation!

First gathering October 1, cont. on Nov. 5
Discussion of border issues.

COLLEGE BIBLE STUDY

First meeting: October 2 after worship (around 12 noon.) Lunch will be provided with discussion on the "Questions of Faith" video series.

Study will continue on Nov. 6.

St. James Events Calendar

October 2005

Sunday schedule
 9 am Adult class
10:30 Worship
 12:30 pm Korean Worship
 4:30-6 pm Youth Group
 7 pm AA

S U N M O N T U E W E D T H U F R I S A T

1
 9 am Saturday
 Morning Live!
 10 am O.A.

2 Communion Shower of Stoles 11:45 am College Bible Study	3 12:45 pm Cub Scouts	4 6:30 am Prayer Gr. 5 pm Stewardship 5:30 Personnel 5:30 Al Anon 7 Gender Gr.	5 5 pm Miss. & Social Action 7 pm AA Men 7 pm Wednesday Night Study	6 5 pm Christian Ed. 6 pm Worship 6:30 Cong. Life 6:30 pm Bell Ch. 7:30 Chancel Ch. 7:30 AA	7 6 pm Prime Timers (all welcome!) Michael Adee, guest speaker	8 9-12 Church Work Party 10 am O.A.
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Pictorial Directory photos in Fellowship Hall

9 Shower of Stoles Michael Adee, guest preacher 10:45 Youth Sunday School 11:45 Deacons 11:45 lunch w. Michael Adee 6 Session study 7 Session	10	11 6:30 am Prayer Group 5:30 pm Al Anon 7 Gender Group	12 Columbus Day 5:30 pm Weaver's Guild 7 pm AA Men	13 4 pm Staff 6:30 pm Bell Ch. 7:30 Chancel Ch. 7:30 AA	14	15 10 am O.A.
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16 Healing Service Stewardship Pledge Drive begins 11:30 potluck lunch	17	18 6:30 am Prayer Group 5:30 pm Al Anon 5:30 Prayer Vigil for Middle East Peace	19 <i>Pulse</i> items due 7 pm AA Men	20 6:30 Advent planning meeting 6:30 pm Bell Ch. 7:30 Chancel Ch. 7:30 AA	21 6:30 Women's Agapé Night	22 10 am O.A.
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23 10:45 Youth Sunday school	24	25 6:30 am Prayer Gr. 10:30 Bible Study 12 Women's Assoc. luncheon 5:30 pm Al Anon 7 Gender Group	26 7 pm AA Men	27 10 am <i>Pulse</i> Crew 4 pm Staff 6:30 pm Bell Ch. 7:30 Chancel Ch. 7:30 AA	28 6 pm Friday Night Social	29 10 am O.A.
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30 Pledge Dedication	31 Halloween
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ST. JAMES PRAYER CHAIN

If you have a prayer request for the St. James Prayer Chain/E-mail Team call **Linda Monroe** at **360-671-6594** or e-mail her at **Lidale@aol.com**.

WOMEN'S AGAPÉ NIGHT

Women's Agapé Friday
=
Christian women fellowship.

Put **October 21 at 6:30 pm**
on your calendars.

Each month will be hosted by different women. The evening includes food, conversation, games and friendship building. Hope to see you!

HOW TO REACH YOUR PASTOR

The Rev. Mary Robinson-Mohr

910 14th St. Bellingham, WA 98225
(360)-733-1325 church
stjmary@msn.com

(360) 715-3157 home

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION ~ OCT. 25**Women's Group Bible Study 10:30 am**

2005-2006 Horizons Bible Study

"For Everything, A Season:
A Study of the Liturgical Calendar"
by Kathleen Long Bostrom

Lesson 2

* * *

Women's Association Luncheon 12 pm

Bring a friend if you like, and a salad to share.
All women are invited for food, fun and fellowship!

October 25

Questions? Please call Phyllis Jones, 734-4504

MONTHLY CHURCH WORK PARTY

The monthly all-church clean-up
landscaping ~ fix-it ~ workday
will be Saturday **October 8,**
9 am – 12 noon.

Bring your favorite tools, and join us in maintaining
our lovely church!

FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIAL & KIDS' GROUP ~ OCTOBER 28

Join us for an evening potluck with time afterwards for visiting with your St. James family.
Kids through fifth grade can participate in organized games.

Please gather at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall; 6:15 potluck dinner; kids' group to start around 6:30

Questions? Contact Patti Cromarty at 595-2639

WORSHIP TAPES AVAILABLE FOR LOAN

Our morning worship service is audio-taped each Sunday. If you know of anyone who would like a copy of any recent service, please check one out in the church library.

SUNDAY MORNING PARKING

Four reserved (handicapped) parking spaces are designated in our front, 14th Street parking area. In addition to these designated spaces, we would like to save all of the 14th Street parking on Sunday mornings during the Worship Service for those who need level access and our first-time visitors. If you have no difficulty climbing stairs, please use the lower parking area or the Lowell playground lot. The Lowell lot is accessed off of Taylor between 14th and 15th. There is a stairway down to 14th at the south end of the area.

MISSION PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE OF NORTH PUGET SOUND PRESBYTERY

Eagle Wings: Enriching Congregations

Eagle Wings disAbility Ministries responds to the unmet relational and spiritual needs of adults with disabilities and their families. There are more than 111,000 people with disabilities who live in the North Puget Sound area. Hendrik “Henk” Wapstra founded Eagle Wings in September 2000 to provide churches of North Puget Sound Presbytery a partnership with the disabled adults in the community. Eagle Wings educates, equips and trains church volunteers to meet the relational needs of adults within that church’s area.

Kinder Holdaway, associate director of Eagle Wings disAbility Ministries, said, “At my first Christmas celebration in 2004, I discovered the gift in listening to adults who cannot verbalize their own words. Unmotivated by personal greed, selfish ambition, or even what God has to offer them, they wholly offered themselves without restraint.

“This has forever changed my personal relationship with God into a more honest, true relationship,” Holdaway said. “It gave me an understanding that we all have disabilities of one sort or another. It’s just that we try to hide ours on the inside, and theirs are out in the open for all to see. It made me ask: ‘Why aren’t all these adults in church? Are they being welcomed? Would I want to worship with them? Would I consider them as God’s gift to me and the Church?’”

Eagle Wings offers churches an opportunity to experience people with disabilities as contributors to the health and welfare of congregations. Persons with disabilities can be our teachers for, even as many of them are dependent on others and God, so are we dependent on God and His grace. And, even as God loves them with their physical and developmental imperfections, so does God love us with our often invisible imperfections.

Eagle Wings believes that because disabled individuals have suffered so much, it can offer us deeper insight into the suffering of Jesus and what he endured on our behalf.

For more information, visit www.eaglewingsministries.org, email kinder.eaglewings@verizon.net or elizabeth.eaglewings@verizon.net, or call (360) 658-6093.

Reprint from The Current: The Newsletter of North Creek Presbyterian Church. Each issue of the Current in 2005 will feature a mission supported by the North Puget Sound Presbytery, of which North Creek is a member.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT STUDY

Come join us October 5 at 7 pm as we continue to work with the study guide “Transforming Families,” adopted by the 216 General Assembly, which affirmed the following:

“This vision of transforming families presents the challenge to the church at every level... This challenge of strengthening and transforming families will require wide collaboration and a multitude of co-laborers. The task is daunting, but the power of God can make more of our imperfect efforts than we could ask or think.”

Come join us for biblical, theological reflections with cultural and socio-economic analysis to seek God’s call for families in our day and age.

FLOWER COMMITTEE

Poinsettias are coming in December!
Please watch for more information
as the holiday season approaches.



Interested in flowers? The committee is looking for St. James-ers to join their committee. Help to plan Christmas and Easter sanctuary decorating, as well as pulpit flowers every Sunday. Sound intriguing? Please call Irene Rome at 671-5515.

NORTH PUGET SOUND PRESBYTERY RESPONDS TO SURVIVORS OF HURRICANE KATRINA

A. What can you do now?

1. PRAY.
2. Thanks to Wayne Kaste and Tony Cook for driving our Shelter Health Kits and Hope in a Box Kits to San Antonio. (If you are watching the news about Hurricane Rita, you know these kits will be needed immediately.) North Puget Sound Presbytery collected about 3200 Shelter Health Kits and 45 Hope in a Box Kits. Wayne and Tony left Wednesday, September 21 at 8:30 a.m., and planned to pick up about 1000 more kits collected by Olympia Presbytery that same morning. Thanks be to God!
3. Ask your church to consider sponsoring a family in San Antonio. Mission Presbytery will soon identify twelve families that would benefit with the help of the local Housing Authority. Such a commitment from a congregation would be to support a family (to the degree the congregation can support them) until the family is self-supporting. This could include sending needed kitchen utensils, linens, Christmas baskets, money for clothes, furniture, etc. Gail Neal is in San Antonio now and will get more information about this emerging program for us.
4. Send money to help Mission Presbytery buy bedding for evacuees still being sheltered. The address for Mission Presbytery is 7201 Broadway #303, San Antonio, Texas, 78209; phone number 210-826-3296.
5. Register your desire to help in a variety of ways with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Their website (pcusa.org/pda) has on-line forms that will register you in a skill bank for possible work teams, or register you to open your home or church building to persons needing shelter. You can also register to sponsor a family or give a money donation.
6. Consider joining a work team. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has a new toll-free number for volunteers: 866-732-6121. Also, watch for opportunities to join with other Presbyterians from North Puget Sound. It is our desire to organize teams to travel at a later date.

B. Updates from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

1. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) has been in contact with the Synod of the Sun related to Hurricane Katrina and will continue to work with the synod and affected presbyteries to determine an appropriate response to Hurricane Rita. Based on the extent of damage and geographic area of impact, PDA's response to Hurricane Rita may be included as part of the current appeal for Hurricane Katrina. More information will be known after the hurricane has made landfall. Presbyterians across the nation have generously responded to Hurricane Katrina. Thousands of individuals have offered their time, talents and treasures to help the disaster survivors. Presbyterian congregations are participating in the feeding, housing, and caring for many of the displaced families. PDA funds are being used to support relief efforts in Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and a growing number of states where Katrina evacuees are being relocated. Funds have also been provided to Church World Service as they consider how to incorporate the international refugee resettlement model for providing assistance to Katrina's displaced. Please continue to regularly check the PDA website (www.pcusa.org/pda) for updates on the situation.
2. A new need has been identified. PDA dedicated the first 'volunteer village' in Gautier, MS and is working on the second one in D'Iberville, MS. Eventually, we hope to have up to fifteen sites and need individuals to help manage these sites. We are looking for retired individuals, preferably retired military, who can plan, organize, command and evaluate the activities of the site and the 150 volunteers who will be working out of the site. Selected individuals will be living in the volunteer village (tents) and will need to know how to adjust to changing situations.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Session met for a special meeting on September 11, 2005. Matt Hargleroad, Wayne Terry, and Emily Thornton were welcomed into membership. This was followed by the regular meeting. Janet Oakley, Bev Stewart and Laura Crandall were appointed to serve as Commissioners at Presbytery in Anacortes on September 17, 2005.

The fall and winter calendar was reviewed and approved as follows.

September 25, 2005 – 11:45 A Congregational meeting on elect a deacon to fill an unfinished term and consider tabled business.

October 9, 2005 7 PM - Regular Session meeting November 19, 2005 at 1 PM.

November 29, 2005 at 7 PM. Special Meeting of Session to review candidates to serve as Elders and Deacons

December 4, 2005 at 11:45 AM – The Second Annual meeting of the Congregation

January 14, 2006 at 9 AM a joint meeting of the Session and Deacons, with Session meeting at 1-3 PM

January 15, 2006 at 11:45 AM – The First Annual meeting of the Congregation

Session reviewed the congregation's consideration of the e-mail by-laws amendment that was tabled. Carla Shafer and Rook Van Halm were commissioned to rewrite the motion taking into consideration the questions that were raised, and present the revision at the meeting of the congregation on the 25th when it will "come off the table."

Carol Ayers letter of resignation was accepted.

The finances were reviewed and funds disbursements were assigned to appropriate accounts. Committee chairs were requested to submit 2006 budget requests prior to October 9th.

Bill Read reported for the Deacons and commended their work.

Committee reports were received. Congregational Life was thanked for the wonderful Discipleship Event. The College Study group starts Oct. 22, 2005. Volunteers will be needed to provide a light lunch for them. The Advent Festival will be November 27, 2005.

The Parade of Stoles will be here for a week beginning October 11. Michael Adey will be speaking. Pictures will be taken for the pictorial directory October 5-8, 2005.

Mission and Social Action advised that the Crop Walk is organized and the water is ready, the Shelter Health kits for Hurricane Katrina are being collected, and the Rev. Abu Akel will be here between November 14 and 17. Their recommendations for mission giving of \$4100 for this quarter were considered. It was decided to delay payments several weeks due to low revenue.

It was agreed to raise the organist annual salary to \$6,023 which is \$1,688 higher than last year, as we are not competitive with the current market.

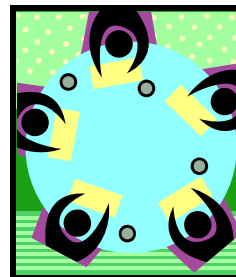
Jeanne Uhles has resigned as the Wedding Coordinator. Carla Shafer, who has been her Assistant, will fill-in and try to develop a committee of coordinators.

Katy Read reported on Building Use Requests which are being updated. It was noted that window replacements start this week. Window treatments may be needed at an additional expense. The tree at the north end of the building was removed for \$150.

Laura Crandall is ready for feedback on the St. James website.

Pastor Mary reported that she officiated for the wedding at St. James on 9/3/05 for Jerrod Saab and Michelle Hopkins. Their witnesses were Jamie Salhus and Jeremy Salhus. And she officiated at communion held during worship on Sunday, September 4, 2005.

Carla Shafer, Stated Clerk





Maverette Butler
Margaret de Maine
Marion Dobbie
Pat Nelson
Mel Reasoner
Margaret Rice
Inge Thurston

**If you wish to be added to or deleted from the church mailing list, please contact the church office:
360-733-1325, stjpres@msn.com**

***The Pulse* is published once per month, with the exception of the combined July/August issue.**

Articles and announcements for the next issue must be **received** in the church office no later than **Wednesday, October 19, 2005**. That issue will be mailed **Thursday, October 27**. If you have something that you would like considered for publication, call the church office at 360-733-1325, e-mail stjpres@msn.com, put it in *The Pulse* box near the church office or mail it to:
St. James Presbyterian Church,
910 14th Street
Bellingham, WA 98225

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