

# The Tower

St. James Episcopal Church  
1410 NE Stadium Way, Pullman, WA 99163  
509-332-1742      stjamespullman@verizon.net  
[www.stjamespullman.org](http://www.stjamespullman.org)

June 2009

Beloved friends,

The Sunday before Ascension Sunday, which fell on May 17, is also known as Rogation Sunday, from the Gospel passage assuring us that we will be given whatever we ask (Latin: *rogare*) in God's name. In olden days the date was marked by elaborate processions of the entire parish around the boundaries of the church. Small boys would have their heads beat against boundary stones, or they would be thrown into briars or rivers – so that they would never forget where the boundaries of the church would be. The Victorians prettied this up, and the objects themselves were beaten, rather than the small boys, in a ceremony called the Beating of the Bounds.

The 17<sup>th</sup> century Anglican priest and poet George Herbert suggested the following good things to ask in a Rogation Day procession:

*A blessing of God for the fruits of the field*

*Justice in the preservation of bounds*

*Charity in loving, walking and neighbourly accompanying one another with reconciling of differences at the time if there be any*

*Mercie, in relieving the poor by a liberal distribution of largesse, which at the time is or ought to be used.*

Rogation Sunday falls between the secular dates of Earth Day (April 22) and World Environment Day (June 5) and helps us to put stewardship of the gifts we have received in their spiritual context. While we do not Beat the Bounds at St. James in Rogationtide, we do participate in works of reconciliation, justice, charity and mercy in our grounds. The memorial garden, built by funds provided in memory of parishioners who have died, uses low-water plantings, repeated alongside the bank on our south side, to conserve water. In the garden to the south of the Rectory, St. James donates land and water for the Backyard Harvest, a program that collects excess produce and distributes it to food banks throughout the Palouse. Our garden is in the process of being converted to an organic garden, and this year it is being left to go fallow to allow replenishment of nutrients in the soil. More information on the Backyard Harvest program can be found at [www.backyardharvest.org](http://www.backyardharvest.org) or by calling Amy Grey at 669-2259 for more information. Throughout this growing season, may our hearts be directed to that walk of neighborliness, to reconciliation, and mercy in all the projects and errands of our lives. *Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth: We humbly pray that your gracious providence may give and preserve to our use the harvests of the land and of the seas, and may prosper all who labor to gather them, that we, who are constantly receiving good things from your hand, may always give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

*In Peace,*

The people of St. James are a community of faith rooted in God's unconditional love, seeking to express that love to one another, our neighbors and the world.

Deadline for  
July issue  
June 15th

**Rector**

Mary Beth Rivetti 432-1807

**Deacons**Theodore Nitz 334-1755  
Wilhelmina "Toni" Sarai-Clark  
882-9255**Senior Warden**

Sharon Nitz 334-1755

**Junior Warden**

Fritz Hughes 332-4487

**Vestry Members**

\*3-year terms

\*Fritz Hughes '12 332-4487

\*Chris Stone '11 332-4536

Dianne Lowe '11 592-0349

Eric Pratt '11 592-5167

Margaret Rehberg '10  
872- 0104

\*Stephan Flores '10 882-6508

Sharon Nitz '10 334-1755

Sara Schofield '10  
315-382-1129

John Brewer '10 332-3788

**Clerk:**

Stephan Flores 882-6508

**Treasurer**

Dean Ritchie 334-3132

**Nursery Coordinators**Joe & Tina Vona-Pergola  
883-0734**Campus Ministry**

Phil Mixer 334-5384

**Christian Education****Senior High**

Rex Burns 332-4704

**Altar Guild Director**

Linda Adams 882-0989

**ECW Co-Chairs**

Sue Johnson 332-1375

Margaret Rehberg 872-0104

**Men's Breakfast**

Dean Ritchie 334-3132

Phil Mixer 334-5384

**Building & Grounds**

Fritz Hughes 332-4487

**Outreach/Social Justice**Nancy Collins-Warner  
334-4688**Pastoral Care**

Carol Porter 334-7458

**Parish Assistant**Carol Porter 332-1742  
stjamespullman@verizon.net**VESTRY DIGEST**

At its meeting of May 12, 2009, the Vestry of St. James Episcopal Church

- Received the report of the parking committee convened by Dianne Lowe, setting out procedures for organizing parking dates and distributing funds, particularly during football season, with procedures and solicitation of parking to be published in July
- Accepted the resignation of Elsa Kirsten Peters for health concerns, expressing gratitude for her service and hope for her continuing recovery
- Appointed Chris Stone to fill Elsa Kirsten's unexpired term on the vestry
- Approved two proposals put forward by Junior Warden Fritz Hughes to replace siding on south and west walls of the older part of the building with Hardi Panel siding
- Agreed to request funding from the ECW to complete the siding project to continue around the northwest face of the property (old sanctuary wall)
- Received the report of the Campus Ministry for the year, requesting additional information regarding the finances of the Mission Trip before releasing funds to supplement pledges from the congregation
- Agreed to publicize the position of Christian Education Coordinator in the newspaper and on campus

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 9, 2009, at 7pm, in the Canterbury Room. The Executive Committee meets to set the agenda on the Wednesday evening prior to each meeting.

Minutes of vestry meetings are published in the office and online following their approval and correction if needed.

**Book Study Group Wants Your Input**

Please join St. James' evening Book Study Group on Monday, June 15, for a potluck barbecue at the Nitz house at 6 p.m. In addition to enjoying some good food and each other's company, we want to select our next book to read. Among the possibilities are:

- How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now by James L. Kugel
- Meaning of Jesus: Two Visions by Marcus J. Borg and N Wright
- Ears to Hear: Recognizing and Responding to God's Call by Edward S. Little
- The Heart of Christianity: Rediscovering a Life of Faith by Marcus J. Borg
- The Scandalous Gospel of Jesus: What's So Good About the Good News? by Peter J. Gomes
- Troubled Waters: Religion, Ethics and the Global Water Crisis by Gary Chamberlain

Please let Sharon Nitz or Travis Ridout know if you'd like to join us for this barbecue and/or for an every-other-week book discussion this summer.

## **From the Front Lines: Social Justice and Outreach Ministries at St. James**

Nancy Collins-Warner

Social Justice and Outreach Ministries met on May 3, for its regular “1<sup>st</sup> Sunday” gathering. This was a special meeting, however, as we appreciated and celebrated the many ministries fostered during Joe Pergola’s tenure as Chair of our group. (Joe and Tina are moving back home to Florida in late May.)

Among the activities noted:

- Embedding line-items in General Fund budget for Social Justice and MDG projects, which has included support for Bicycle Project in West Africa, Kay Surles mission trips to Belize (vitamins for kids); Kate Burn’s mission trip to New Orleans this summer, etc.
- Participating with “Soup’s On” through Community Action (program was discontinued)
- On-going outreach with Community Action through Sue Johnson’s leadership
- Encouraging “grassroots” effort and delightful success of “Spring Tea” with leadership of Carol Porter, Claudia Wohlfeil, and others
- Enabling youth of St. James to provide a Heifer Ark, with efforts/contributions of many, including wonderful concert Mary Flores helped organize

Raising money with game-day parking for special needs, i.e. Haiti Hurricane Relief (through ERD), CAC outreach, etc.

Ideas for the immediate future:

- More consistent communication to the larger parish about activities, gatherings, opportunities (Tower, website, bulletin, etc.)
- Try having every-other meeting include an “educational” presentation by folks involved in social justice/outreach, making sure entire congregation is invited to these gatherings
- More explicitly define our “identity/mission”: supporting, educating, communicating about all the initiative in the congregation☺

Nancy Collins-Warner offered to serve as “interim” facilitator, esp. focusing on congregational communication tasks, insuring we meet regularly, and broader education about SJOM ministries.

We approved expenditures for the cost of shipping anatomy/health texts to Gambia (where Sarah Schofield served in the Peace Corps) and acquiring a book cart for informal used-book sale, proceeds to support diocesan Belize Mission which Kay Surles has participated in for many years and ECW has also helped support.

**Next Meeting: Sunday, June 7, in the Canterbury Room after 10 am Service – Join us with Coffee, fellowship, and ideas!**

### **Housekeeping notes**

Our lovely round tables were a gift from St. James’ ECW when we remodeled this building to create the parish hall. Each one of those tables costs around \$200. Repairing bent legs on the tables costs less – about \$100. This fall, ECW provided hardware, and Carol Porter labored to repair the legs on several tables and restore them to their original stability. Already a newly restored table is out of commission, its hardware ripped from the table, probably beyond repair. How do the tables get bent out of shape? By being dragged across the floor or even flipped onto the side, putting stress on the legs and the screws holding them in place. Members of setup and cleanup crews may believe they’re being strong and efficient by moving the tables on their own. It is absolutely necessary that these tables be moved by being lifted and carried, not dragged, to the place they need to be. If you see someone trying to move a table, step up and help with the move. But let’s be good stewards of the gifts we have received.

## Prayer list

### Fighting Cancer:

Edwin  
Ellen  
Jenni  
Marion  
Mary  
Ronda

### Fighting other Illnesses:

Christian– Perthes Disease  
Lorri P.– MS  
George– Corticobasal Degeneration  
Jeri-MS  
Sean– Mental Illness  
Daniel & Parents– Schizophrenia  
Bradley– Healing  
Bruce– Healing  
Ted– Healing  
Pete H.-Healing  
Helen– Healing  
Lib  
Demy  
Jan L.– Mental Illness  
Gail- MS  
Robbie– MS

### Special prayers:

Henry & Claire– Life transition  
Catherine & Dean– Healing  
Jan– Life transition  
Carol V– Life transition

### For those who have died

Bill B.  
Tom  
Don  
Ghery  
Vitaly  
Stu

## From the Senior Warden

This story was shared with me at work not long ago. I think it is well worth passing on.

**One day I hopped in a taxi and we took off for the airport. We were driving in the right lane when suddenly a black car jumped out of a parking space right in front of us. My taxi driver slammed on his brakes, skidded, and missed the other car by just inches! The driver of the other car whipped his head around and started yelling at us. My taxi driver just smiled and waved at the guy. And, I mean, he was really friendly. So I asked, 'Why did you just do that? This guy almost ruined your car and sent us to the hospital!' This is when my taxi driver taught me what I now call, 'The Law of the Garbage Truck.'**

**He explained that many people are like garbage trucks. They run around full of garbage, full of frustration, full of anger, and full of disappointment. As their garbage piles up, they need a place to dump it and sometimes they'll dump it on you. Don't take it personally. Just smile, wave, wish them well, and move on. Don't take their garbage and spread it to other people at work, at home, or on the streets. The bottom line is that successful people do not let garbage trucks take over their day. Life's too short to wake up in the morning with regrets, so... Love the people who treat you right. Pray for the ones who don't. Life is ten percent what you make it and ninety percent how you take it!**

**Have a blessed, garbage-free day!**

Sharon  
Senior Warden

## Worship

**Morning Prayer continues on Wednesdays at 8:30**

Sunday, **June 14**, we begin our summer worship schedule, with a single celebration of the Holy Eucharist at **9am.**

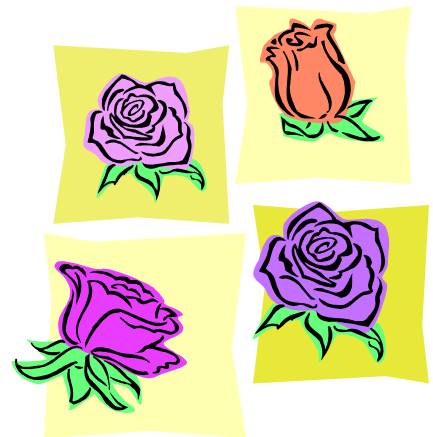
## Christian Education

Sunday School recognition day will be June 7



## The People of St. James

There are lots of spaces on the flower chart, so if anyone has something special to celebrate or someone to remember, the Altar Guild would be happy to explain options for flowers. Please see -- or communicate with --- Linda Adams for details. Thanks!



Dear Pete,

You were the Sr. Warden at the time of my retirement, and must have been at least in part responsible for the wonderful retirement gift we were given. I'm writing to give some account for what we did with those funds.

There have been two excursions. The first was a trip to Alaska with quite a lot of sight seeing, followed by a cruise through the Inland Passage: a floating hotel.

The second trip was across Canada by rail, from Halifax to Vancouver. Both trips were excellent excursions, taken with remembrance of the thoughtfulness of St. James and many friends. When the gift first came to us, I said I would use it to make an extra bedroom for (especially Pullman) guests to visit us. Kay Surles in no uncertain terms admonished me, saying it must be used for pleasure.

Thank you!

Armand Larive

This letter that was sent to Pete Haggart is on the bulletin board in the hallway. The letter has pictures of Armand and Ruby on their trips.

### **Update on Christian Wohlfeil**

Christian will be having a surgical procedure called an osteotomy on June 15th. They will not be replacing his hip at this time. He's not in any pain so for the doctors that is a positive outcome. The osteotomy will address the leg length discrepancy. They are going to cut the femur, rotate the bone so it is straight, and then add a metal plate/screws to hold the whole thing together. He'll be in the hospital for 5 days and then on crutches for the next eight weeks. After he is all healed up from the surgery he should have a 2cm difference in leg length which is in the normal range. Right now he has a 2 1/2 inch discrepancy due to the position of his pelvis and the fact that his femur is abducted inward. The good news is that he'll be pain free and able to walk without a cane! We appreciate all the prayers being said for our family, thank you.

Diocesan Convention is in October, but nominations are now open for diocesan offices. Contact the parish office or go to [www.spokanediocese.org](http://www.spokanediocese.org) for more information.

General Convention is next month. Bulletin inserts for the next several weeks will address the issues that are coming before the bishops and deputies. Join them in a web forum on June 2 at 7pm. Details on the forum can be found at [www.spokanediocese.org](http://www.spokanediocese.org). Or you can come the Rectory at 6:30 to participate as a group.



Hello,

A friend referred me to your church. I left a voice message this morning leaving my name and phone number.

I wanted to know if your church helps people in the community with financial donations.

I have 2 children and up until the spring semester ended, I was depending on the transit system to get them to daycare and myself to work. I've been without a car for 2 months now. And now that the transit has limited routes and time schedule, I have to walk my kids to and from daycare as well as walk to work.

I feel like a disappointment to my kids as the bus routes stop running after 5:50pm and I cannot take them to baseball and swimming which began last week.

I have \$300.00 saved towards a car. I'm asking for financial help so I can purchase a car or just a ride to get them to and from their sports practices.

If you can help or know of any other resource that can help my situation, I would be extremely grateful.

Sincerely,

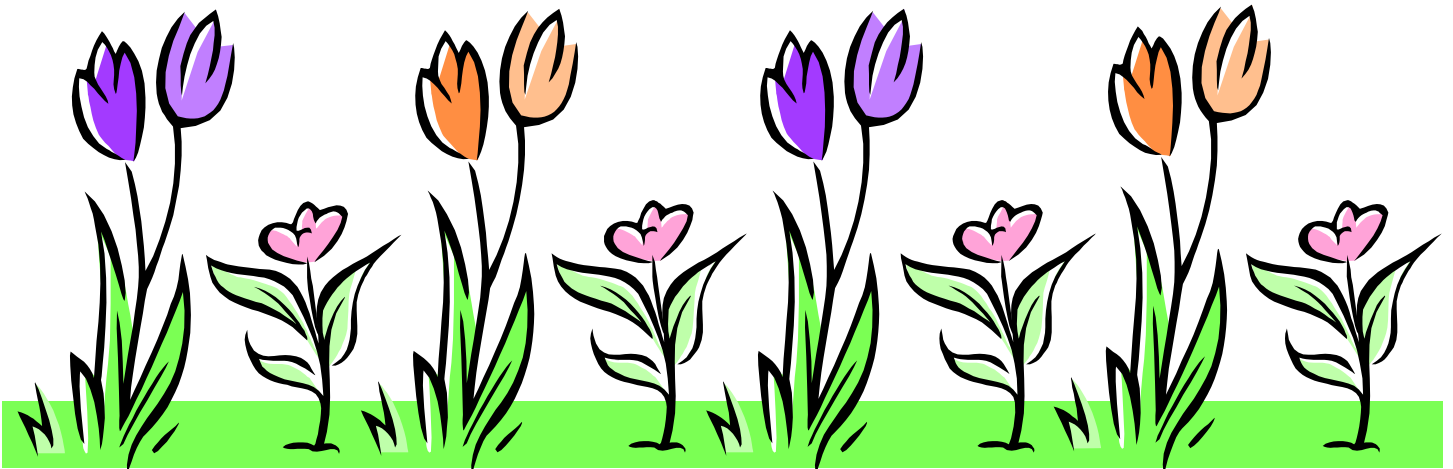
Casey Holly

**If you can help Casey contact the church office and Carol can connect you with Casey.**

### **Books for Belize Project**

The Social Justice and Outreach Ministry is beginning an informal used book sale to benefit school children in Belize. Watch for our cart during coffee hour where you will find a selection of books to purchase. All money made will go to St Matthews Anglican School in Pomona Belize to help children who have difficulty purchasing necessary school items like uniforms, books and supplies.

Check the bulletin for additional information or contact Kay Surlles, Nancy Collins-Warner, or Claudia Wohlfeil.





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St. James Episcopal Church  
 1410 NE Stadium Way  
 Pullman, WA 99163  
 Return Service Requested

*“We are no longer strangers and sojourners but fellow citizens  
 with the saints and members of the household of God.”*

<b>June 3</b>	Women of St. James Fellowship <b>11:00am</b> Lunch <b>12pm @ Bishop Place</b>
<b>June 7</b>	Outreach/Social Justice after <b>10am</b> service
<b>June 14</b>	Buildings & Grounds after <b>10am</b> service
<b>June 20</b>	Mom’s Group <b>10am to 12pm</b>
<b>June 27</b>	EV training– <b>St. Marks 9-11</b>
<b>July 1</b>	Women of St. James Fellowship <b>10:30am</b> Lunch <b>12pm</b>
<b>July 5</b>	Outreach/Social Justice after <b>10am</b> service
<b>July 12</b>	Buildings & Grounds after <b>10am</b> service
<b>July 10-15</b>	Set-up for Rummage sale
<b>July 16-18</b>	<b>Rummage Sale</b>
<b>July 26</b>	<b>St. James Day in the Park</b>
<b>Aug. 2</b>	Outreach/Social Justice after <b>10am</b> service
<b>Aug. 5</b>	Women of St. James Fellowship <b>11:00am</b> Lunch <b>12pm</b>
<b>Aug. 9</b>	Buildings & Grounds after <b>10am</b> service

**\*Men’s Breakfast– Every Tuesday 6:30-8 at Tam’s Restaurant**