

January 2014

# St. James Herald

Electronic Edition

## What's INSIDE

An email publication of St. James Luthern Church of Crystal, Minnesota

- 2-3 Happenings
- 4 Children & Youth
- 5 Important Info
- 6 Thank You Notes
- 7 Misc. News
- 8 Calendar

## Pastoral Reflection: Epiphany, the Season of Light

It's a new year filled with hope and expectation! This beginning is an exciting time of newness and opportunity. It is also a new church season of Epiphany, which means appearing or revealing. The Epiphany season begins on January 6, and ends on the day before Lent, which is known as Shrove Tuesday. During these days we see how God takes the initiative to reveal the light and God's presence to us.

Through these stories God's Christ is revealed to the nations and celebrated as the light of the world. As we allow the stories of Epiphany to live in our own hearts, we grow in our identity as a Christian believer, in and through whom God in Christ continues to be revealed. We become Epiphanies as we incorporate Christ in our lives.



I love this season because it focuses upon The Light and how God is revealed in and through the world, through Scripture and through us. The stories of the season include the story of the wise men following the star, the baptism of Jesus and the voice from heaven that names Jesus as the son of God, the call of the 12 disciples, the Sermon on the Mount and the Beatitudes, and the Transfiguration of Jesus on the mountaintop.

I pray that you will be filled with Christ's light this season and more importantly may you be an Epiphany to others. May you reveal Christ's light to the world so others can know the Good News of Jesus Christ.

*Faithfully Yours,  
Pastor Kristen Brechler*



### Church Office Hours

The church office is open:  
Mon.-Wed. 7:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.  
Thurs., 7:00 a.m.—12:00 noon  
Fri. 7:30—10:00 a.m.

### St. James Lutheran Church

6700 46th Place North  
Crystal, MN 55428  
Phone: 763-537-3653  
Fax: 763-537-3828  
office@stjamesincrystal.org  
www.stjamesincrystal.org

## Annual Meeting and Potluck

The 2014 Annual Meeting of St. James will be on Sun., Jan. 26 with a potluck at noon and the meeting beginning at 12:30 p.m.



## St. James' Staff

**Pastor Dave Valen**

dvalen@stjamesincrystal.org

**Pastor Kristen Brehler**

kbrehler@stjamesincrystal.org

**Shayna Anderson**

sanderson@stjamesincrystal.org  
Director of Family Ministry

**Lana Teigen**

lteigen@stjamesincrystal.org  
Financial Coordinator

**Amanda Burns**

aburns@stjamesincrystal.org  
Director of Communication

**Ryan Walesch**

intern@stjamesincrystal.org  
Youth Ministry Assistant

**Deanna Loken**

Choir Director

**Mary Brown**

*Ringing Praise* Bell Choir  
Director & Organist

**Ron Skalicky**

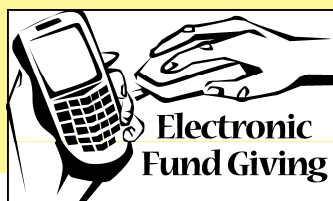
Custodian

**Amy Jermstad**

Sunday Morning Custodian

## St. James Website Accepts Donations

The St. James website now accepts one-time and recurring donations via checking, savings or credit card (Visa, MasterCard, or Discover). Click on the "Donate Now" button located on the left side of the homepage.



## Bishop to Hold Listening Post

The St. James Call Committee has finished developing a Ministry Site Profile, a way we describe ourselves as we are engaged in finding our new pastor. On Sun., Jan. 12, at 7:00 p.m., Bishop Ann Svennungsen will join us to listen deeply

to what we are thinking and wanting, and to share her thoughts about this pastoral search. Please join us for this most important time together.

## Amanda's New Hours

Director of Communications, Amanda Burns' office hours will be changing beginning January 1. She will now be here Monday-Wednesday 7 a.m.—4p.m., (gone Thursdays; Lana will be here *most* Thursday mornings), and Fridays 7:30 -10:00 a.m.

The change was voluntarily made to allow her more time at home with her children and as a way to cut the St. James budget at the same time.

## Over 55's

The Over 55's will meet at Old Country Buffet in Crystal on Mon. Jan. 27 at 11:30 a.m. Bring ideas for activities in 2014!

## Dinner at Your Door Drivers Needed

Regular and substitute drivers are needed for the Dinner at Your Door Program.

Regular drivers can expect to volunteer about one hour each month. Substitute drivers are called as needed.

St. James typically provides drivers the second Tuesday and third Monday of the month. Volunteer for one or both days.

This is a very small amount of time to give to a program that means so much to so many people. Having a meal delivered each day allows many people to remain independent.

For more information, call Barbara Parsons at 763-228-2272.

## Change of Address

- **Stephen & Shari Perkins**  
13305 57th Ave N  
Plymouth, MN 55442-1760
- **Wendor Bomee**  
3030 Sumter Ave N Apt 112  
Minneapolis, MN 55427-2716
- **Lynn Stoltzmann**  
8161 Endicott Ave NW  
Maple Lake, MN 55358-2832
- **Margaret Brown**  
5252 29th Ave S  
Minneapolis, MN 55417-2002

## Herald Drivers Needed

One or two volunteers are needed to be drivers or back up drivers for the *Herald* newsletter mailing, which is sent out quarterly. This entails taking the bins of newsletters to the bulk mail station in Fridley. Directions would be provided.

A special thanks to Dale Berger and Wayne Johnson for all the years they

volunteered with this program and to Ken Nelson and Roger Johnson for their continued assistance.

Contact Amanda Burns if you are interested in helping at 763-537-3653 or [aburns@stjamesincrystal.org](mailto:aburns@stjamesincrystal.org).

## 120 Days of Prayer

**Sunday Morning Cards:** Who receives them? Members of St. James who have been ill, hospitalized, shut-in, welcomed a new baby. We also do sympathy cards for members who have lost a parent, child or sibling. Unfortunately, in-laws are not included in this policy. If someone you know falls into these categories, please let the church office know. Sometimes the staff is unaware of such instances and therefore a heads-up is very much appreciated so we can do a card for the following Sunday.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Prayer shawls knit by the Prayer Shawl Ministry

group are given to members and non-members alike, who are in need of extra prayers and comfort, most often when recovering from an illness or surgery.

**Prayer Chain:** Anyone can request to be put on the prayer chain. We do ask that, if you are putting someone else on the prayer chain, that you first have the person's permission. An email and phone line are enlisted with praying for all kinds of occasions such as healing, recovery, strength, and comfort. To request to be put on the prayer chain, contact the church office at 763-537-3653 or [office@stjamesincrystal.org](mailto:office@stjamesincrystal.org).

## Decoration Change

Volunteers are needed to take down Christmas decorations on Fri., Jan. 3 at 9:00 a.m. All help is welcomed!

## Offering Envelopes

The 2014 offering envelopes are ready to be picked up in the narthex. Thank you!

## Men's Breakfast

The next Men's Breakfast is Sat., Nov. 16 at 8:00 a.m. at Fat Nat's (36th Ave. & Winnetka Ave).

## Usher Schedule

### January 5

8:45 a.m. Vern Christensen, Russ Sondrol, Junior Kautz, Robert, Sara & Melaney Wuollet

11:00 a.m. Ken Lutz

### January 12

8:45 a.m. O. J. Hellen, Terry Teigen, George McClure, Mike Logas, Roger E. Johnson

11:00 a.m. Ken & Phyllis Nelson, Pat Ferguson, Judy Berney

### January 19

8:45 a.m. Mike Stanchfield, Jim Olsen, Stan Tikkanen, John Lindstrom

11:00 a.m. Wayne Rierson, Don & Deb Edmondson

### January 26

8:45 a.m. Marv Berke, Jim Hauan, Becki Smith

11:00 a.m. Tim Buck



## Church Office Closed

Please note that the church office is closed Wed., Jan. 1 for New Years Day and Mon., Jan. 20 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Please contact Pastor Dave Valen at 612-499-1006 in case of an emergency



## Youth on Sunday Mornings

The St. James youth (9th grade after confirmation Sunday through 12th grade) will be getting together on Sunday mornings at 9:57 in the youth room.

## Youth Movie Night

The youth will gather for a movie night in Wold Hall on Sat., Jan. 25, 6:30 –10:00 p.m. Questions? Contact Ryan Walesch at 763-537-1702.

## Youth Nights at St. James

This month's youth night is Wed., Jan 15 at 6:00 p.m. Questions can be directed to Ryan Walesch at 763-537-1702 or ryan.stjamesyouth@gmail. Com

## Middle School Lock-In

All Middle School youth are invited to a lock-in on Fri., Jan. 17 beginning at 7:00 p.m. Those interested can talk to either Pastor Kristen Brechler or Ryan Walesch. Cost for the event is \$10, paid by the Wednesday prior. Each middle school youth are welcome to invite one friend, also in middle school.

## 9:57 Resumes on January 5

**Happy New Year!** Join your friends back in Wold Hall on January 5<sup>th</sup> for games and fun! We are starting a new Bible lesson, "Banquet with Simon". Your family is welcome to join you too.

9:57 is our Sunday morning education time for children ages 2 through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. We meet in Wold Hall for large group time – singing, sharing our offering, hearing the Bible story and getting the message in a creative and unique way each week. We also spend time in small groups based on age/grade – digging deeper into the story through art, cooking or games. We have a blast and love seeing new faces join us! Pick up a registration form today on the St. James website, or outside the main office. Talk with Shayna Anderson if you have any questions.

## Summer Camp 2014

### Camp Onomia – Onamia, MN

Last summer St. James started a new camp tradition with our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders... summer camp week at Camp Onomia! Here is your invite to an experience that just could be that thing that stands out above all other experiences this summer! Can there really be anything MORE IMPORTANT than growing your faith and building quality relationships that will last a lifetime? Skill camps are great, but at Camp Onomia, we explore the deeper things values and life tools that you can pack home with you. Add in some pretty significant and fun conversations with the One who has created us and I think you will agree... *CAMP ROCKS!*

Look for more information on summer camp programs and dates, financial aid and fundraising in the February Herald!



*How cute are the kids at the Christmas program on December 15!*

### Communion Alternatives

St. James has gluten-free communion wafers available for those with gluten, wheat, dairy, corn or soy allergies, as well as grape juice. Just ask for one of these alternatives when receiving communion.

### “Gospel E” Weekly Email Newsletter

St. James has a weekly email newsletter, the “Gospel E,” which is sent each week to St. James members who want to receive this newsletter. It features an article from Pastor Dave and a few upcoming events each week.

To sign up for the Gospel E, please email Amanda Burns at [aburns@stjamesincrystal.org](mailto:aburns@stjamesincrystal.org).

### Borrowing Items from Church

St. James’ policy is not to lend or rent out items (including tables and chairs) to anyone; unfortunately this includes members. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

### Save the Dates

- **Wed., Mar. 5:** Ash Wednesday worship (midweek Lenten worship begins)
- **Fri., Mar. 14:** Senior High Lock-in
- **Sat., April 5:** Spring Tea
- **Sun., April 6:** Youth Bake Sale

### Book Club Meets December 3

January’s pick: The Girls of Atomic City: the untold story of the women who helped win World War II by Denise Kiernan.

At the height of WWII, Oak Ridge, TN was home to 75,000 residents, consuming more electricity than New York City. But to most of the world, the town did not exist. Thousands of civilians -- many of them young women from small towns across the South -- were recruited to this secret city. Kept very much in the dark, few would ever guess the true nature of the tasks they performed each day. That is, until the end of the war -- when Oak Ridge’s secret was revealed. Drawing on the voices of the women who lived

it -- women who are now in their 80s and 90s -- this bestseller rescues a remarkable, forgotten chapter of American history from obscurity. [from amazon.com]

Join “Page Turners” this month in reading the book The Girls of Atomic City. The group meets Tues., January 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the Peter and Paul room. All are welcome!

For more information on the book club, contact Linda Judge (at 763-533-4081 or [judgelinda@msn.com](mailto:judgelinda@msn.com)).

February’s pick: Unbroken: a World War II story of survival, resilience, and redemption by Laura Hillenbrand.

### Library News

Look for these books by Minnesota authors about Minnesotans:

Heroes Among Us, by Jim Klobuchar. Look for Myrtle Hanson’s story (Joanne Negstad’s mother).

Pursued by Grace, by Jim Klobuchar. Learn about the Lutheran Church’s place in his spiritual recovery. Jim was a member of St. James for a short time and read wonderful self-crafted prayers.

Footprints in Courage: A Bataan Death March Survivor’s Story. Although this was written by Kristin Gilpatrick, this is Alf Larson’s story (Linda Judge’s father).

In the Shadow of the Rising Sun, by Judy Hyland. This is another book written about three years in a Japanese prison camp during World War II. The author grew up in rural Minnesota, graduated from St. Olaf College and now lives in Minneapolis.

Churches of Minnesota. Enjoy this picture book with photos by Doug Ohman, a New Hope resident. Reflections by Jon Hassler, a Minnesota author born in Minneapolis and raised in Staples and Plainview, Hassler has written many books about small-town Minnesota including Grand Opening (available in the St. James library.)

The Seasons of Lefse River, by David L. Walli. Although the characters and place in this compilation of newspaper columns are fictional, the stories and events are based on real life experiences in small town northwestern Minnesota.

The Cross Under the Acacia Tree. One of the 17 books written by Jim Klobuchar and available in the St. James library. This is the story of two Lutheran missionaries in Tanzania.

### Internet Access

You can access the library catalog through the church’s home page. Go to “Getting Involved” scroll down to Library and click on “Check out what books and resources the library has to offer.” You will now be able to look directly at the library catalog.

# Thank You

## Letters of Thanks

To the people and church of St. James,

We extend our thanks for all of your many contributions and support to this family. We are grateful. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy new year. Happily we are in our new home.

*Joseph, Helena, Scholastical & Success Davies*

During a time like this we realize how much our friends and relatives really mean to us. Thank you so much for being my “church family.” You are such a vital part of my life and I thank God for all of you, every day.

*In Christian Love,  
Peg Tutila*

Thanks for your partnership and financial support in the amount of \$750 as your Member Contribution for 2013. Your financial support is instrumental in helping provide life-changing experiences for people of all ages.

*Joel Legred  
Executive Director, Luther Park*

## Memorials

**Bell Choir** in memory of Betty Bobzien, David Groska from Lorraine LaFontaine.

**Endowment Fund** in memory of Erv Tutila from Frode & Lillian Jespersen, Ozzie Helen, Ken & Phyllis Nelson, Jackie Harlow. In memory of Betty Bobzien from Bill & Eunice Kistner.

**Global Health Ministries** in memory of Erv Tutila from Dick & Jo Olson, family and friends, Violet Hansen, Carol Koosmann, Stan & Connie Tikkanen, Ruth Stanchfield, Dan Smith, Mary Circle, Bill & Eunice Kistner.

**Kid Pack** in memory of Erv Tutila from John & Peg Webster, Eleanor Franklin, Roger & Sue Eggen, Martin & Arlyn Brock, family and friends, Roger & Sandy Johnson, George & Orla McClure, Dean & Marsha Olson, Audrey Nelson, Duane & Joyce Halvorson, Dolores Hanson, Roland & Louise Smith, Mary Brown, Arlin & Vicky Butcher, Gary & Paulette Peterson, Chuck & Fern Schneider, Jim & Janice Dudley, Mike & Becky Stanchfield, Judy & Jim Decker, Joyce Held, Tim & Becky Smith, Ross & Oda Keske, Jim & Judy Olsen, Lorraine LaFontaine, Terry & Lana Teigen, Greg & Dianne Johnson, Nancy Horberg, John & Kristine Nymoan, Connie Blom, Don & Deb Edmondson.

**Library Fund** in memory of Erv Tutila from Don & Mary Roening.

**Mary Circle** in memory of Betty Bobzien from Ken & Phyllis Nelson. In memory of Erv Tutila from Donna Reinking.

**Memorial Fund** in memory of Erv Tutila from Carole Thoe.

**Mission & Ministry** in memory of Erv Tutila from Wayne & Karon Looft.

**Music Fund** in memory of Joy Johnson from George & Orla McClure. In memory of Erv Tutila from Marilyn Overland, Nancy Lohmann.

**NEAR** in memory of Betty Bobzien from Carol Koosmann. In memory of Erv Tutila from Clarence Peterson.

**Roof Fund** in memory of Erv Tutila from Lois Selle.

**Sunday School** in memory of Pearle Thomsen from Lois Selle.

## Sunday Altar Flowers

The 2014 Altar Flower Sign-Up Sheet is now available. If you would like to purchase flowers in honor, memory or celebration of someone, a sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board outside Pastor Dave's office. Please indicate if you would like the \$30 smaller bouquet or the \$40 larger bouquet when signing up.



## Sunday Mornings

**8:45 a.m.** —Evangelical Lutheran  
Worship setting

**9:57 a.m.** — Education hour— all ages

**11:00 a.m.**— “Now the Feast and  
Celebration” worship by Marty  
Haugen

## Hospitalizations

Dale Berger  
Eleanor Florey  
Don Edmondson  
Eleanor Franklin

## Sympathy

Peg Tutila on the death of Erv

## Funerals

Erv Tutila  
Betty Bobzien  
Robert Bobzien

## Outreach Partner: Home Free

Loaves and Fishes' mission statement is to provide nutritious meals to people who are hungry in the Twin City Metro in an atmosphere of hospitality. Locations are in areas where it is needed most. They develop joint ventures with like-minded organizations to assist guests with other basic needs and help them to become self-sufficient.

St. James members gave notice in June that we would no longer serve a meal after August 2013. Those affected were very sorry to have to do this after an almost 30 year partnership with Loaves and Fishes. Anyone can still volunteer on the third Thursday of the month either at 2:00 or 5:30 p.m. No team has stepped up to fill our slot. The coordinator at the site

is cooking the meal.

A letter was received from the synod asking if St. James could help with the space-sharing cost that Loaves and Fishes incurs at the River of Life site. The items include water, garbage, light, and heat. The River of Life Church can no longer absorb these costs. So it is appropriate to allot our money from January to the space-sharing costs instead of providing the food for a meal each month.

Please make your checks out to St. James with Loaves and Fishes on the memo line.

Thank you for your continued support to help Loaves and Fishes feed all who are hungry!!

## Parish Nurse Availability

Bonfire Parish Nurse Debbie is happy to check your blood pressure, and visit about health concerns and planning. Feel free to contact her at any location. You may also contact her at 612-408-2049.

**St. James:** the 4th Sunday of the month, and Tuesdays 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Her office is in the archives room, across from the Montessori coat racks. If the few steps are a problem to get there, go around outside; there aren't any steps to tackle!

**House of Hope:** the 3rd Sunday of the month, and Thursdays 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**First Lutheran:** the 2nd Sunday of the month, and Tuesdays 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

## Bonfire Ministry News

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

Greetings to you as a new year begins; a time of endless possibilities and wonderful opportunities. I do not have any numbers as I write this; yet, I know Bonfire Ministry has had a remarkable year. **You** have had a marvelous year through Bonfire Ministry and 2014 is shaping up to be another year of growth in our shared ministry and another year of serving the "least among us" in Jesus' name.

The biggest change to Bonfire Ministry this year was calling me to serve as the Executive Director of this exciting ministry. Having one person through whom all the questions and opportunities can funnel is a great advantage for us. I am enjoying the challenge and the opportunity to serve along with you. Other congregations are exploring the kind of collaboration we are already doing, and wondering how to "pull it off" in their particular ministry settings. You have succeeded in "pulling it off," and as the result God's people are being served with love and compassion, just as Jesus commands us to do.

There are two ministries coming up that I want to invite you to attend. The first is the S.P.A.R.C. program on Mon.,

Feb. 3 at 7:00 p.m. at House of Hope Lutheran Church. S.P.A.R.C. is a collaborative program between the school district, parents and Bonfire Ministry. The topic for the evening will be **Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR)**. QPR is a free, one-hour presentation sponsored by NAMI Minnesota and open to the public. QPR covers the three steps anyone can learn to help prevent suicide. Just like CPR, QPR is an emergency response to someone in crisis and can save lives. These signs are the same for people of all ages and are valuable for all of us to know. The other is the upcoming AED/CPR training. This training will be at St James Lutheran Church on Sat., Jan 25, 9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m., and it's FREE. For more information, check out the Bonfire web site at <http://www.bonfireministry.org>.

*Blessing to you in the New Year,  
Pr Daniel Babine  
Bonfire Ministry – Executive Director*



## Kid Pack

The November packing event is Tues., Jan. 28, 4:00-6:00 p.m. at Emergency Food Network (8501 54th Ave N–New Hope).

Contact Melodie Hanson 763-504-4981 if you are able to help.



## CPR/AED Training

A certified CPR/AED class is being offered on Sat. Jan. 25 at 9:00 a.m. in Wold Hall.

Please RSVP to Bonfire Parish Nurse Debbie Haney at 612-408-2049.

# January 2014

		January 2014							February 2014						
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		19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
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		10	11	12	13	14	15	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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St. James Lutheran Church