

# 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)

May 2009

Beloved friends,

Change is in the air. The theme of the just-concluded Clergy Conference was “No Longer Business as Usual.” An unsettling concept, perhaps, in a time when certainty and the promise of a return to normal offer comfort to those whose lives are being disrupted. But No Business as Usual is what we Christians are about as we continue our fifty-day celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus.

We are reminded each year at this time that Resurrection is not just the resuscitation of a corpse. It is not Lazarus coming out of the tomb, still wrapped in the winding cloths of mourning, that animates our hope. It is the one who comes in through locked doors, yet stays for dinner; who blends in as a stranger in the garden, a wanderer on the road, and yet knows us by name and reaches into our hearts. This is a totally new form of life, not just business as usual, into which we are being called through our participation in the Body of Christ.

Some of our business that will be done a little differently involves the results of work by our hospitality committee, treasurer, and administration team. The guest book has been replaced by a stack of cards (also located in the book racks of the pews) that allow newcomers to sign in. The back of the card is reserved for comments on our liturgy, questions, prayer requests, general feedback. Maybe you have a comment you'd like to share on the sermon, or a special request. Go ahead and use those cards, even if you've been coming here for years. You can put the card in the collection plate, hand the card to an usher as you leave, or place it on the desk in the parish office. The cards are part of our shift to a new software program to manage our database, contributions, and bookkeeping. We're still working on the details, attending web-based training programs, experimenting and learning. But our goal is to have our membership database transferred and a new directory printed using the software in time for the feast of Pentecost. We'll be asking for your help in updating some of our data. Please bear with us as we make the shift to a more efficient program that we hope will enhance communication with one another and help us maintain more accurate records.

Another change you'll be noticing is the retirement of our longest-serving staff member. Daphne Graham, who has been the sexton of St. James for nearly 23 years, gave notice to us in January that she had found employment at Safeway. She agreed to stay on until we had found her replacement. We have done that – and now we need to plan a celebration of her work with us. Look for more information on the date, and help us thank this faithful employee for her years of service.

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  
June issue  
May 15th

Continued on page 2

**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

\*Elsa K Peters '11 595-3511

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**

Tina Vona-Pergola 883-0734

**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**

Joe Pergola 883-0734

Todd Butler 332-5594

**Pastoral Care**

Carol Porter 334-7458

**Parish Assistant**

Carol Porter 332-1742

stjamespullman@verizon.net

**VESTRY DIGEST**

At its meeting on April 14, the vestry of St. James'

- heard a report from Tina Vona-Pergola about the Christian Education ministry, with her review of the past year and recommendations for the next person to serve as Christian Education Coordinator the vestry expressed their thanks to Tina for her service, and their best wishes to the entire family as they prepare to move back to Florida
- voted to restore to the 2009 budget the \$500 line-item to reimburse non-stipendiary clergy for their expenditures
- agreed not to otherwise encumber the recent gifts received, in light of the economic uncertainty of the community and the likelihood of some parishioners not able to complete their pledges
- agreed to receive funds for the Move-Out/Pitch-In program to offset the cost of trash removal
- heard reports of the various ministry teams active in the parish, including the communications team, hospitality, pastoral care, outreach and social justice, and buildings and grounds committees

The next vestry meeting will be on Tuesday, May 12, at 7pm. Vestry minutes are published online and in the parish office following their adoption by the vestry.

**Rector's letter continued from page 1**

At the same time we welcome Phil Taylor who is our new sexton. Phil's wife Penny is the cook for Community Child Care Center.

Some things that don't change are our annual rummage sale and our participation in Move-Out Pitch-In, the recycling campaign that redirects discarded items from our landfill for reuse and resale in the community. This year we are going to have a recycling container on our property for the entire month of May, to encourage residents of College Hill to use this service as they move out or change residences at the end of the school year. If you'd like to offer your help in staffing the storage container, let us know in the office and we'll get you signed up.. When the unsightly container shows up in our parking lot, remember that it is a sign of our connection to the campus, to the broader community, and to our environment as we make good use of items that others would throw away. And because we are the people of resurrection, when we see our lives disrupted, we can always shout,

*ALLELUIA!*


## Campus Ministry News

May 2009

In April, St. James supported the Common Ministry at WSU's annual fundraising auction and dinner. Many thanks to those who attended and made contributions to this ecumenical center. The St. James vestry has also pledged support for the Common Ministry. As budgets shrink from various sources, the Common Ministry at WSU continues to provide a vital ministry with limited funds. Student participants from diverse backgrounds benefit greatly by having a welcoming and inquiring faith community.

The WSU campus is showing signs of spring as students work their way towards finals and commencement in early May. Please pray for all students, staff and faculty during these stressful weeks. Our student programming continues with the Wednesday night INSPIRE program through finals week. We will meet sporadically during the summer school terms, using fun options for programs and fellowship.

Among the WSU graduates in May will be Ms. Cati Bischoff who came to Pullman in August, but has made a great impact. Cati has been an active student participant and helped St. James high school students prepare banners used on Good Friday. Cati's summer will include her wedding to Thomas Bennett and return to Pullman as Tom works on a graduate degree in neurosciences. Best wishes Cati!

-Phil Mixter

### Put a Can on Your Can and Drop a Dime Each Time You Flush

"We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water." These are the words that begin our prayer over the water in the sacrament of Holy Baptism. On the feast of Pentecost, we will begin our worship in the Narthex (entryway) as we gather to remember our baptismal vows. Water is the source of life—our spiritual life and our spiritual life as well. We have been blessed with abundance of water here in the Inland Northwest, and we even have a crop that grows well without needing a lot of water. Our own Jean Wardwell through her years on the planning commission engaged issues of water use in this part of the state, and even authored legislation that describes the type of development that is appropriate for our community. We have water in such abundance that we are able to use perfectly good, drinkable water to flush our toilets (as our dogs will attest). But in ever growing areas of the world, water is not accessible at the turn of a tap. Women walk for miles with large buckets to bring water home from scarce wells. Children play in running sewage streams. Toxic waste destroys water supplies.

This Pentecost, as we celebrate our baptism and our vows to live the renewed life we have received in Jesus Christ, the entire Diocese of Spokane is invited to participate in an awareness and fund-raising program to bind us together in healing for our planet. We ask that you place a can on your toilet tank, and drop a dime in whenever you flush the toilet – in thanksgiving for the abundance we enjoy, and in aid for those who have no water to spare. The Sunday before our Diocesan Convention, we will gather in these offerings and present them at the convention Eucharist on October 18.

Any old can will do – and folding money will be gratefully accepted for multiple uses!

## Prayer list

### Fighting Cancer:

Robert  
Edwin  
Ellen  
Jenni  
Anthony Dee  
Marion

### Fighting other Illnesses:

Christian- Perthes Disease  
Bill B.  
Lorri P.- MS  
George- Corticobasal Degeneration  
Jeri-MS  
Nicholas- Mental Illness  
Sean- Mental Illness  
Daniel & Parents- Schizophrenia  
Bradley- Healing  
Bruce- Healing  
Joseph- Leg infection  
Mark- Stroke  
Ruth- Healing  
Ted- Healing  
Ruth C.- Healing from heart attack  
Suzi-  
Pete Haggart  
Helen-  
Lib  
Demy  
Ronda  
Scott

### Special prayers:

Henry & Claire- Life transition  
Garret- Life transition  
Catherine & Dean- Healing  
Eric- Healing  
Mary H.- Healing  
Colin & Family-Life transition  
Nolting Family  
Dani & Casandra

### For those who have died

## From the Senior Warden

### Happy Easter

Our Holy Week and Easter celebrations this year were the best. All of the services were well planned and the attention to detail made them good experiences. I hope you had a chance to participate in at least one of the services that began Maundy Thursday, continued with Good Friday services and then liturgy on Saturday morning and Easter Vigil on Saturday night, culminating with two celebration services on Sunday. That many services represent a lot of liturgy, a lot of music, a lot of setting up and taking down.

Thank you are in order for all of the planning and work that it took to provide seven services in 4 days. First a big thank you to all of the clergy who led us in the Triduum and our Easter celebration....Mary Beth, Susan, Toni, Ted, John....you gave of yourselves over and over that week and it is appreciated by the members of St. James. Thanks to all who were readers, acolytes and Eucharistic ministers. Also thanks to Elena and all the musicians who provided music from table singing on Thursday to the sung Eucharist on Sunday. Good job! Thank you to the altar guild for the cleaning and the decorating and the setting of tables many times over. It shows that you, too, pay attention to detail so that our services go so smoothly. Nancy Collins Warner was one of the members who spent hours preparing rooms for the next event and putting things away when it was finished only to come back the next day and do it again. Thank you, Nancy.

The high school group designed and crafted banners to be used at the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday. You did a wonderful job, thank you. If any of you have not seen these hangings, ask to see them. They are very well done. The other group that helped with flourishes is the Sunday school class that made the banners used to add to the triumphant procession on Easter morning. Those banners still adorn our altar as we continue to celebrate the 50 days of Easter. Thank you to each of you who made a banner and the teachers who coached you. And last but not least our parish assistant, Carol Porter, whose work load probably doubled in order to have bulletins and song sheets available and reminders for those of us who need help keeping track of what comes next and phone calls and more bulletins. The parish is very grateful for all you do for us.

Easter continues for 50 days. Come participate in our worship and our study groups and our fellowship during this season. Easter ends when Pentecost begins, May 31<sup>st</sup>. Be sure to put that celebration on your calendar as well. And again thank you to everyone who put in extra effort to make Holy Week and the beginning of Easter a glorious celebration.

Sharon  
Senior Warden

## Worship

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

The Feast of the Pentecost on May 31 marks the end of our fifty-day celebration of Easter, and the beginning of our long season of “ordinary time,” the half of our liturgical calendar that focuses not on the calendar of events in the life of Jesus, but rather on his life and ministry as proclaimed in the Gospels.

To mark this celebration, often referred to as the Birthday of the Church, we all wear red, the color of the flames that accompanied the Pentecost miracle described in the second chapter of the Acts of the Apostles. And we speak in “tongues.”

The following Sunday is Trinity Sunday, the first of the Sundays after Pentecost, where the Church celebrates not an event or even a person, but the mystery of God's relatedness in the persons of the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This will be the choir's last Sunday for the season, when they will take a much-deserved break for the summer. It will also be our last Sunday of Sunday School, when we will celebrate the end of the year for our students and their teachers.

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

## Christian Education

As the Vona-Pergola family prepares to return to Florida, we will be searching for a new coordinator of Christian Education to succeed Montine.

### linguistic skills needed

Saint James' will be celebrating Pentecost on Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. As has become traditional we will read the lesson from Acts in multiple languages. We have every hope and expectation that those who have joined to do it in the past will be doing again. We would like to invite anyone who wishes to take part to join us. If that means we have more than one reader reading in a particular language, that will be NO problem. Please volunteer your linguistic skills for this celebration to Doug Adams.

dqadams@uidaho.edu or 208-882-0989

## The People of St. James

### Addition to our St James Web Page

#### **You may now read the Sunday sermon on the Web at St James**

Each Sunday's sermon will be posted on the Web by our Web master, Travis Ridout. So if you did not get to church but would still like to hear (read) the message from the pulpit, go to our web page [www.stjamespullman.org](http://www.stjamespullman.org) and select "worship." Sermons are listed on this page for you to read.



The 2nd annual St. James Ladies Tea was another success this year. We had 11 tables this year, up from 9 last year. Thank you to the table hostesses:

Linda Adams  
Carol Porter  
Carolyn Ross  
Van Geoghegan-McKenna  
Margaret Rehberg  
Sylvia Hutton  
Mary Flores  
Tina Vona-Pergola  
Julie McCoy  
Jean Wardwell  
Claudia Wohlfeil

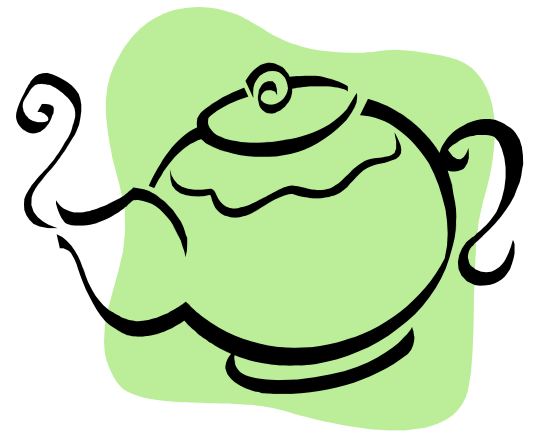
There were also lots of compliments on the array of food. Thank you to:

Dawn Butler  
Marsha & Maggie Quinlan  
Gail McCoy  
Linda Adams  
Julie McCoy  
Sylvia Hutton  
Margaret Rehberg  
Kate Burns  
Jean Wardwell  
Susan Cleveley  
And many others

Thank you to Chi Omega for their assistance in the kitchen and as our servers.

Thank you from the Tea committee,

Claudia Wohlfeil  
Tina Vona-Pergola  
Julie McCoy  
Gail McCoy  
Carolyn Ross  
Jean Wardwell  
Carol Porter



**Dear Friends,**

**It's been 12 weeks as I write this, and I'm finally getting around a bit without crutches.**

**I had a bad skiing accident this past January, and when I got home I really needed help. I was pretty beat up, having had a 3 ½ hour surgery the day before to put my leg back together.**

**I wasn't sure what I was going to do... my folks suggested I contact my church to see if someone there could help. So I called Mary Beth and she put me in touch with some really wonderful people, to whom my thanks is long overdue.**

**I want to say thanks to Sylvia Hutton, who called upon her large group of volunteers and had hot meals delivered to me every evening. Thank you, Sylvia. And thanks to all of you who made those meals and brought them to me. Thanks for your words of encouragement and company. It was a pretty grim time and I don't know how I would have made it through those first couple of difficult weeks without you.**

**I also want to say thanks to Rex and Beth Burns, who did grocery store runs for me and stopped by to visit. Thanks for your company, and for all your help.**

**If anyone ever needs help with hot meals like I did, I want to let you know there's a large group of volunteers here at St. James willing and able to help out.**

**What a wonderful parish we have here at St. James. Thank you all so much.**

**God Bless,**

**Eric Pratt**

The time is once more upon us to consider nominations for the Diocesan Convention. I have agreed to be the Deanery representative to acquire these, I need your assistance. Please see if someone in your congregation will be willing to have their name put forth for nomination and serve in one of the openings.

They are: Standing Committee: 1 lay and 1 clergy, 4 yr term  
Directors of Corporation: 2 lay or 2 clergy 4 yr term  
Council: 2 lay and 2 clergy, 3 yr term, 1 lay, 1 yr term

I hope there will be some nominations from our Deanery. Please let me know who these will be. I will look forward to seeing you and others at convention this year. Since our Deanery is hosting, it should be a great gathering time for us all.

My best wishes,

Margaret Rehberg  
[wmrehberg@pullman.com](mailto:wmrehberg@pullman.com)  
509-872-0104



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 Pullman, WA 99163  
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*“We are no longer strangers and sojourners but fellow citizens  
 with the saints and members of the household of God.”*

May 3	Outreach/Social Justice after <b>10am</b> service
May 5	Tapestry <b>7:30 pm</b>
May 6	Women of St. James Fellowship <b>10:30am</b> Lunch <b>12pm</b>
May 10	Buildings & Grounds after <b>10am</b> service
May 12	<b>Vestry 7pm</b>
May 16	Mom’s Group <b>10am to 12pm</b>
May 21	<b>Ascension 7pm</b>
June 3	Women of St. James Fellowship <b>10:30am</b> Lunch <b>12pm</b>
June 7	Outreach/Social Justice after <b>10am</b> service
June 14	Buildings & Grounds after <b>10am</b> service
June 20	Mom’s Group <b>10am to 12pm</b>
June 27	EV training– <b>St. Marks 9-11</b>
July 1	Women of St. James Fellowship <b>10:30am</b> Lunch <b>12pm</b>
July 5	Outreach/Social Justice after <b>10am</b> service
July 12	Buildings & Grounds after <b>10am</b> service
July 10-15	Set-up for Rummage sale
July 16-18	<b>Rummage Sale</b>
July 26	<b>St. James Day in the Park</b>

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